



Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance

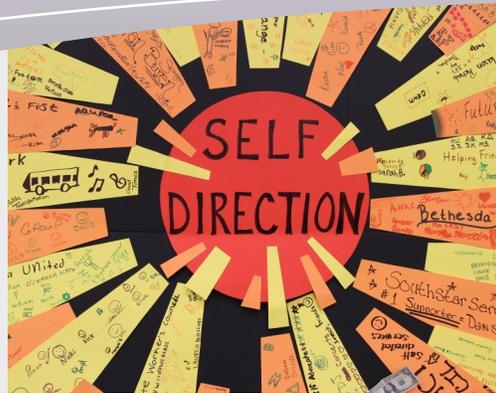
## Vision

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



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### Welcome to Fall from The Alliance Staff!

From holding Self-Advocacy Works 2012 events in Springfield and Joliet to planning for participation in the Speak Up and Speak Out Summit at the end of October to beginning to write the Call for Investment (CFI) to continue The Alliance grant after April 2013, September was a busy month for The Alliance staff! In order to provide the best service and support possible to self-advocates and the member groups, The Alliance has updated job responsibilities and titles of the staff:

Terah Green is the State Action Coordinator. Her responsibilities include coordinating and carrying out state actions; connecting with disability groups and advocates across the state; and engaging in systems changes that support the mission and vision of The Alliance. Terah can be reached at [terahgreen@ymail.com](mailto:terahgreen@ymail.com) or 309.433.3574.

Megan Norlin is the Local Group Coordinator, and her responsibilities include supporting new member groups/organizations in getting started; assisting local groups with problem solving and supporting each other; serving as a link between member groups/organizations and the Board of Directors; and keeping both The Alliance website and Facebook page current and up-to-date. Megan can be contacted at [hottwheelz702@yahoo.com](mailto:hottwheelz702@yahoo.com) or 815.228.9829.

Tara Wickey is the Community Organizer. Tara is responsible for conducting issue campaigns to influence local and state systems change on an issue; nurture relationships with disability groups and other allies across the state; develop marketing materials; support the development of new groups/organizations in Illinois; and development of core curriculum trainings. Tara can be reached at [tara.advocacy@gmail.com](mailto:tara.advocacy@gmail.com) or 773.787.9651.

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# The Alliance News

## This and That

Jen Knapp is the Organizational Consultant, with responsibilities including strategic planning and thinking; financial management; support for self-advocacy events; bookkeeping; training, and exploration and management of funding. Jen can be contacted at [jen.advocacy@gmail.com](mailto:jen.advocacy@gmail.com) or 217.390.9152.

Krescene Beck is the Program Coordinator. Her responsibilities include serving as the communication coordinator for self-advocates, DHS DDD, ICDD, and providers; providing program design, oversight and evaluation for all services; scheduling and conducting on-site training and consultation; and planning and executing annual statewide and regional events. Krescene can be reached at [krescenebeck@gmail.com](mailto:krescenebeck@gmail.com) or 618.806.9431

All of The Alliance staff participate in planning and leading trainings and activities, writing articles for the newsletter, and engaging in public relations and media presentations; each looks forward to supporting self-advocates and local/community groups as we work together in support of the vision and mission of The Alliance!

Beginning this month, The Alliance will publish a monthly newsletter about self-advocates, by self-advocates, for self-advocates. If your self-advocacy group is doing wonderful things in your agency, community, or nation, we want to hear about it and help you get the message to others. Send your articles and/or pictures to Krescene Beck at [krescenebeck@gmail.com](mailto:krescenebeck@gmail.com) for inclusion in the newsletter.

**PLEASE NOTE PHONE CHANGE:** The 217.714.6558 Alliance phone number has been disconnected; please call Krescene Beck at 618.806.9431 to contact The Alliance!



*For people with intellectual  
and developmental disabilities*

The Arc thought you might want to see how the party platforms match up on disability issues, and has developed a side by side report

### **"2012 Party Platforms Comparison on Disability Issues"**

available at [www.thearc.org/page.aspx?pid=3538](http://www.thearc.org/page.aspx?pid=3538).

While the Republican and Democratic party platforms included specific sections on people with disabilities, both also included mention of people with disabilities in other platform issue sections. The Republican platform included mention of people with disabilities in its sections on civil rights\*, international issues\*, Medicaid, and education while the Democratic platform mentioned people with disabilities in its sections on civil rights, Social Security and Medicare, voting, and poverty. The language in this report is excerpted directly from the Republican and Democratic party platforms.

The Arc, as a 501(c)3 charitable organization, is legally prohibited from taking positions in support of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. This information is provided for individuals to use in making their own judgments.



# The Alliance News

## This and That

Green Mountain Self-Advocates Presents

### Get the Life You Want: A Transition Toolbox



This toolbox helps self-advocates, support people, and families to plan for the transitions self-advocates make as they move into independence and adulthood during high school. The checklists cover topics that range from voting to relationships and job-searching. These are an excellent resource to help get organized for the adventures ahead!

Learn more by logging on to

[www.gmsavt.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=32&Itemid=4](http://www.gmsavt.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=32&Itemid=4)

#### Computer Classes for Transitioning Students

This class is designed to teach students transitioning from high school the basic skills to work with computers and prepare them for continuing education. The class is offered at PARC's Townline facility and is hosted in the assistive technology room. This room contains the adaptive equipment necessary for any physical needs a student might have while working with a computer.

#### Skills taught include:

- Hardware basics
- Mouse operation
- Windows operation
- File, folder, and windows management
- Internet basics and safety
- Entertainment accessory operation
- Basic email skills

To sign up, please contact Jeff Hyde at (309)689-3690 or email at [jhyde@arcpeoria.org](mailto:jhyde@arcpeoria.org)



#### Seeking to Interview Social Entrepreneurs with Intellectual Disabilities

Do you know of someone in Illinois who has an intellectual disability and is self-employed, has started a business or a microenterprise? If so, we would love to talk with them!

We are currently looking for individuals to interview to learn about their experiences in social entrepreneurship. Participants will receive \$30 for being part of this research. For questions or more information please feel free to contact Kate Caldwell at (312) 996-4711 or [kcaldw3@uic.edu](mailto:kcaldw3@uic.edu).

#### Rolling Around In My Head

Check out Rolling Around In My Head, a blog from Dave Hingsberger, an internationally known expert in the rights of people with developmental disabilities, at

<http://davehingsburger.blogspot.com>





# The Alliance News

## PHOTOS



## Relive the Memories ~ Self-Advocacy Works 2012

September 12, 2012      Springfield, IL





# The Alliance News

## PHOTOS



**September 26, 2012**

**Joliet, IL**

