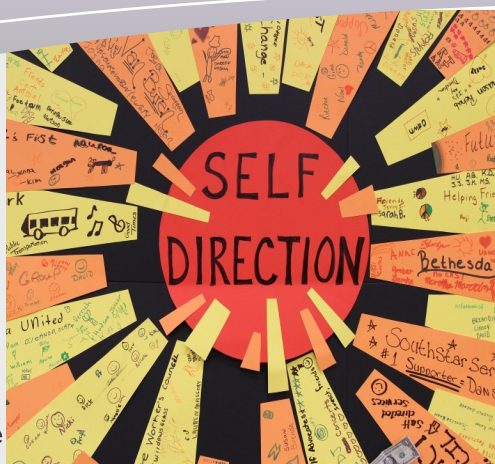




Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance



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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



## Project Independence 2014 was a great success!

**More than 100 self-advocates, allies, and support staff representing 15 agencies/organizations/self-advocacy groups participated in the rally.**

**Check out the rally re-wind and pictures on pages 2 - 4.**

Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance  
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Find us on Facebook at Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance



# The Alliance News

## Project Independence Rewind

We asked...you shared! The Alliance's Project Independence rally on June 19, 2014 featured two learning and listening sessions: one focused on Community Living and the other focused on Employment. During the sessions, participants had opportunities to think about, share, document and vote for their choices. Not only did participants share their choices with others, they also shared their choices with Sandy Ryan from the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities; Director Kevin Casey and Daryl Jackson from DHS's Division of Developmental Disabilities; and Lore Baker of the Governor's Office of Health Innovation and Transformation.

And the survey says...

### Community Living

I want to live in a

House - 22

Apartment - 34

Houseboat - 1

RV (Recreational Vehicle) - 1

I want to live

By myself - 31

With roommates - 29

I want to live in a

City - 14

Big town - 26

Small town - 26

I want

A pet - 39

No pet - 22

I want to use

Public transportation - 26

Staff/agency transportation - 18

My own transportation - 18

### Employment

I want to work with

Lots of people - 33

Few people - 30

I want to

Help people - 52

Put things together - 12

I like

Moving around - 47

Sitting down - 15

I want

Paid work - 56

Volunteer work - 9

Both paid AND volunteer work - 23

I want to work during the

Day - 53

Night - 12



# The Alliance News

## Project Independence Pictures



Pictures taken by Tia Nelis, self-advocate and member of The Alliance's Board of Directors





# The Alliance News

## Project Independence Pictures



Here's what the experts (self-advocates) said about the rally:

I will be able to tell my Case Manager what I want to do.

I got to express my dreams.

It gave me ideas for my future.

It taught me I can do more in my community.

I have choices.

I got to talk to and meet other people.

I got to meet other self-advocates.

I learned about jobs and helping people.





# The Alliance News

## Advocacy & Learning Opportunity



# Advocate.

Please join Speak Out in an advocacy themed event featuring **Kevin Casey, Director of Developmental Disability (DD) Services** in Illinois and listen to presentations from Speak Out.

*This is an excellent opportunity to address your questions on DD Services in Illinois, there will be a question and answer session after the presentation. Light refreshments will be served.*

**Thursday, July 10th**

9:30 check-in

10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Program

Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center  
1528 Third Ave. Rock Island, Illinois

RSVP by June 1st to guarantee your seat. Contact Jinger at [robinsonj@arcqca.org](mailto:robinsonj@arcqca.org) or call (309) 764-6353

Hosted by:





# The Alliance News

Advocacy & Learning Opportunity

Self-Advocacy

July 17  
2014

S.T.A.R.T.

Specialized Training for Adult Rehabilitation

START and The Alliance invite you  
to join them for

## Project Independence: Self-Advocacy

Kevin Casey,  
Director of Department  
of Developmental  
Disabilities in Illinois,  
will be discussing with  
self-advocates and  
community members  
about the importance of  
self-advocacy.

S.T.A.R.T. will also be presenting  
during the event.

Question and Answer Time will follow

Thursday,  
July 17, 2014  
1:00-2:00 p.m.

Davis-McCann Center  
15 North 14<sup>th</sup> Street,  
Murphysboro, IL

Please RSVP by July 1, 2014

Email: [startinc@startinc.org](mailto:startinc@startinc.org)

Call: (618) 687-2378

Refreshments will be provided

S ♦ T ♦ A ♦ R ♦ T  
Specialized Training for  
Adult Rehabilitation



Illinois Self-Advocacy  
Alliance



# The Alliance News

Advocacy & Learning Opportunity

## Advocates In Motion

### Presents a Community Advocacy Event

Featuring Guest Speaker  
Director Kevin Casey,  
of the Illinois Department of  
Human Services, Division of  
Developmental Disabilities



**Date:** Wednesday, July 30  
**Time:** 10:00—11:00 am  
**Location:** 3rd Floor Community Room  
Pioneer Center for Community Mental Health  
4100 Veterans Parkway, McHenry

Watch a presentation by AIM on self-advocacy themed “Project Independence.” Then listen as Director Kevin Casey speaks on current topics. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions at the end of the event. Refreshments will be available.

**RSVP** to Jan Trebing at 815.759.7176 or [jtrebing@pioneercenter.org](mailto:jtrebing@pioneercenter.org).



**PIONEER**  
*Center for Human Services*

Administrative Offices

4100 Veterans Parkway, McHenry, Illinois 60050  
815.344.1230 • [www.pioneercenter.org](http://www.pioneercenter.org)





# The Alliance News

## Advocacy & Learning Opportunity



### *Ray of Hope Self Advocates*

Join Ray of Hope Self Advocates in welcoming Kevin Casey, Director of Developmental Disability Services in Illinois to a meeting with Self Advocates and Allies in the Chicago area!

Kevin will spend an hour talking about services in Illinois and answering your questions.

This will be the first meeting of its kind let's make it the best!!

**Where: First Christian Church  
Chicago Heights  
1045 Dixie Highway  
Chicago Heights, IL 60411**

**When: Thursday July 31, 2014**

**Time: 10:00-11:00**

**To Register**

**Contact: Leanne Roth 708-259-7609  
or email:**

**[lroth@southstarservices.org](mailto:lroth@southstarservices.org)**

**Please contact us by July 25 so we know  
how many to plan for!**





# The Alliance News

## Free Learning Opportunities



Barbara T. Doyle, M.S.

Clinical Consultant and Autism Specialist

Nationally known teacher, consultant, trainer, presenter and author including co-authoring *ASD from A to Z*.



Parent Training & Information Center

Join us for three free webinars!

Family Matters PTIC is 95% funded by the U.S. Department of Education with additional support from ARC Community Support Systems.

For More Information Call: 1-866-436-7842



Emily Iland, M.A.

Educational Consultant and Autism Specialist

Award-winning author, advocate, film-maker, researcher, leader and mother of a son with ASD. Author of *Drawing a Blank* and co-author of *ASD from A to Z*.

Thursday, July 17, 2014

7:00 PM — 8:15 PM

Barbara T. Doyle, M.S.

**Healthy Minds, Healthy Lives:  
Protecting Mental Health in  
Children with Special Needs**

Practical strategies to use everyday in all environments to help children with special needs learn the skills they need for lifelong mental health.

To register: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/250354776>

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

6:30 PM — 8:00 PM

Emily Iland, M.A.

**DRAWING A BLANK**

Many readers with Autism Spectrum Disorders decode well but do not understand what they read. Discover how features of autism affect comprehension and identify over 30 underdeveloped reading skills. Learn to use evidence-based and promising strategies to help readers on the spectrum and others who struggle to understand.

To register: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/534014728>

Thursday, September 11, 2014

7:00 PM — 8:00 PM

Emily Iland, M.A.

**Don't Leave Safety To Chance:  
Teaching Teens and Adults with  
Disabilities How to Interact  
Safely with the Police**

As the population of individuals with autism continues to grow and grow up, there is a critical need to effectively teach safety skills. Learn about tools and methods to keep teens and adults safe in the community including priming, video modeling, role play and interviews.

To register: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/517129600>



Check out this YouTube video made by two self-advocates about abuse of people with disabilities.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=yhLsATwO0o4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yhLsATwO0o4)



# The Alliance News

## Learning and Advocacy Resources

[www.qualitymall.org](http://www.qualitymall.org)

person-centered services supporting people with developmental disabilities

The following new products have been published on the Quality Mall web site:

### "Women With Disabilities Australia"

This Australian organization is run by and for women with disabilities. Its website has many articles and networking opportunities.

<http://www.qualitymall.org/products/prod1.asp?prodid=48435>

### "Project STIR"

This program provides tools that help people make their own choices and decisions, and advocate for themselves.

<http://www.qualitymall.org/products/prod1.asp?prodid=48437>

### "Diversity Toolbox: Covering Disability Issues"

This webpage has tips for reporters as they cover stories that include disability issues.

<http://www.qualitymall.org/products/prod1.asp?prodid=48438>

### "Promoting sexual and reproductive health for persons with disabilities"

This book is about creating programs on sexual and reproductive health that are inclusive of people with disabilities.

<http://www.qualitymall.org/products/prod1.asp?prodid=48444>

### "Self Advocacy in Action"

This T.V. show is written and directed by self-advocates who live in New York. You can watch it on YouTube.

<http://www.qualitymall.org/products/prod1.asp?prodid=48454>

### The Alliance Staff Contact Information

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tara.advocacy@gmail.com

Krescene Beck, Program Coordinator  
krescenebeck@gmail.com

Jennifer Knapp, Organizational Consultant  
jen.advocacy@gmail.com



# The Alliance News

## Advocate at Advisory Council Meetings

**Be a Part of Advocacy in Action by attending your local Advisory Council Meeting**

### **Northwest Region**

Tuesday, July 8, 2014 4.30pm

Milestone Training Center  
4504 Shepherd Trail  
Rockford, IL

### **North Central**

Tuesday, August 5, 2014 10am

Freedom Hall (Morton Park District building)  
349 W. Birchwood  
Morton, IL

### **City of Chicago**

Tuesday, August 12, 2014 10am

UIC's Institute on Disabilities and Human Development (Auditorium)  
1640 W. Roosevelt Road  
Chicago, IL

### **South Suburban**

Thursday, August 21, 2014 2pm

Suburban Access  
900 Maplewood Avenue  
Homewood, IL

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**I speak not for myself but for those without voice...  
those who have fought for their rights...  
their right to live in peace, their right to be treated with dignity,  
their right to equality of opportunity, their right to be educated.**

~ Malala Yousafzai