



The **Alliance** News - Update

Advocacy Opportunity

Livingston County Advocates in Action

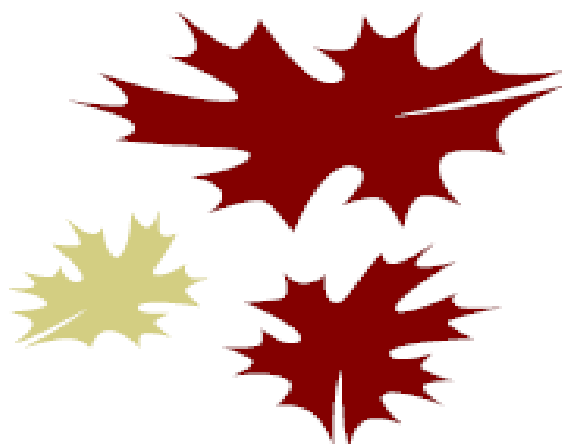
Presents Project Independence

A Self-Advocacy Event

Featuring Guest speaker

Kevin Casey

Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities in Illinois



RESCHEDULED for

Friday October 24th

10am-11am

Pontiac City Hall

115 W. Howard St.

Pontiac, Illinois

Watch a presentation by LCAA
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.

Hosted by Livingston County Advocates in Action

Assisted by Futures Unlimited Inc. and with support from The Alliance

RSVP sdohleman@futuresunlimited.org

Or to Shannon at 815-842-1122 ext. 2224



The Alliance News - Update

Learning Opportunity



**Please register for THE ALLIANCE'S WEBINAR SERIES:
A Life Through Images on October 28, 2014 at 10.30am at:**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8753434531532228098>

Join Riia Talve, artist and self-advocate, as she takes you on her journey of discovery and dreams. Riia was born at B.C. Children's Hospital (Canada) in 1985 after her mother had been flown down from Prince George B.C. by air ambulance. Riia was born prematurely at a weight of one pound thirteen ounces; she spent the first seven months of her life in the special care nursery. Shortly after birth she suffered a grade 3 brain hemorrhage which resulted in learning disabilities later in her life. The hemorrhage also affected her fine motor skills and it was suggested by the doctors that she would have difficulty doing tasks that required those skills ~ specifically mentioned was artwork.

At the age of fifteen, Riia was diagnosed with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and at the age of eighteen had a breakdown which resulted in her being hospitalized for a month.

Riia began drawing at an early age and has continued to do so into adulthood. She attended the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design for four years and much of her artwork reflects her life experiences and promotes inclusiveness, along with an awareness of those on the fringes of society. She has had numerous showings of her arts, been interviewed a number of times for both television and print publications, and has donated her original art to charitable organizations. Her artwork appears in the book "Success Stories from the Frontline". Riia has done numerous speaking engagements and has four forthcoming presentations to be made to educators in one of western Canada's largest school districts. Recently Riia was a Committee Member and Presenter at the Health and Wellbeing Conference in Vancouver, sponsored by the University of British Columbia.

Despite the odds, Riia has overcome many obstacles and is presently pursuing a career as a fine artist and a public speaker.

To have the webinar invitation e-mailed directly, please e-mail Krescene Beck at krescenebeck@gmail.com and put "October Webinar Invitation" in the subject line.