

Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance

The Alliance News

Issue #102

October 2020



**SPEAK UP AND
SPEAK OUT**
summit

November 16 – 20, 2020

Speak Up and Speak Out Summit (SUSO)

is a 5 day conference of speakers and fun activities that will show people with disabilities that they have a voice, they have choices in what they do with their life. We are committed to empowering persons with disabilities to reach their highest potential in education, employment and community living.

Learn more and register at

<https://www.speakupspeakoutsummit.org/>.

Feel the Power of the Community!

Our Vision

Our vision is for self-advocates to work together to get the support we need and to live the life we want in the community.

Our Mission

Our mission is to speak up for ourselves and each other while working together to make changes in our communities and in Illinois.



Illinois Council on
**Developmental
Disabilities**

This newsletter was developed under an investment of the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities

Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance

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Email: info@selfadvocacyalliance.org

Website: www.selfadvocacyalliance.org

Find us on Facebook at Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance

OUR VOTE COUNTS DOCUMENTARY

Our Vote Counts is half-hour documentary about key disability issues that need exposure before the 2020 election. Created by a team of self-advocates with IDD, the film explains the needs and concerns of people with physical and intellectual disabilities and suggests important questions that viewers can ask candidates running for election.

Watching this film builds awareness of important disability related issues, like the Full Funding of IDEA Act, Social Security Income & Asset Limits, Employment First, Ending the Subminimum Wage, Medicaid Waivers for Alternative Healthcare and the Mental Incompetence Clause.

Watch the film [here](#).

Our Vote Counts: How to use Friends Leveraging Friends to Increase Voter Turnout

The friends-leveraging-friends approach to building voter turnout is powerful, especially in communities that are traditionally underserved by traditional political campaigns. Like voters concerned about disability issues. This 60 second PSA (Public Service Announcement) explains how people with disabilities can use this approach to make their voices heard.

Check out the video [here](#).

VOTE BY MAIL PLAIN LANGUAGE RESOURCES

Voting by mail is a great way to vote safely and early! But how does it work? Check out these new plain language resources from the Autistic Self-Advocacy Network on voting by mail. Check out the resource [here](#).



SARTAC Zoom Meetings

12noon Central Time (in Illinois)

Join on computer, tablet or smartphone

<https://zoom.us/j/324815633> or call 1-929-436-2866

Meeting ID: 324 815 633

October 15 th

SARTAC Fellow
Jeff Johnson



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Jeff Johnson spent his Fellowship year creating resources for families to use when confronting **Segregated Education** and the **School to Prison Pipeline**

October 19—Transportation

SARTAC Fellow
Melissa Southall



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Overcoming Transportation Barriers in Rural West Virginia



October 22

Funding For State Self-Advocacy Groups!

SARTAC Fellow
Christinne Rudd



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See next page for more SARTAC Zoom Meetings

SARTAC Zoom Meetings continued

October 26

Supported Decision Making

SARTAC Fellow
John McCarty

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John created 3 excellent videos and other resources on Supported Decision-Making. His resources clearly describe Alternatives to Guardianship!

October 29 Autism Training

SARTAC Fellow
Michelle Middlemiss

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Training for police officers, firefighters, and other first responders. Trains on autism to increase safety in the community. The training explains autism accurately. It also explains methods to communicate with a person with autism.

What Makes You Happy?

Advocate George Neal explores how the Home and Community Based Settings Rule can enrich the lives of people served by the Medicaid Waivers administered by the Alabama Department of Mental Health.

Check it out at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dgetWaAINyg>



The Arc's Center for Future Planning ®

Supporting Daily & Major Life Decisions

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) must make many daily and major life decisions, just like people without disabilities. These decisions can range from making simple purchases to managing a budget to talking to a health care provider about medical care.

Watch a video and learn more by clicking [here](#).



Check out these upcoming WOW Meetings and the topics for the rest of the year, and please share these with everyone you know! WOW Meetings will be held on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas, and New Year Eve. We are totally up for having a special meeting on Christmas Day if enough people want us to. When we say Holiday Traditions we are including Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Winter Solstice and any other holidays during this season you think people would enjoy learning about! WOW Meetings are recruiting guest speakers!!!

Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 2pm
Preparing for the Election – Legislative Scorecard

Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 2pm
The HCBS (Home and Community Based Services) Settings Rule Updates!

Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 2pm
The HCBS (Home and Community Based Services) Settings Rule Updates!

Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 2pm
Costumes, Funny Hats, and The Great Pumpkin!

Thursday, October 29, 2020 at 2pm
Costumes, Funny Hats, and The Great Pumpkin!

See next page for more Weekly WOW Meeting information

Tuesday, November 3, 2020 at 2pm
Share What Happened When You Voted!

Thursday, November 4, 2020 at 2pm
Share What Happened When You Voted!

Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 2pm
Speak UP and Speak OUT Summit Preview!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81069446373>

Call in 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 810 6944 6373

NOTE: No WOW Meetings will be held Thursday, November 12 or the the week of November 16 to allow folks to attend Speak Up and Speak Out Summit.

Thanks again to ICDD (Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities) and the Arc of Illinois for their support of the WOW Meetings.

WE NEED YOU!
TO MAKE IT HAPPEN

Contribute to The Alliance newsletter each month. Share your ideas, hopes, dreams, success stories and challenges with The Alliance. You can submit an article, a poem, a piece of artwork, photography, write a column, or ask a question.

Let us know if you have any questions. Submit your content to info@selfadvocacyalliance.org.

Mobilizing Support for People with Disabilities Who Experience Sexual Violence

“People with disabilities experience domestic and sexual violence at alarming rates. Yet they are less likely to receive services, supports, and justice than their counterparts without disabilities receive.”

(Forging New Collaborations, A Guide for Rape Crisis, Domestic Violence, and Disability Organizations, VERA Institute on Justice, April 2011)

- ❖ **People with disabilities experience sexual violence more than 3 times higher than people without disabilities.**

Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Justice, 2017)

- ❖ **People with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities experience sexual violence more than 7 times higher than people without disabilities.**

(NPR Abused & Betrayed Series, January 2018)

Let's Mobilize To Do Something About This!

The Illinois Self Advocacy Alliance is excited to collaborate on the AAPD (American Association of People with Disabilities) 2020 Paul G Hearne Leadership Award to engage survivors with disabilities, rape crisis centers and service providers in doing collaborative regional and statewide work aimed at improving services, policies and opportunities for people with disabilities who have experienced sexual violence.



Information coming soon on webinars for self-advocates, disability service providers, and rape crisis centers!

Upcoming Webinar



Please register for **“Demanding a Livable Wage: An Introduction to the Chicago Disability Activism Collective (CDAC) SSI Campaign”** on

Thursday, October 21, 2020 at 3pm (Central Standard Time) at

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/955470517133076751>

Interested in learning about what we can do to increase SSI (Supplemental Security Income) for people with disabilities in Illinois? Join the Chicago Disability Activism Collective (CDAC) as they introduce their new SSI Justice campaign. Learn about the history of SSI, how SSI is related to health disparities and what you can do to increase the amount of SSI people with disabilities receive in Illinois.

The webinar will be recorded and placed on The Alliance’s website.



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