

# The Alliance News



## Operation: Community Access

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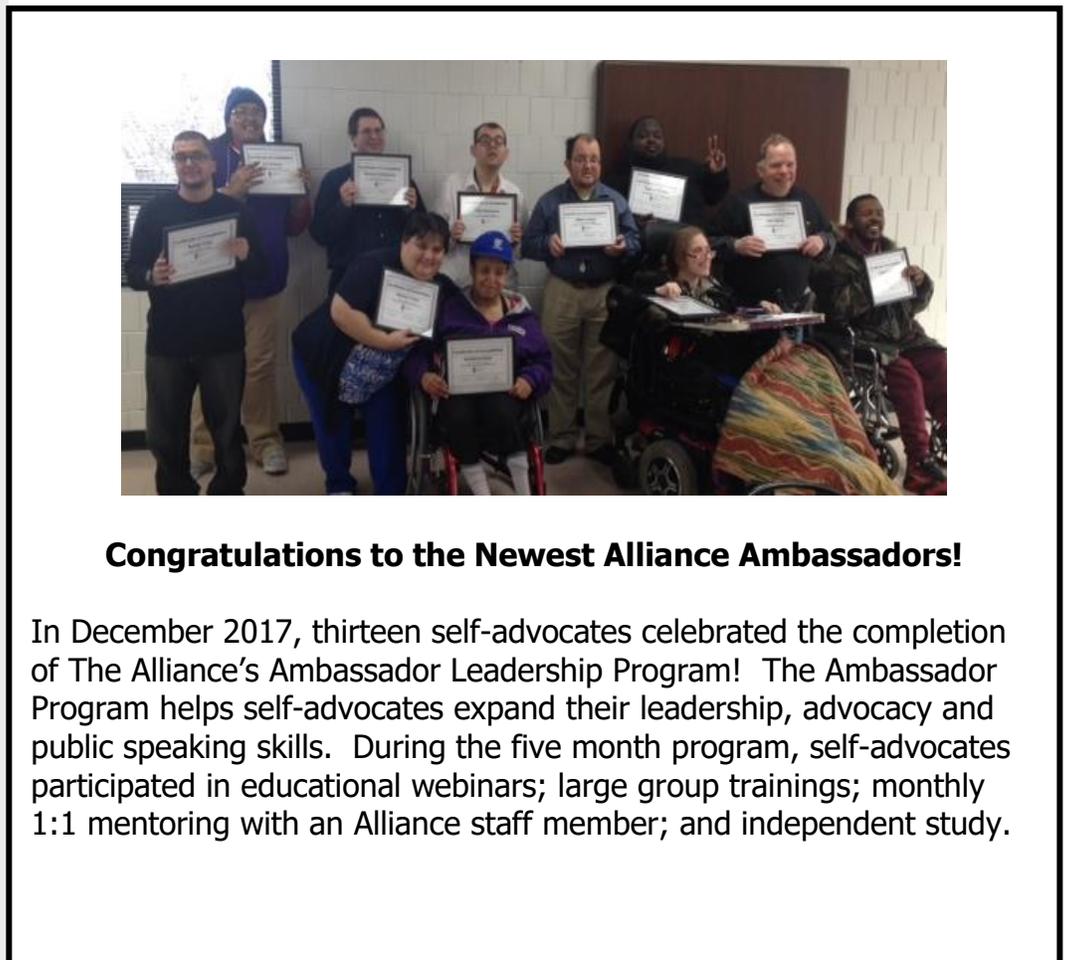
### Vision

Our vision is for self-advocates to work together to get the support we need to live the life we want in the community.

### Mission

Our mission is to speak up for ourselves and each other while working together to make changes in our communities and in Illinois.

The Alliance is proud to be an Initiative of the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities



### Congratulations to the Newest Alliance Ambassadors!

In December 2017, thirteen self-advocates celebrated the completion of The Alliance’s Ambassador Leadership Program! The Ambassador Program helps self-advocates expand their leadership, advocacy and public speaking skills. During the five month program, self-advocates participated in educational webinars; large group trainings; monthly 1:1 mentoring with an Alliance staff member; and independent study.



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 Find us on Facebook at Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance

## Guardianship and You! Webinar



**Wednesday, January 17, 2018 10am CST**

Join a supportive housing ambassador and CSH staff as we learn together about supportive housing, what it is and how to get it. Everybody can speak up and decide if supportive housing is right for them!

Please register for Speak Up for Supportive Housing at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1741499261916587777>

## Guardianship and You! Webinar Recording

**Recorded Live on Tuesday, December 12, 2017**



What's a guardian and what do they do? How did you get a guardian? What kind of guardianship do you have? Join self-advocates from CTF Advocacy in Charleston as they answer these questions and share much more!

Check out the webinar recording at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/2081925654547646721>



## Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) Conference June 7-9, 2018 – Birmingham, AL

Birmingham Jefferson Civic Center  
2100 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd North  
Birmingham, AL

Learn more by going to <http://sabeconference.org>

Host Hotel: Sheraton Birmingham

Learn about ways to raise money to attend conferences and events by checking out The Alliance's webinar recording of "Show Me the Money: Fundraising for Your Self-Advocacy Group" at

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/5017719556004764163>



### **Join CSH for a Supportive Housing Coffee Talk Helpline!**

Bring a cup of coffee, some hot tea, a bottle of water, or your favorite soda to talk to CSH about supportive housing! Now that you were on the webinar to learn the basics about supportive housing, join the **CSH Housing Coffee Talk Helpline** to ask any questions you have. If you think you might want to live in your own apartment or home someday, do you know what you need to do to get it? Call in to our Supportive Housing Helpline, and Julie Nelson or John Fallon will be on the line to answer questions or help you brainstorm about supportive housing. Call the conference line below, and Julie or John will be on the line to talk with you!

You can bring your questions, or ask for someone else. The **Supportive Housing Coffee Talk Helpline** is open and welcoming of self-advocates and champions of self-advocates! This will be a supportive community and if multiple people are on the line we can encourage each other and brainstorm together.

**There are 2 dates for self-advocates and their champions!**

**January 17th, 4:00 to 5:00 pm**

**January 20th, 10:00 to 11:00 am**

**Call 1-866-840-0048**

**When it asks for your conference code, enter the number 2168105.**

We will have a third session for providers on January 16th, 2:30 to 3:30 pm



**Check out SABE's Videos on YouTube!**

[www.youtube.com/results?q=self+advocates+becoming+empowered&search\\_type=search\\_playlists&uploaded=&app=desktop](http://www.youtube.com/results?q=self+advocates+becoming+empowered&search_type=search_playlists&uploaded=&app=desktop)

### **The Alliance Staff Contact Information**

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## Blogs and Webinars and Resources and Vlogs...Oh My! Check out the great resources of the following self-advocacy organizations.



EPIC: Equal Partners Interstate Congress are Disability civil rights organizations in Washington, Idaho, Alaska, Wyoming, and Nevada coming together with a shared goal to push for equal rights for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

<http://epicnationalpartners.com>



The goal of HSRN (Heartland Self-Advocacy Resource Network) is to reach more self-advocates in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, and Iowa, offering them regional opportunities for mentoring, training, and leadership development. This website serves as our virtual HSRN Technical Assistance Center and as a way for us to share the resources we gather and produce through this project. We hope the information you find here is useful for you and others who are building self-advocacy throughout the nation and beyond.

<http://heartlandselfadvocacy.org/>



The Pacific Alliance on Disability Self-Advocacy (PADSA) provided technical assistance to self advocacy groups in California, Oregon, Montana, and Washington. PADSA assisted groups with:

- participating in trainings they need
- setting organizational goals
- putting in place a goal plan
- meeting other groups, funders, decision-makers in their states
- finding training or organizational resources they need

<https://pacific-alliance.org/>



Our Community Standing Strong Grant (OCSS) enhanced work in the southern collaborative states through peer to peer technical assistance. Outcomes of the project included:

- Grassroots needs survey
- State plans
- Video blogs on important issues
- Webinar led by self advocates
- Advisory committee
- Partnerships with DD Network within the states

<http://www.sabeusa.org/projects/our-community-standing-strong/>



North East Advocates Together (N.E.A.T) Peer to Peer Self-Advocacy Connections have a huge amount of knowledge about self-advocacy, technology, and how to make their groups and organizations grow. The goal of this project is to build connections with each other and use peers in our region to help other peers to grow their self-advocacy organizations and projects in their states.

<http://www.neat-peers.org/>

**Do you or someone you know have a dream of going to college?  
Check out these resources!**



Support for Students with Intellectual Disabilities

[www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/students-with-intellectual-disabilities/](http://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/students-with-intellectual-disabilities/)

College Resources for Students with Disabilities

[www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/resources-for-students-with-disabilities/](http://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/resources-for-students-with-disabilities/)

Studying with ADHD

[www.accreditedschoolsonline.org/resources/studying-with-adhd/](http://www.accreditedschoolsonline.org/resources/studying-with-adhd/)

Going to College with ASD

[www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/students-with-autism/](http://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/students-with-autism/)

College Student Rights on Campus

[www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/college-student-rights/](http://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/college-student-rights/)

**The Alliance is excited to share with you about Partners in Policymaking,  
a leadership training program.**

PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING® is a leadership training program designed for parents of school age children with developmental disabilities and adults with disabilities. The Partners program was created by the Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities more than 30 years ago, and has since been offered nationally and internationally. Partnership teaches leadership skills, and the process of developing positive partnerships with elected officials and other policymakers who make decisions about the services that you and your family use. Partners is accessible, informative and empowering. The graduates of Partners often become members of boards, councils, task forces and advisory committees; some run for elected office.

PARTNERS is about systems change – creating, working towards, and achieving a vision of shared values about people with disabilities. It is based on the belief that the most effective and enduring public policy decisions are made by the people who need and use services in partnership with elected officials and other policymakers. It is about becoming confident in oneself, competent in the knowledge and information received, and comfortable in sharing life experiences and expertise one brings to the program.

Please Note: PARTNERS is for Illinois residents only. The deadline for submittal is January 19, 2018.

To receive a brochure and application via email, please contact The Alliance's Krescene Beck at [krescenebeck@gmail.com](mailto:krescenebeck@gmail.com).

**"It all depends on us  
To decide  
What happens now?  
Where am I going to?  
How do I find my path?"**

~ Megan Jones, North Carolina poet and self-advocate