

Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance

The Alliance News

Issue #110

June 2021



Tuesday, June 22, 2021 10 – 11.30am

The Alliance invites you to join us to recognize and celebrate June as LGBTQ+ PRIDE Month Register [here](#).

Real Time Captioning and American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation will be available for both events.

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.



In partnership with the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities. This communication is supported in part by grant number CFDA 93.630 from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201. Grantees undertaking projects with government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent official ACL policy.

Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance

P.O. Box 666 Park Forest, Illinois 60466

Email: info@selfadvocacyalliance.org

Website: www.selfadvocacyalliance.org

Find us on Facebook at Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance



The Alliance's Summer 2021 Empowerment Rally: Activating Advocacy for All

**Monday, July 19 - Friday, July 23, 2021
9.30am - 12noon each day
Virtual through Zoom**

Register [here](#).

Join The Alliance and self-advocates around Illinois to learn with and from each other about

Self-Advocacy
Rights
Wellness

Leadership
Empowerment
And much more!

Please register by Monday, June 21, 2021 to receive your rally supplies by July 19!

Real Time Captioning and ASL interpretation provided.



Relationships on Tap

Grab yourself a beverage and join The Alliance for our monthly series, "Relationships on Tap!"

These monthly gatherings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month, and will be a time for individuals with disabilities to ask questions, learn and explore the topic of healthy relationships. All conversations will be confidential.

Friday, June 18, 2021 11am – 12noon

Register in advance for the meeting [here](#).

Healthy Living Chit Chat: Summertime FUN Time – Recorded Live on June 8, 2021

Check out the recording [here](#).



At our June Healthy Living Chit Chat, Chuy Campuzano joined to share and explore summer fun including

- Farmers markets and fresh food
- Summer FUN activities
- Update on ability to go out and COVID guidelines
- Healthy Summer snacks

Check out information on farmer's markets [here](#) and [here](#).

Join us for the next Healthy Living Chit Chat: Healthy Living and the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) on Tuesday, July 14, 2021 at 12.30pm. Join [here](#) - Meeting ID: 812 1589 1843. Passcode: 019664.



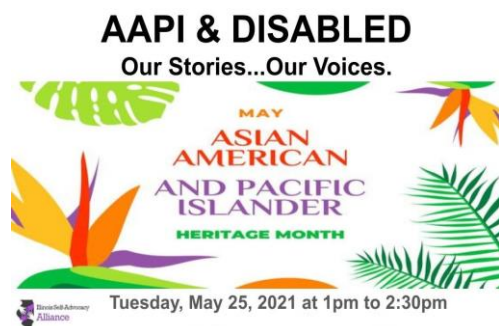
"Another Tool for Your Community Employment Toolbox!" Webinar

Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 10am Central Time

Join [here](#). Meeting ID: 832 7702 8953. Passcode: 980017

Are you a person with a disability/autism/neurodiversity who is interested in community employment? Do you want to learn about people with disabilities/autism/neurodiversities who have built careers/independent lives? Then this presentation is for you!

Join Jason Weppelman as he shares about disabilities/autism/neurodiversities who have taken the steps to community employment as well as companies who have grown to realize the gifts and talents that people bring to the workplace. The presentation will share about www.sourceabled.com, a one-of-a-kind platform you can use to find companies looking to hire and provide any supports requested. Jason is the Client Program Manager for Rangam/SourceAble.



May was American Asian and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month!

The Alliance held a celebration which included guest speakers and a panel discussion on Tuesday, May 25, 2021. Access the recording [here](#).

Calling All Self-Advocacy Group Advisors!



Join Alliance Advisors as they meet to learn with and from each other on monthly topics related to self-advocacy and self-advocacy groups. All self-advocacy group advisors are welcome to join! You do not need to be an Alliance member group advisor to join the monthly advisors meeting.

Monday, June 28, 2021 2 – 3pm

Join Zoom Meeting [here](#). Meeting ID: 865 0827 6486. Passcode: 415376.

View the recording from the Advisor Meet Up on May 24, 2021 [here](#). The information that was covered included:

[Top Ten List for Healthy Self-Advocacy Groups](#)

[Self-Advocacy Leadership Manual](#)

[Got Time? Advocating for an Issue/Concern](#)

[Culture of Self-Advocacy: An Environmental Checklist](#)

[Alliance Challenge Grant Application](#)

**"The world is broken. But we can fix it....
Your voice is your weapon against injustice;
disability rights are human rights.
I beg you, use it."**

~ Maysoon Zayid comedian and disability rights activist



Arc of Illinois
Illinois Life Span Program Webinar:
Healthy Outlets for Recreation and Fun!

Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 12noon Central Time
Register [here](#)

This Pandemic has turned all of our worlds upside down. Special recreation is critical to promoting healthy purposeful lives. Marianne Birko and April Ryan from West Suburban Special Recreation Association (WSSRA) will share the many services you will find through your local Special Recreation Association. Learn about who can benefit from these services, what they offer, where these services are offered, how to connect and what are the ways that you can be a part of promoting a healthy lifestyle for you and your family or client(s) with disabilities.



The application period for the
2021 Boost Awards
is now open!

The 36Squared Business Incubator is now accepting applications for the 2021 "Boost Awards". These funds are intended to help boost the success of disabled Illinois entrepreneurs. Any single awardee is eligible for up to one thousand dollars in funding.

Applications will be accepted until midnight on Friday, July 2nd, 2021. All applicants must be Illinois residents with some type of disability that poses a challenge to their success in the business world. Winning applicants must be available to attend a small event in late July (exact date and time to be determined) where the checks will be awarded. Funds are limited, however we do expect to have 3-5 winners this year.

Click [here](#) for the entry form.



**These Zoom Meetings are run by Self-Advocates from
across the country for our peers and allies.
Every Monday and Thursday**

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

[Click Here](#) for handouts shared during Zoom Meetings

June 17 - Thursday

LGBTQ+

Celebrate Gay Pride Month with us. Self-Advocates who identify as LGBTQ+ will lead the discussion



Continued on next page

SARTAC Zoom Meetings continued



June 21 - Monday

OLMSTEAD Decision

What is it? Why it is important!
Why our freedom depends on it!

Check out the most current information on SARTAC meetings by visiting The Alliance's Facebook page [here](#).

We Have a New Website! A bold and effective new look for GMSA (Green Mountain Self-Advocates)



After a very long time in the development and refining process, we are pleased to announce the new look of our resource-rich website, gmsavt.org. Within our new website you'll find old favorites such as our [Resource Library](#) as well as a new, easy to navigate [Events Calendar](#). Be sure to check out [The Buzz](#) for what's all abuzz at GMSA!



Join Zoom Meeting

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

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 810 6944 6373

Weekly WOW Meetings are held each Tuesday at 2pm Central Time. Check out the most current information on WOW meetings by visiting The Alliance's Facebook page [here](#).