

LCLI BRIEFING-2 2020-Nov.

🎧 *"The next two "Flip to Life" short Videos from LCL/Positive Deviance*

📖 *"In Times Like These" - Contributed by LCLI Fellow Heather Wood Ion*

LCL/Positive Deviance YouTube Videos 4 & 5



You have 4 short videos so far from our productive LCL/PD 'UnConference' Zooms. Here are the next two on our new **You Tube channel!** Please share them over your social media and own networks!

Pathfinder Interview #1: Sunny Anand & Disparities in Paedatric Care (11min 56secs)

Positive Deviance & Diabetes Care (Claudia Boyd) (1min 58secs)

We will regularly be releasing further videos from the series in the next while. Many of them are only a few minutes long yet beautifully focused, all expressing a 'Flip to Life'.

IN TIMES LIKE THESE

A pandemic across the planet, a comet across the sky, locusts in waves of destruction, economic collapse, murder and mayhem on the streets, and sheets of rain while the sun still shines—at times like these in our human history we have sacrificed to gods, we have railed against our fates, and we have killed the marginal members of our groups in case these gestures could change our circumstances. Novels of despair have been written, and hymns of every type sung. But not now.

Now we have digital tools which can show us treasured faces a half a world away. Now we have tools that alert us that actions can be taken and that we may participate. Now we have calm and resolute scientists who reassure us about causes while imagining the solutions we may eventually implement.

Now we shout and rail using digital megaphones that reach everyone everywhere, and the shouting drowns out other voices. Now we seek to blame and seek to claim for injuries to our ancestors, or our shared land, or to our capacities to endure.

But we forget. Over and over again the ancestors we see as fragile and so limited in their knowledge found ways forward out of disasters, out of catastrophic deprivation, and out of fear. Had they not done so; we would not be here.

Think of the young seal hunter, his wife paddling behind him as they moved east on the Arctic ocean, seeking food, seeking land, driven by wind, and driven by hunger. Finally, they reach an unfamiliar shore, and from their moment of rest, a new hemisphere is explored and populated. What kept them going? They were like us, facing an unknown, unable to turn back, eager to rest after their struggles. Like us, they may have felt they had no choice, but the choices they did make brought them to safety. They left us their art, their songs, and their descendants, rarely we recall their courage.

Or more recently, think of the girl, trained first as a kitchen servant to help her family, giving her little wage to help her several younger siblings. Eventually she set out across an ocean to join the young man who asked to marry her, but who was homesteading on land that had never felt a plow. He built her a sod hut, she built him a home, together they helped build a community, then a province, then a nation. She had miscarriages alone, watched children die of diphtheria, and a son spend a life paralyzed by polio, but she never stopped learning. When she was almost ninety, she said "I wish I could live to see and share my grandchildren's adventures."

One day there will be stories of our time, of the locusts and the strange weather and the pandemic. Perhaps there will be hero tales and songs of courage, invisible to us today. Perhaps people will wonder in future times why we struggled so against our own best interests and why we so rarely shared the necessary faith in kindness and in science and in our capacities for joy.

In times like these, let us remember—Life will find a way.

Heather Wood Ion