Icebreakers

Icebreakers are short activities or games that are used to welcome people to a training or event and help everyone get to know each other.

Here are some ideas that you can use for Right 2 Ride:

**For smaller groups (12 or less) or you can use Breakout Rooms/ break people into smaller groups:**

**60 Second Interview:**
To begin, put these 3 questions on the board or Flipchart:
- Name?
- Something unique about you?
- Some place you want to go?

1) Ask people to choose a partner.
2) Tell people they each have 60 seconds to find out the answers to the questions from their partners. (Sometimes the group wants more time, that’s ok, but try to keep it no longer than 3 minutes per team.)
3) Start the timer, and when 60 seconds are over, tell each team to switch.
4) Have each person introduce their partner to the rest of the group.

(continues on next page)
Zoom Ball
Facilitator pretends they have a ball. They introduce themselves and then say “I am going to pass the Zoom ball to…” and name another person on the facilitation team. That person catches the imaginary ball. Make it fun by making it look heavy, or hot, or huge, or really small. Continue on by picking the next person to pass the Zoom Ball to.

For group sizes between 13-24 people:

Video Fun
Teach people how to turn their video off and on.
Tell people- “We will all turn off our video. Someone will make a statement. Turn on your video if you agree”
Say “Turn on your video if you …” and pick something that is true for you. People in the class can take turns saying “Turn on your video if you…” and picking something that is true for them.

Name and…:
Ask everyone in the group to take turns introducing themselves by saying their name and stating something about themselves. (You choose what that is before starting.) Here are some ideas:

• An adjective that describes you
• An adjective that starts with the first letter of your first name (for example, Safe Sam)
• Your favorite animal (and why)
• If you could be any food, what is it and why
• What you hope to learn in this training
• Your favorite place to go
• All-time favorite TV show
• Favorite thing to do
• What brings you to this training

You don’t have to use one of these ideas - any question that is somewhat simple, light, but might tell a little bit about a person is great! Avoid questions that get people thinking too much or are too funny or distracting.

**Name and a Movement:**
Ask everyone in the group to take turns introducing themselves by saying their name and making a movement with their body. The group then repeats the person's name and movement back to them.

**For groups over 25 people or if you don’t have much time:**

**Raise Your Hand If…:**
Tell people to “Raise your hand if ___” and fill in the blank with general descriptions such as the ideas listed below. Have people look around at everyone else who has raised their hand (to show people that they are not alone). Applaud the people who raised their hands (to celebrate our differences and have fun). Ask as many questions as you have time for.

(Version 1 – general questions)
• You were born in another country
• You play a sport
• You speak or understand more than one language
• You ever received special education supports
• You like to sing
• You have written a poem, essay, or book
• You play a musical instrument
• ??? – get creative and think of some on your own!
(Version 2 - questions relevant to using public transportation)
- You have ever taken a public bus, subway or local train
- You have ever used the paratransit system
- You have ever driven a car
- You have never taken public transportation anywhere
- You have a taken a train or Greyhound bus to another city
- You have ever been to a public transit meeting
- You have ever spoken at a hearing or public forum
- You have served on a board or committee