



Redesign for Whole Families

Research, Policy & Practice Summit

We invited a poet to be among us
It is about being of service to HUMANS
This is about people
So tell me, what is it that inspires you to do the work you do?
What gives you joy?
Taking care of families,
and taking care of each other
Relating and connecting
Sharing and lifting up our stories
Especially the ones from lives experience
Encouraging and validating each other
Staying connected to each other
As we build upon what resonates
We relate and engage in new ways
Maybe this is healing
We're approaching a new frontier
We are living in a time that calls us to remember
The rhythm of life and death
Grieve what has been lost
Let's take a pause
Our heart has a lot to teach us
This is the taste of sweetness
As we rest, digest and heal
We contribute to progress
As we destress our bodies
We are becoming
And bridging generations
This is a time for leading courageously
Creatively and collaboratively
We are dreaming up something new
Being brave enough to care
And connect with love
When we lead with courage
We connect with our hearts
And find common ground





We have the same needs for support and validation
With gratitude and forgiveness
We grapple with power and space
Within structures that can be disabling
Honoring the stories and discovering what could be
We are working ourselves into a new world
A future we haven't seen before
These are the spaces for new ways of
Thinking, being and doing
Expanding and connecting
With empathy, collaboration and boundlessness
This is solidarity in action
Building support platforms for learning
Valuing those around us
We are on this good ground together
As we deepen our understanding
Through storytelling
Open hearts and embodiment
In our imperfections
We can reach out to each other
As we think big
in our networks and collaborations
And increasing our perspectives
And owning our stories
Connecting internally and externally
In our collaborations
The stories we share and witness
in the policy making realm
Naming our commitments
Noticing and naming
White fragility and white supremacy
In order for our healing to go deep
The work is internal and
The work is external
Honoring and developing existing relationships
And new relationships
As a commitment of solidarity
Builds the future of the human service sector.

Slam Poetry by Katie Boone

