

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.

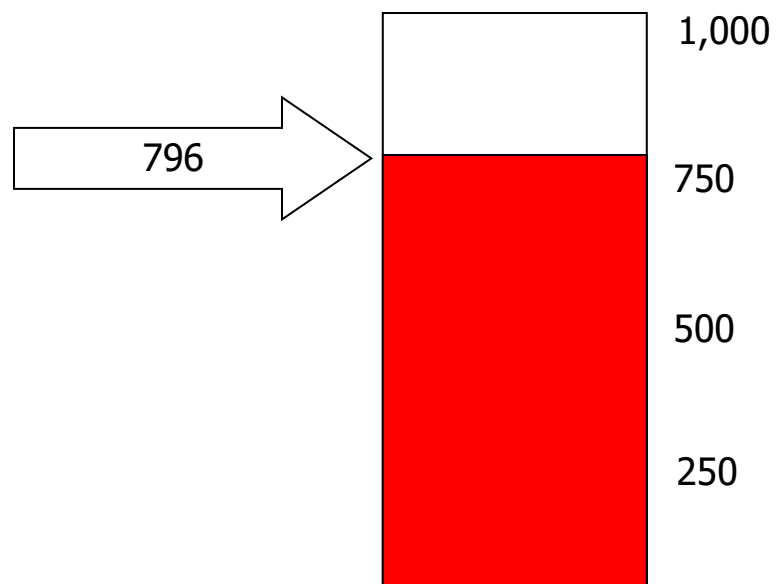
Mission

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

We're Working Toward Our Goal of 1,000 Signed Petitions!

The Operation: Community Access Steering Committee has set a goal of getting at least 1,000 signed petitions to present to DHS DDD Director Greg Fenton in June 2016. We need your help to make Operation: Community Access a reality. If you have already signed a petition, thank you! If you haven't, there is a petition on page 2 that you can print and sign; if you are able, make extra copies and ask your friends, family members, agency staff, and others to sign! Send your signed petitions to The Alliance, P.O. Box 666, Park Forest, IL 60466.



Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance

PO Box 666 Park Forest, IL 60466 618.806.9431

Email: krescenebeck@gmail.com Website: www.selfadvocacyalliance.org

Find us on Facebook at Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance



Operation: Community Access

The Alliance's Operation: Community Access Petition

The Alliance is statewide collaboration between self-advocates, member groups, agencies, and organizations. We the self-advocates, have gathered together to work on a campaign called "Operation: Community Access"; we want flexible day services for people with disabilities so we can make more choices about what we want to do during the day.

We believe it is important for people with disabilities to

- be a part of our communities;
- use our voices to self-advocate; and
- to advocate for the rights of others.

I support self-advocates in having flexibility in making more choices in activities during the day.

Name (please print) _____

City/Town _____, Illinois



Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance
PO Box 666 Park Forest, IL 60466
Website: www.selfadvocacyalliance.org
Find us on Facebook at Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance

The DSC (Developing Social Connections) Self Advocacy group went to two different venues to help Spread The Word To End The Word on March 2nd. One group paired up with some University of Illinois Best Buddies to talk to students at the Quad about the campaign. Another group went to a local high school, Champaign Centennial, to talk to high school students.

Both groups talked to a lot of people, educating them about why it's not ok to use the word "retard(ed)" in every day speech. Advocates asked people to sign banners and posters pledging not to use the R word, and handed out stickers and bracelets. Overall, we had great responses, and talked to a lot of new people!



CTF's Advocacy Center shared the message of Spread the Word to End the Word on March 2nd at Eastern Illinois University's Student Union in Charleston. Self-advocates handed out flyers and had petitions signed for Operation: Community Access.



Sertoma United, a consumer advocacy group of Sertoma Centre, Inc. participated in the R-word pledge. March 2nd is the annual day of awareness for spreading the word about ending the use of the R-word. A word that began as a clinical term became a hateful word, which constantly hurts individuals with special needs and those who love them. Instead of using the "R" word, which is insensitive and does so much damage to an amazing group of people, let's remember another "R" word: Respect. We pledge to never use the R-word, remembering that our words are powerful and we will use that power for good. Can you make the same promise? You can learn more at <http://www.r-word.org/>.



Principles of Self-Determination

www.centerforself-determination.com



FREEDOM to decide how one wants to live his or her life.

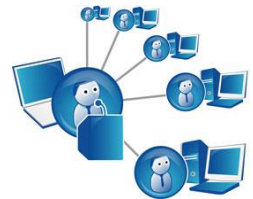
AUTHORITY over a targeted amount of dollars.

SUPPORT to organize resources in ways that are life enhancing and meaningful to the individual.

RESPONSIBILITY for the wise use of public dollars and the recognition of contribution across disability and aging can make to their communities.

CONFIRMATION of the role individuals play in the newly designed system.

**Let's Get Ready for the Going Home Rally Webinar
Tuesday, April 19, 2016 10am CST**



Join with Access Living and The Alliance to get ready for the 4th annual Going Home Rally in Springfield on March 11, 2016. The webinar will take you through the rally schedule to prepare you to make the most out of the day. Ideas for follow-up after the rally and what you can do if you are unable to come to Springfield will also be shared.

Please register for Let's Get Ready for the Going Home Rally Webinar on Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at 10am CST by going to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4841227034028798977>.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.



Missed the Social Capital and Building Your Network webinar on March 22, 2016? No worries...we can send you the recording! Just e-mail Krescene Beck at krescenebeck@gmail.com, and put Social Capital Webinar in the subject line.

The Alliance Staff Contact Information

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Are you looking for resources in regard to job accommodations in workplaces? The Job Accommodation Network (JAN) provides free, expert, and confidential guidance on workplace accommodations and disability employment issues. Working toward practical solutions that benefit both employer and employee, JAN helps people with disabilities enhance their employability, and shows employers how to capitalize on the value and talent that people with disabilities add to the workplace.

The following can benefit from JAN's services and information including FAQ: private employers of all sizes, government agencies, employee representatives, and service providers, as well as people with disabilities and their families. JAN is one of several services provided by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP).

For more information, you can check JAN's website at <http://askjan.org/index.html>. They can also be contacted via email, phone and LIVE HELP online.

ICANBESAFEONLINE.COM
READ THE TIPS, TAKE THE QUIZ, BE SAFE ONLINE!

www.icanbesafeonline.com

Community Living BC, (CLBC) is committed to helping people with developmental disabilities live good and safe lives in welcoming communities. This website is an important way for us to help people learn how to be safe online while still having fun with their friends and family. The Internet is entertaining and can open a world of knowledge, but it can also lead to embarrassing or scary situations for yourself and others. Worse still, it could put your safety or your privacy at risk. Learn more about staying safe online by watching the videos, reading the tips, checking out the blog and taking the quiz.

When you really get to know these tips, it's much less likely that you'll put yourself in potentially harmful situations.



Self-Advocacy in Action!




On March 31, 2016, self-advocates from CAPS and MRI Empowerment Group gave a presentation titled "Self-Advocacy in Illinois" DHS DDD Lunch and Learn.

Looking for a calendar that highlights disability-awareness? Look no further than Disability Awareness Calendars developed by Caprisha Shamira Williams, a self-advocate from northern Illinois. Each month highlights a different disability along with information that helps dispel myths and create more awareness and understanding. You can even sell the calendars as a fundraiser! For more information, please contact Caprisha at caprisha1011@yahoo.com.

In recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month #SAAM2016

IL Imagines Chicago
Presents:

**USING
OUR
VOICES
for
ART**

Join us for an evening for creative art.
Add your creative energy in the making of art and messages supporting survivors of sexual violence with disabilities.

Light refreshments provided
Personal aids, ASL interpreters provided.

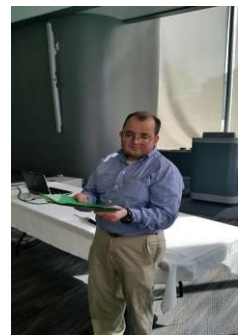
For more information e-mail:
ilimagineschicago@gmail.com
RSVP at: bit.ly/ourvoicesforart

WHEN: Thursday, April 21, 2016
TIME: 6pm to 8pm
WHERE: Access Living 4th Floor
115 W. Chicago Ave, Chicago



On March 11, 2016, Alliance member group The Network held a self-advocacy conference at Lewis & Clark Community College. Sessions included

- The Network & The Alliance Self-Advocacy Groups
- Your Financial House
- The Difference Between at PA and a PSW
- How We Live in Community



The conference was a time of teaching and learning for more than 100 self-advocates and allies!



Save the Date

for the 4th Annual

Going Home Advocacy Day

Wednesday, May 11, 2016
Illinois State Capitol Rotunda
Springfield, Illinois

8.30am (registration begins) – 2.30pm
Rally begins at 11am

Join hundreds of self-advocates and allies in
speaking up and **speaking out** in support of
community living for people with disabilities.

Going Home is an advocacy campaign dedicated to full inclusion and
equality for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Registration is now open – registration form on next page

We are a lot stronger when we work together!



4th Annual Going Home Advocacy Day

Wednesday, May 11, 2016
 Illinois State Capitol Rotunda Springfield, Illinois
 8.30am (registration begins) – 2.30pm
 Rally begins at 11am

Agency/Group Name _____

Address _____

Contact Person Name _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

Total Number Attending (include self-advocates, allies, support staff): _____

T-shirt Sizes/Amounts (must equal total number attending):

_____ S	_____ XL	_____ 4XL
_____ M	_____ 2XL	_____ 5XL
_____ L	_____ 3XL	

Accommodation Requests (sack lunches will be provided to all participants):

___ Dietary requirements – please specify. NOTE: Any physician-prescribed dietary requirements will be accommodated; food preferences will not be honored _____

___ Other requests – please specify _____

Sign language interpreters and light PA services will be available

Please register by Wednesday, April 27, 2016 by mail, email, or fax to:
 Krescene Beck Mail: 6754 Middlegate Lane, Glen Carbon, IL 62034
 Email: krescenebeck@gmail.com Fax: 217.875.8899

SAVE THE DATE!

**ALLIANCE
ANNUAL
RALLY**

WHEN Tuesday, June 28, 2016
10am – 2pm (registration begins 9.15am)

WHERE Doubletree Hotel
10 Brickyard Drive, Bloomington, IL

STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION!

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

To Be Announced
Community Alternatives Unlimited
8765 W. Higgins Road
Chicago, IL

North Central

Tuesday, April 5, 2016
10am
Freedom Hall (Morton Park District building)
349 W. Birchwood
Morton, IL

Please Note: Beginning April 5th, North Central Advisory Council meetings will be held every other month by phone; meetings will last 45 minutes. Contact Andrea Medley at andrea.medley@illinois.gov for call in number.

Northwest

Tuesday, May 10, 2016
4.30pm
Milestone Training Center
4504 Shepherd Trail
Rockford, IL

City of Chicago

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

Central Region

Thursday, May 12, 2016
12.30pm
DHS DDD - Centrum Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room
319 East Madison
Springfield, IL

Southern Region

Wednesday, May 18, 2016
10.30am
Bel-Air Bowl (downstairs meeting room)
200 South Belt West
Belleville, IL

South Suburban

Thursday, May 19, 2016
2pm
Suburban Access
900 Maplewood Avenue
Homewood, IL