

## **Communication Tips for Zoom TAPRoots Meetings:**

**PWA = Person (or people) With Aphasia**

### **Non-PWA:**

1. Always remember, **engaging all of the PWA** is the reason we meet!
2. **Focus your comments and responses** on engaging the PWA.
3. **Silence is good.** Give each person auditory space to process and respond to questions or comments.
4. **Slow pace** of communication and sharing of ideas **is good.** Take a deep breath if you feel like you are rushing.
5. Give the PWA only **one question at a time**; allow them to respond before moving on to another question.
6. We **never have to accomplish certain tasks or activities during our groups....**we can divert and go where a topic leads us.

### **PWA:**

1. **Share what your communication goal** is at the beginning of each group.
2. **Share what supports help you** to communicate.  
(letting you write or draw something, a sign that you need more time, somebody else writing key points of what you have said, using an alphabet board, .....)
3. **Know your fellow group members' communication goals** and support them in achieving them.
4. **Hold each group member accountable.** Don't let them miss a chance to succeed. To be able to do something you first have to do it.....over and over and over.
5. **Don't let somebody misunderstand you.** Have them repeat what they understood you to communicate. Tell them if it is wrong. Help them, the burden to succeed is on both of you.
6. **Celebrate all successful communication,** yours and others!