

Illinois Self Advocacy Alliance

The Alliance News

Issue #88

July 2019



Check out the photos from the 2019 Going Home Advocacy Day!

<https://memoriesinthelight.pixieset.com/goinghomeillinois/>

Thanks to Memories in the Light Photography for capturing the spirit of the day.

Our 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.

Our Mission

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

Our Focus

Our focus is on empowering people to speak up about what they want and need, don't want and don't need, action plan their goals and participate in advocacy at the personal, agency, community and statewide levels.



This newsletter was developed under an investment by the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities

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Find us on Facebook at Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance

Welcome Team Voice!



The Alliance is comprised of self-advocates and self-advocacy groups in Illinois. Let's welcome the newest member group, Team Voice at Community Support Services (Brookfield)!

The vision of Team Voice is "a world where every voice is heard" The mission of Team Voice is "to educate and encourage individuals to advocate for their needs, wants and desires which will build interpersonal and community relationships.

The goals of Team Voice are

- ❖ Continue to build awareness of the needs, wants and desires of individuals with disabilities
- ❖ Have individuals from the community attend a Team Voice meeting to provide networking opportunities for the group as well as build awareness of the group/self-advocacy.

Team Voice meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 5.30 – 6.30pm in Brookfield. Learn more about Team Voice by visiting <http://cssservices.org/get-involved>; information on Team Voice can be found by scrolling down the page.



Welcome Chicago Disability Activism Collective (CDAC)

The Alliance is comprised of self-advocates and self-advocacy groups in Illinois. Let's welcome the newest member group, Chicago Disability Activism Collective (CDAC)!

CDAC is 20 members strong and meets the 1st Saturday of every month. CDAC's purpose is to build a powerbase in Chicago across disability groups to form disability justice campaigns to fight structures that impact all people with disabilities. CDAC believes that people with disabilities deserve to live empowered, equitable, integrated lives. We envision a world where we can live as visible members of society because of self-advocacy, activism and solidarity.

Learn more about CDAC by visiting <https://www.facebook.com/cdac2015/>.

Welcome CDAC; we are excited to learn with and from you!

Welcome Freedom Fighters!



The Alliance is comprised of self-advocates and self-advocacy groups in Illinois. Let's welcome the newest member group, Freedom Fighters at AID (Association for Individual Development) (Elgin)!

The mission/vision of Freedom Fighters is "we want to live meaningful lives, make our own choices, and have opportunities". The goal of Freedom Fighters is to learn about advocacy. They are 16 members strong and meet on Wednesdays.

Welcome Freedom Fighters; we are excited to learn with and from you!

My name is Donta Jones and I am a member of Vocational Voices. From June 3rd – June 6th I visited Washington DC to attend the Source America Grassroots Advocacy Conference. I got to share my story during a celebration of stories and I also went to Capitol Hill to meet with Rep. Danny Davis and staffers from Senators Durbin and Duckworth offices to talk about employment opportunities for people with disabilities.



Hear US: Self-Advocates and I/DD Town Hall

On Thursday, June 27th, Access Living and the Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance held a town hall centering folks with I/DD (intellectual and developmental disabilities) in a round table discussion as we discuss the needs, issues and visions of self-advocates who want nonprofits and providers to serve them better, or be more inclusive.

Discussions centered around the following questions:

- Would you like to have your voice heard?
- What do self-advocates/people with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) care about?
- What does inclusion look like for you?

The event was led by self-advocates with I/DD, with support from allies.



WE NEED YOU!
TO MAKE IT HAPPEN

WE NEED YOU... to contribute to The Alliance newsletter each month. Share your ideas, hopes, dreams, success stories and challenges with The Alliance. You can submit an article, a poem, a piece of artwork, photography, write a column, or ask a question.

Let us know if you have any questions. Submit your content to info@selfadvocacyalliance.org.

"Let's Learn About Illinois' University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)" Webinar**Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at 10am CDT**Register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6108078861572761612>

Join us to learn about the UCEDD for the state of Illinois. The Institute on Disability and Human Development (IDHD) at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) is Illinois' University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). Information about the national UCEDD network will be shared as well as our partners in Illinois. This webinar will share the scope of work being done at IDHD along with specific examples and resources that can be used by people with disabilities and their families, service providers and professionals working in the field, businesses and non-profits as well as policymakers.

About the Presenter: Katie Arnold is Director of Community Education for the Institute on Disability and Human Development and Co-Director of the National Resource Center on Family Support for the Family Support Research and Training Center at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She also serves as the Executive Director of the Sibling Leadership Network, a national nonprofit dedicated to providing siblings of individuals with disabilities the information and support to advocate with their brothers and sisters to promote issues important to them and their entire families. In her work, Ms. Arnold educates and conducts research on various topics including self-directed supports, supporting families, and relationships and sexuality for people with disabilities. Her work is anchored to her experience living in L'Arche communities with people with developmental disabilities based on mutual relationship. Katie's passion for making a positive impact is grounded in her experience as a family member of people with disabilities, including as a sister, a wife, and a new mother.

"Self-Advocacy: A World of Possibilities" Webinar**Tuesday, August 27, 2019 at 10am CDT**Register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7707580209275136779>

Self-advocacy is powerful. Jamie Ricketts, Derrick Morris & Brian Antzak all have experienced a world of unexpected possibilities that opened to them when they started speaking up for themselves. They will share their stories of success in the face of many challenges and their thoughts on the life-changing power of self-advocacy in action



Illinois Self-Advocacy
Alliance



The Arc
Illinois

The Alliance and The Arc of Illinois Fall 2019 Regional Training

**“Speaking Up and
Speaking Out for
Yourself, Your
Friends, and Your
Community!”**

Join the Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance (The Alliance) and The Arc of Illinois for a day of learning and advocacy.

Trainings are free and will begin promptly at 10am and end at 2pm; lunch is included!

Register at <https://thearcofillinois.salsalabs.org/alliancetrainings/index.html> or contact Krescene Beck at the Alliance at krescenebeck@gmail.com or 618-806-9431.

August 28, 2019
Memorial Center for Learning and Innovation
228 West Miller Street
Springfield, IL
Registration Limit – 70

September 11, 2019
John Wood Community College
1301 South 48th Street
Quincy, IL
Registration Limit - 70

September 25, 2019
Rockford Mass Transit District
725 N. Lyford Road
Rockford, IL
Registration Limit – 45

October 9, 2019
Effingham Public Library
200 N 3rd Street
Effingham, IL
Registration Limit - 35

October 10, 2019
Kaskaskia College
27210 College Road
Centralia, IL
Registration Limit – 70

**Chicago Date and Location
Coming Soon!**

This regional training was developed under an investment by the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities (ICDD).



SAVE THE DATE!

October 28, 2019
6:00-8:00 p.m. Early
Registration & Welcome

October 29, 2019
7:30 a.m. Registration
Summit 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.

October 30, 2019
Summit 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Wyndham Hotel
(formerly the ~~Hilton~~)
Springfield, IL

**SPEAK UP ^{AND}
SPEAK OUT**
summit

Hear My Voice

Support My Choice!

**OPEN MIC LUNCH!
DINNER!
DANCE!
COSTUMES
ENCOURAGED!
WII GAMES!**

Questions?
Contact:
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Funded by The Illinois Council on
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DD Training Resources includes information and archived resources originating from state service systems, community providers, advocacy organizations and community resources.

Check it out at <https://ddtrainingresources.org/>

The Alliance Staff Contact Information

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