>> MAUREEN SARVER: Kevin. David is in the house. We've got Hunter. Hello, everyone. And welcome. Looks like we have about 20 folks on the line. So I'm just going to get started.

So, Krystal, you can go to the next slide and then, you can hit record. So, welcome, everyone, to today's WDQI webinar. State priorities, tools, and resources and a deep dive into governance.

So, before we get started, I want to give a shoutout to Brittany from Caption First. Thank you for --

(recording in progress)

Thanks, Krystal for recording. So, Brittany will be providing live transcription within the Zoom platform and if you would like to have this live captioning when we go into breakout rooms a bit later, please let us know in the chat and we will assign Brittany to your room.

Thanks for pulling up the agenda.

So, for today's webinar, we will provide a summary of grantee priorities and challenges from the last year and then Dallas is going to lead us through a couple brief activities
where we'll ask you about your preferred tools and methods of engagement.

Kristen will then take us on a deep dive to discuss what we refer to as one of WDQI's favorite topics, governance and we'll break out into breakout groups at this point for discussion and then we'll close with some announcements and previews.

So, next slide, we're going to talk about grantee priorities. As you all know, we check in with you for our annual interviews and just want to share back some themes that emerge as we reflected on all these calls.

So, first off, priorities. One that emerged was responding to research needs so states have been establishing research agendas to guide research and evaluation in a wide variety of areas.

So, in addition to the usual assessing the effectiveness of workforce programs and interventions, states are really conducting a lot of research in the areas of education, corrections, social services and health, and the pandemic generated so many questions as well from across state and local governments and partners, states need to prioritize those requests and triage those inquiries and product developments.

Another one was improving data quality and equity. So, many of your teams have prioritized the quality of data entering their systems. Several statement States are working on data quality and processes and procedures to deidentify confidential personal data for data matching while also looking at better ways to match participant data with partner agencies such as K through 12 systems, and community colleges.

Data equity also came up as a theme during these calls, states are interested in how equity can conform how they manage and use data more broadly. Then of course governance, so, governance as well as data governance specifically have been ongoing themes year after year for WDQI states. We will have an opportunity to share what's happening in states. If anything came up that was surprising or you want to know more about, please type it in the chat and the same goes for grantee challenges and then when we're done reviewing, we'll have a moment for Q&A.

So, for challenges. In 2021, it became harder to distinguish between COVID-19 related challenges and other challenges. At all.

So, remote work was a critical challenge for a few states, and some of did not have their data accessible remotely and were unable to make the shift to remote work quickly. Even though they were not able to access their information or their offices, they also faced almost immediate pressure to communicate state leaders trying to respond to economic crisis.
Another challenge with staffing, significant challenge for many states. One state replaced its entire team in 2021 as a result of retirement and resignation. Four states reported that a lack of staff capacity in procurement whether because of competing demands from COVID-19 response, programs, or turnover had substantially impeded their progress. So, states have also been long concerned about how their data do or do not advance equity and education in employment. Disaggregated data have been commonly used to signal these kind of concerns and this year stemming from both the maturity of the data systems and increased interest in equity among federal, state and local leaders and policy makers, six of these states named data equity, and/or data informed diversity and inclusion efforts as a priority and we ever related TA efforts underway. Stay tuned. Very exciting things that will be happening later on this year. Integrated governments and management of LDS.

Again, I'm going to lead this topic for Kristin to address more deeply and then finally linking data and action. For others, the challenge lies in translation. For others, the issues are more about building broader knowledge and deeper familiarity, what the systems can and cannot could and solving for unmet needs. For example, lack of realtime employment data.

So, does anyone have a question? That was a lot. Please feel free to type any questions into the chat. Are any of these observations and themes surprising to you? Did any resonate? And do you want to share? We'd love to hear from you.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: Maureen, I'll just jump in with a little commentary and chance to have people ask questions in chat. Just on the remote work and staffing what was so interesting about this is that it was one of the first times that kind of internal operations was such a major part of the discussions that we had with states.

And so, this isn't something that we have typically addressed in TA. But, we are open to it. And so, we assume at this point that there's been so much kind of capacity building on how to remote work, rules and guidelines set up and that sort of thing that we haven't jumped in but we are open to it and so if you do have things that you would like to see addressed in TA, that relate to remote working, by all means, submit them in chat or give us an email or a ring after the webinar.

Staffing has come up before occasionally and I wanted to point to that specifically because states are kind of experimenting with things like, internships with local Universities, or contracting differently, or, you know, sort of partnerships that are specifically based around capacity building and staffing. Some, though, none exist yet, some even mentioned pursuing apprenticeships so there's a lot in that but
just the topic of kind of internal operations within agencies and WDQI teams is an unusual thing to come up when we ask about grantee challenges so I just kind of wanted to point that out and just communicate that if we did want to devote some time to items within that bucket, we're open to that.

So. That's all. Just wanted to mention it.

>> MAUREEN SARVER: Thanks, Kristin. I don't see any questions or comments in the chat. So, I think at this point, I'll pass it over to Dallas to take us through some polls.

>> DALLAS OBERLEE: Thanks, Maureen. So, we're going to do some polls. We're going to have five main questions and the reason we're doing this is that we know that over the past 20 months with COVID, how everybody has worked and done their work has really changed. We've moved from a world where we're meeting and we are convening face-to-face to where everything is virtual, we're using Teams, WebEx, Zoom, all sorts of new virtual tools popping up every day. People are now using Cloud-based systems where they didn't before and as Maureen had mentioned, that priorities had changed a lot as well.

So, we as a TA team really want to make sure that we're getting your input on what you need and being able to provide that support as well. So, we're going to go ahead and look at a couple different polls with five questions, really looking at the topics of tools, some TA preference, different TA topics, COVID response and some best virtual learning experiences. So, Krystal, if you can go to the next slide.

So, we're going to use Menti. If you have used that before, great. If not, we have, we'll. I'm also going to drop the link into the chat as well. So you're going to go right to this link, or to Menti, type in the code, and it is going to take you to this first question. What online meeting tools do you use and love? So, each of you, once you're in there, you're going to be able to go in and type in your answer.

This is an open-ended question. You can put as many answers in as you would like so you can go and do that. If you have any questions on how to use that, just put that in the chat and we'll be able to as well so any online tools that you use and love. If there's anything you hate, you can put that if chat, too, so we know what tools people do not like using because that will be helpful as well. And if there's any new tools that you've tried, maybe you haven't used it a whole lot but you kind of liked it, you can add that in as well.

Give you a couple more seconds to add in anything else. Okay. Mural is also a good one that we've used before. So, chime, whoever put chime in if you want to add anything into the chat, put more details on, that's one I've not used before. Shared docs. Okay. Good. Okay. Good. Yeah. So, if there's
anything else, feel free to add that as well. Kristin, I don't know if there's anything you've used before that's different. If not, feel free to add in. Okay. Great.

>> Good list.

>> DALLAS OBERLEE: Yes. Very good. Krystal, do you want to go to the next question for us. So, the next one, we're going to be doing some ranking. So, it's what kind of TA do you hope to see more of in the coming months. So, you get to go in and rank one through eight of ones you would like to see. We have expert webinars. Peer to peer learning in small groups., face-to-face convening, joint programs with partners or initiatives and then others so if you are putting others up higher and you have some great ideas, please add what your other is in the chat. Kristin, we have a question on definition of joint programming with partner

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: Sorry about that. I was on mute. For example, this is a bit of a preview, but in December, we're Republican planning a webinar with JFF so, shared topic of interest, different approach, in this case, it will be a tool that they've recently launched and are working with three local areas in three of our WDQI states so that's an example of joint programming. We've done also activities, you might remember our joint three part session with ODEP last year on accessibility and data, so, that's another example. We are planning a similar thing in the spring. But, that's kind of what we mean.

Okay. Looks like we're pretty close. We have live product demos, then we have expert led webinars, peer to peer. Looks like some others are coming in so if there's some others you want to share, you can add it in the chat. With Menti, for those who haven't used it before, you can tell how many have answered down here in the lower right hand corner which shows 14. So, we have 14 people that have responded.

Okay. Let's move on to the next question if people are done answering this one. Okay. So for this next one, it's data matching. Focused specifically on data matching, on what specific issues you need help with. In this one, it's open-ended as well but it's going to be, we're going to ask you to do like short, like two words, two to three words, maybe, to describe it, it's going to show up as a word file so as people put their answers in, if there's multiple ones showing up more frequently, those will be bigger in the word cloud so if two people say the same thing, that will be bigger than somebody that just put in one so we'll go ahead and let you fill that in. For this one, you could put up to three responses if you would like to, if there's multiple things that you would like to put down there.
KRISTIN WOLFF: And just to add, Dallas, what this is about is as you know, frequently, when we talk about data matching, what we mean is, how do you match records for students that don't have Social Security numbers? That's like the number one thing, right? But in our recent conversations, other issues were coming up so things like people had questions about apprenticeship data where they didn't have apprenticeship as a partner in their LDS systems so that was coming up. Others are newly working with other programs. Staff, snap, Medicaid, that sort of thing.

And usually, these are kind of early why partnership but that's what we're trying to get at. What beyond K through 12 Social Security numbers are we talking about when we talk about data matching?

DALLAS OBERLEE: Thanks, Kristin. We'll let you guys keep adding some more in but looks like we have some cross-agency matching. Oh, Social Security number validation. Looks like that one was up there twice. So, good. K through 12 data matching. Perkins identification. Some more wage record data quality. Let's see. Getting rapids data. Confidentiality. Governance is on here. So, good. Just another couple seconds, to let people finish putting in their answers. This is really good information for us. Okay. Great. Kristin, I don't know if you have any comments based on what you're seeing in the word cloud?

KRISTIN WOLFF: Sorry, I'm getting back to the word cloud. Looks like. Oh, executive training. What is that? What does executive training mean? And you can go ahead, whoever submitted it, go ahead and add in chat or go ahead and talk out loud. We can unmute you if you raise your hand.

Yeah, if you can add, if anybody, for anything that you put in L if you want to add more information on what your response was please put it in the chat so we can go back to that as well.


DALLAS OBERLEE: Great. Okay. So.

KRISTIN WOLFF: Oh, thank you, David. (laughter). In fact, we were just on a call earlier today with SLDS and I, just thinking about that, yeah, your observation is a good one.

DALLAS OBERLEE: Great. Let's move on to the next question we have. This one is on COVID response and recovery. What issues would you like to see? This is another open-ended question but not a word cloud so you write whatever you would like for this as well and it will show up so we'll give you just a little bit of time to add that in. And you can put anything you would like so those multiple things you would like to see,
add that in. I'm assuming people are typing away right now. Sustainment of evidence activities. Got more technical information in the graphing, workings, future work. Claims for demographics. We'll give you a little bit more time to add some more. WDQI funding timeline. Best practices. Let's see. Oh, stopped before I finished. Equity performance measures. Consider data elements to identify remote versus in person service delivery. Great. Normally we're feeling about 15 to 20 -- we'll give it a couple more seconds here to let people finish putting their responses in. How do you measure good jobs?

Okay. Kristin, I don't know if you have anything to add based on what you're reading here with some of the things people would like to see addressed.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: Just this is so great. Thank you so much. I feel like we could talk about any of these topics quite a lot. And it's a really interesting range. Keep them coming.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: Just one thing. On extend WDQI funding timelines, is that about extensions or is that about a request for the WDQI grants to be longer? If it's about extensions, I just want to make sure that whoever submitted that knows how to ask for an extension. Okay. So, Moony, I think we did put you in touch and you're already in the loop with your federal program officer and we have a conversation about it next week. Yep. Good. Okay. Good.

For anyone else, though. If you are, if you know you will need an extension, now is the time to contact your FPO. If you need any information about how to do that, feel free to reach out and we'll put you in touch but yeah, get that process going as soon as you can.

>> DALLAS OBERLEE: Okay. Now on to our last question. Again, what was one of your best virtual learning experiences and why. This is another open-ended question. You can enter as many as you would like. So, if you've had some really good virtual learning experiences over the past 20 months or so, let us know about them and if there's something unique about it that really made it. If there's something that would like to talk in person, let us know if you if we would like to unmute you in chat. Just a little bit of time here. Coleridge initiative is one that's listed. Oh, this one is interesting, the workshop where one of the instructors was also a magician. Do you know any magic?

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: No, I don't but I'm sure we could find an alternative.

>> DALLAS OBERLEE: A virtual tour. Some breakout rooms. Chat with virtual team building. Again, if you think of something you want to share, we would love to hear it. I think
your response is really going to help us as we plan for the year coming up, TA, so really want to hear your thoughts and suggestions as well.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: I think Dallas I just want to give a minute. I think the person who submitted gov lab data steward course, I think that might be Brian. We've shared that and mentioned it in newsletters before but I wonder if Brian would want to come off mute and talk about what that is for a minute.
>> Yes, am I off mute?
>> KRISTIN WOLFF: You are.
>> So, what that is, it's through the gov lab, it broke off from the New York University and it's, what it is basically the course and it's actually a series, of course, all around data stewardship and so they have been building a network that really is worldwide so we had a lot of presentations from, not for profit leaders in Europe and South America, United States, and basically, it is, it really is, I think one of the best areas where we can get the pulse of where the data stewardship industry is. As a profession.
And so, I learned a tremendous amount about, you know, where we fit in as the government and then getting the perspectives of the private sector and not for profit and kind of their views of their data sharing challenges. Especially as it pertains to the government.
So, it was really good.
>> KRISTIN WOLFF: Thanks so much, Brian. So, now, the next time, we did put a notification in the newsletter encouraging folks to apply, and Brian did. And got it in.
And that was wonderful. And so, next time you see that, you'll have a better sense of what the program is about. And you'll know that Brian did it so you can contact him and ask some more questions.
>> DALLAS OBERLEE: All right. Thank you, Brian. And that was the visual interactive part. Thank you for doing that. We'll go ahead and move on to the next part of the presentation with Kristin.
>> KRISTIN WOLFF: Thanks, Dallas. Let's just shift to the next slide. So, we're going to spend about 15 to 20 minutes in small groups talking about governance. And the reason is this. As Maureen noted, you know, in our recent round of calls with all of you individually, you named a number of challenges and a number of priorities but single state named governance in that discussion. And so, that, you know, alone is reason to talk about it.
But a few observations. One is that while MOUs matter and they will always matter, they used to be a lot of what governance was about and the meaning of governance has really
shifted quite a lot in the last several years and so that's just an observation.

You know, people are more thinking about how to manage their LDS partnerships more broadly and there are new players. Many states have either at the agency level or across governance, chief data officers, new officers that are set up to kind of steward data processes or within agencies that have common domains so those are just kind of new players. That is what governance was about. And finally, there's the issue we used to talk about as kind of sustainability.

How do you sustain these projects and these programs realizing that they do take really decades and that you have to, at the same time you're building them, you have to develop internal coalitions within the state so that you can secure ongoing funding and so that's just, you know, that takes a while, and that's a big challenge. So, that is really more like the activity of governing an enterprise or thinking about your WDQI or LDS ever projects as start-ups or as part of the infrastructure ongoing.

So, that is also kind of a new way that we've been talking about governance so it just was impossible to could have all the things we talked about so we just wanted to talk about our hour and a half whatever they ever but we just wanted to take 20 minutes or so and talk about governance. What does it mean to you, ask a couple questions, just have a small group conversation about how we should be thinking about through the governance within the WDQI project. So, I'll just wait a second and see if anyone has any clarifying questions. Otherwise, what we plan to do is break you into three groups and again, if you need the transcription, please let us know that in chat and we'll assign you to the room with transcription.

Otherwise, Krystal will put us into groups and you'll each have a facilitator in your room and we'll just talk about governance for a few minutes. We want to know more about what you think and we want to dive into this topic a little more deeply.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: Hey, Adam.

>> Hello.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: Just waiting for everybody else to pop in.

>> Yeah, I wants and warrants really clear where we were for a minute there.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: This is one of the hazards of managing many applications at the same time. (laughter). Transcription and Menti and you know, whatnot.

>> Yep.
Hi, Greg. Welcome. Hunter, Jenny, welcome. I'm not sure how many we'll get but probably this number, one or two more. Like I said, oh, hi, Susan. Like I said, we want to talk more about governance. Let's just talk about what are the questions that would benefit you to have WDQI kind of dive into on governance?

>> This is Patti. Some of the things coming up, this may be a little far-fetched but like with ETPL and training providers, training programs, trying to track more students and a lot of that ETL reporting is getting more enhanced that those extended agreements with reciprocal agreements with other states, we're trying to work through an easier way to not have such separation and different documentation.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: So it's mostly across states? Is that what you're -- or within?

>> It's kind of a new thing, the last couple years, our neighboring states, especially, are knocking on the door and it's like, mises mis is like, you're training providers, you can use ours and I'm just even like, I think Washington, there was another one.

So, it's like, I'm seeing like, especially with Sarah, if that was a whole thing to wrap my brain around. Sarah, this whole entity, that have all these training providers within them. So, that kind of got put on the side burner, thankfully, but then, it's having a more unified way to like have these. That's what was coming to my mind when you said that. Governance. It might be far-fetched for LDS right now.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: I don't think so but thanks for that. Others?

>> Actually, I agree with Patti. Man, we really have the state. We have states, New Hampshire, New York, Massachusetts. Even what Patti gave for purposes of the ETL I think could be interesting and what does that look like and how does that begin? I know there's some states are already doing some consortium projects.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: Okay. Good.

>> Well, this is Jeni in Michigan. I'm curious for Hunter's lock down in his state remembering that Michigan, we're all very siloed, right? So we have a very onerous process in our interagency agreements of data sharing even though we are all stewards for the state and sharing the same constituency so the amount of time that's taken to write, negotiate, establish, get multiple signatures. I really feel like it takes away in some cases from the actual work or the delay of the work of once that's established.

So, you know, I as far as governance and ownership of data, it seems like from a state perspective, if everyone is the state
government and we all have different pieces of our resident's history that we are managing and assisting with all for the same common good of employment and services, I wish that there would be a more streamlined approach. So, even with having a standardized DSA format that's used, there's still so much individualization that it is a very long tedious process.

>> I was going to say, I totally agree with Jeni, what she said. We had 1MOU that we wanted everybody to sign but then different partners had different ideas or changes and so, it became three different agreements and now when a contract is ending, expired. We're trying to corral them all again, get them on the same page, same contract we don't have to manage all the different pieces. How long do these data partners last? Circumstances change, but then you change it as well. How do you build it to be flexible to a company of changes, that adapt to the changes that might come along in data collection. I don't know, Kristin. I don't want to take you off topic, so.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: It's a really good question, and it does speak to some of the data elements so we might capture about these kind of agreements so thank you so much for your question. I do want to -- Patti?

>> Yeah, ours you'd to be like annual. Like we're done with this next year. In my mind, a lot of what I'm doing on there is when you're putting, doing some of this electronic. Like, automated. Putting some of the shared data stuff into because it's interagency and that's where I'm trying to move to is getting away from, it's paper centric and here's the PDF and put your electronic signature on it, now we've got to send that to 15 people and sometimes that takes months.

You know, it's like, come on. So, I can totally agree with this. And people want, faster, faster, more, more, I don't want to wait. So, it is, an issue, the whole process and dissemination of it and like, with my own employment business system that I've got going on, it's like, in the users and the admin screens, when people are getting access to this system, it's almost like when you see the acknowledgement statement is where I'm going. So you have an acknowledgement statement on there and you have to read and agree so Dunn and Bradstreet data is in there so they have to read and approve the actual system that's in agreement and they'll also approve for the DMD data and that's it. It's in there.

So, things like that is where I'm trying to get to.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: More automated approaches. Okay. I do want to shift a little bit and ask, and Hunter, you started to get at this but what governance structures or tools or mechanisms work well.

What is working within the world of governance?
From the governance issue, Maine is in an important position that we've been doing it a long time. Structures that work and we've been able to duplicate those processes. We almost doo have like a standard MOA. The terms of our agreements are generally a couple of years. Some are shorter term agreements when it's only one report or one may extend to the WDQI grant and then it will be revisited at the end of that because there may be funding considerations that have to be tied into there so, we are in the unfortunate position that we still have to Taylor our MOEs quite a bit to different partners but luckily we have a standard template in process that we've been using.

We also have data groups where we try to bring partners on quarterly or semi-annually and we'll give them the presentation of what we've done with our data and what are some potential things we could do and invite them into that conversation and I think that has helped a lot with partner buy-in especially when, we can go back and say, some of the valuable research we've done. We would like to extend this later on and usually the partner buy-in is a little bit better.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: And how about you, Adam, at the opposite end? A huge state.

>> Yeah. our data governance is kind of disastrous. It's all informal. Lots of data sharing agreements but we're trying to set up data governance in a proper way. We've hired a data governance officer whose job, amongst others, which is part of the problem is to try to put in place a data governance model within our agency. We also are in the process of developing a straight data governance model that would be between our agencies. In Texas, we have our K12 and our postsecondary agencies, and ours are working under the brand of the tri-agency workforce initiative and there was some legislation that set it up and charged us with doing certain things such as creating, basically a new P20W type system and setting up user agreements and access and that's really the thing is they don't mean access for the three of us. They mean like access for partners and schools and you know, researchers.

So, there's a lot of work that's getting started in that space to develop that kind of a model and then my expectations is that in terms of cross-state, it would probably occur with building on that model in terms of what we think is reasonable as far as control and permission. Without being unwieldy. And essentially, the data collaborative through Coleridge approach.

So, I've been put on the interim executive committee meet to go set up the southern state data collaborative. We haven't met yet but we'll be doing that and so that might prove to be a good place to develop a governance model. There are some people
from the Midwest Data Collaborative like Kentucky who are on this even though they're not a southern state so that way we kind of have a little bit of expertise from some people we really know successfully have done this and can bring some ideas to the table for us to consider. So, we're kind of at a lot of different stages in the development process but we need a lot more than what we have.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: So, it sounds like that's a lot and I remember talking to you this summer about the legislation which is super interesting but it sounds like what I hadn't been clear on that part of what is in the scope here is governance over kind of public facing tools so access for schools, access for, that's not quite public but it's close to public.

Is that within the mix here?

>> For me, yeah. That legislation talks about whatever their authorized users are, D doing that, but this whole part of the legislation is about three lines long so there's not a lot of detail. There's a lot of flexibility on the one hand and a lot of ability. We're going to allow you to do something robust that will a you lo you to do a lot of drumming and filtering, then there will be some kind of mechanism for getting customer level data, I believe, again, for authorized users.

But, that, meaning authorized partners, especially, right? So, school district can get their data maybe, from us, visualizing what is.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: Okay. Well in the last seconds, we're going to get kicked out so your favorite governance resource? Put it in chat.

>> MAUREEN SARVER: Great. It looks like we are all back in the room. Our conversation was cut too short. We have lots of potential for follow-up conversation in the next webinar, about you for today's announcements, so, then the new WDQI section for the LDS community is now scheduled for November 16th.

The topic will be COVID-19 education and workforce data challenge and a panel of three states will share their most critical lessons, the key changes they've made as a result, the implications for data, data systems, and evidence-based decision making going forward.

The SLDS best practices conference, if you would like to go participate, if you have not registered, I'm going to put the name of the person to character contact in the chat right now. I'm going to turn it over to Kristin to tell us about the holiday demo on December 16th.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: Maureen, I think we're off on slides. Did you cover the news and announcements?

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: So just two things. Let's stay on the slides. I've asked, there are major grants coming out through
the EDA, economic development administration, which is a division of the department of commerce.

Normally, they don't have such a workforce focus but as it happens, this time, they do.

Probably, owing to a few things. One is that jobs is just a huge priority for everyone in recovery. But, also, because our new commerce secretary comes from Rhode Island and was very involved in workforce training there.

So, she just brings a different lens and the language around these grants is very much workforce focused.

WIOA is named as a tool and an entity and as a partner in some of the grants so if you haven't pursued some of these or talked to your department of commerce, would encourage you.

There are a couple ways to think about it. You know, you hold data that is going to be important to demonstrate outcomes within these grants and so, the sort of data angle is a good place to start a conversation. Another one is tracking and measurement. I mean, if WIOA will be a partner in some of these larger strategies, you track that information and often evaluate programs and are building that capacity.

So, the kind of what works agenda might be another one to pursue and then finally a deeper level of research for those of you who have that capacity or are doing that work now, kind of, you know, research and evaluation.

The grants are quite sizable. There are six all together. Some of them are purpose or demographic specific, the two of them that are kind of most frequently named when I talk to states, one is the good jobs initiative and the other one is the regional one. So, those are just, we shared this a couple of times in newsletters but I just really want to call it out because I've had a couple of conversations with state as I said.

But, you know, open the door to your department of commerce. Check them out. See if there's an opportunity here.

There's significant resource in these grants. Obviously, there's sustainability angle to this, too. Can you develop a partnership with another agency that helps the WDQI and LDS systems sustain themselves over time so that's a big one.

>> MAUREEN SARVER: Thanks, Kristin. I was one slide ahead of you so if you just want to cover the upcoming December engagement then we can move on to the final slide.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: Yes. Thank you for that. So, in December, I think we mentioned we're going to have kind of a holiday sort of coffee chat so wear your slippers but the speaker will be Josh Copus from JSS and probably some of his technology team as well.

For those of you who don't know, they recently released a product called OFO. I think it's opportunities for, now I don't
remember what it stands for. Outcomes for opportunities. That's what it is.

So, anyway, they recently released this product in partnership with San Diego, initially, which is obviously in California. There are two other local partners, one is Arapahoe, Colorado, and the other is Dallas, Texas. So, all of their launch partners are in WDQI states. And it just seemed like a really good opportunity to have them share some of the thug and drivers for this request for better local and regional level data.

So, I'm watching chat, too. So, we're very excited to see it. We've sent this in our newsletters and will continue to do so. So you have a a little bit of context. We'll also send you a few contacts in advance but really encourage you to play with it a little bit and then Josh and his team will kind of walk us through it.

It will be on December 16th and you know what we're hoping for it here is a little bit of kind of awareness raising and sort of partnership building on both the questions and the demand drivers of this kind of, these kind of tools. And also maybe potential partnerships down the road, who knows? So anyway, we hope that will be fun. We're going to keep it pretty casual so bring your fuzzy slippers. It won't be too fancy and also would invite you to bring other members of your team who may not normally come to a WDQI event but might be interested in this particular product so, let's see. Yes. Yes. Yes. And seeing the comments about the capacity challenges and we know it is so frustrating. But, nonetheless, it is an opportunity and if there is a partnership in some states, it's probably worth at least having the conversation. So, encourage you to do that. Hope that it works out in some number of states and we'll look forward to having you back to talk about it at some future date.

So, yes. Empathy. Capacity challenges and yeah, can't wait until next month and welcome you back for that. Bring your teams.

>> MAUREEN SARVER: Thanks, Kristin. As always, it's been a real pleasure hosting the WDQI community on the webinar. Toqir wasn't able to join us today but eager to see that recording. We'll send that out so your colleagues can view it at any time if they were unable to join us. So, when you close this session, a survey is is going to pop up on this screen. Please take a moment to give us your feedback and let us know how you're doing.

Other than task thanks so much, everyone, and enjoy the rest of your day.

>> KRISTIN WOLFF: Thanks, everybody. Have a great rest of your week.