Why Transformative Justice

• High rates of victimization of people with disabilities
• High rates of incarceration of Disabled Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color.
• Fifty percent of those killed by police are people with disabilities
• Calling the police isn’t safe for many people with disabilities and especially Disabled Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color.
Transformative Justice (1)

- Framework and Approach for responding to violence, harm and abuse.
- Seeks to respond to violence without creating more violence.
- Addresses the harm at the root of the harm in our own communities.
- Engages in harm reduction to lessen violence.
- Created by and for people from marginalized communities for whom calling the police is not safe.
Transformative Justice (2)

- By and for one’s own community
- Doesn’t rely on violence, State or oppressive systems
- Doesn’t rely on normalized violence and systemic violence
  - Reinforcing harmful gender norms
  - Vigilantism
Transformative Justice (3)

• Helps to create and cultivate the things that creates violence:
  – Resilience
  – Safety
  – Healing
  – Connection

• Focuses not just on the individual but also on the collective to change the conditions that cause the harm.
Today, we will explore...

• Dig in a little deeper into transformative justice.
• What our panelists find important in transformative justice?
• How our panelists are using transformative justice in their work?
• How others are using it to address gender-based violence?
• Practical guidance for communities that are considering undertaking a transformative justice approach.
Our panelists

• Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha
• Najma Johnson, Executive Director of DAWN