







## Culture of Self-Advocacy: An Environmental Checklist

(updated January 2020)

	 <b>Never</b>	 <b>Sometimes</b>	 <b>Always</b>
<b>Learning Opportunities</b>			
People have an opportunity to learn self-advocacy skills.			
People have an opportunity to learn healthy relationships skills.			
People have an opportunity to learn about their rights regarding the services/supports they receive.			
People have an opportunity to learn about and prepare for the Person-Centered Planning/Individual Educational Plan process.			
People have an opportunity to learn about their rights and responsibilities as citizens.			
People have an opportunity to learn about legislative advocacy.			
<b>Empowerment at Agencies/Organizations/Schools</b>			
People can be on committees, workgroups, and/or boards.			
People can be in a self-advocacy group.			
People are regularly asked if they are happy with services and supports they receive.			
People are asked and heard when rules/policies/procedures are made or changed that everyone must follow.			
Materials (forms, policies/procedures, newsletters, etc.) are available in formats that people can understand.			

	 <b>Never</b>	 <b>Sometimes</b>	 <b>Always</b>
<b>Support Staff</b>			
People can help find new staff to hire.			
People can help interview possible staff.			
People can help train the staff who supports them.			
People can help decide if the staff are doing a good job.			
Staff receive training on how to support people in having more power, voice, and choice in their lives.			
Staff evaluations include how well they support people in having more power, voice, and choice in their lives			
<b>Supporting Personal Power</b>			
People are encouraged to speak up and speak out about the things that are important to them.			
People can co-present trainings and presentations.			
People can learn about the community in which they live/work.			
People are encouraged to speak up and speak out to make changes in their communities, state, or country.			
People receive support in engaging in legislative advocacy.			
People can choose their providers (doctors, dentists, support staff, community day service provider, etc.)			

Culture of Self-Advocacy: An Environmental Checklist was originally designed in 2007 as part of the Illinois Voices project. The Checklist has been updated over the years by the Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance, Inc. to reflect promising practice in empowering people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to speak up and speak out.



The Alliance is proud to be an investment of the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities