

Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance

The Alliance News

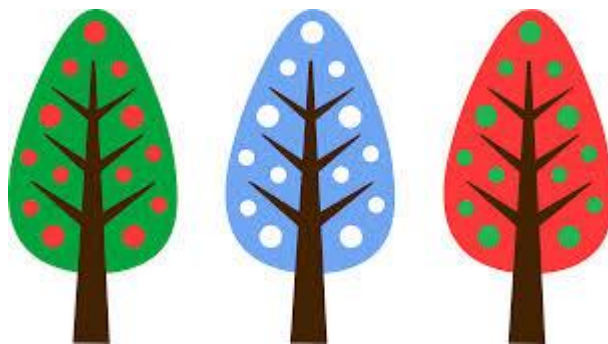
Issue #116

December 2021



Wishing you joy, peace and
good health
this holiday season.

Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance, Inc.



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

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

Recorded Webinar

"Safely Connect During the Holidays"

Recorded live on Tuesday, December 7, 2021



During the webinar, self-advocate Jen B. shared how to "Safely Connect During the Holidays" including

- Ideas for celebrating the holidays without in-person contact with your faith community, co-workers and friends, and your family
- Suggestions for COVID-19 precautions to put in place for any in-person celebrations

View the recording [here](#) and the slides [here](#).

Is your group looking for a special guest speaker?

Special Olympics Global Messenger Amy Foster is looking for opportunities to speak to your group! Global Messengers are athlete ambassadors who help foster awareness and advocacy for the Special Olympics movement.

Global Messengers are called upon to give presentations about their involvement with Special Olympics to various groups throughout the state with the goal of increasing awareness about the program.

Amy can speak on many of the topics that fall under Special Olympics as well speaking on money management, advocacy, and her personal story. Connect with Amy at amyf@hotmail.com.





Many people with intellectual and developmental disabilities pay for their services (day and residential) with money from the Medicaid waiver. There is a new rule in the United States about Medicaid waivers. It is called the Home and Community-Based Services Settings Rule. The rule says that services must be done in a way that helps people be part of their communities. Providers of Medicaid waiver services must follow this rule. You can learn more about the rule by watching the [What the HCBS Settings Rule Means for You video.](#)

The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) needs to make sure that Medicaid waiver providers are following the new rule by March 2023. DDD knows that your life, services, and voice matter. DDD needs to hear from you!

DDD asks you to take this survey about your life. It will help DDD make waiver services better for all people getting home and community-based services in Illinois. You can ask a trusted person to help you. It can be a support person, family member, guardian, or friend. You can take the survey [online](#) or you can [print this form](#), complete it, and send it to Meg Cooch at 600 East Ash Street, Building 400, 1st Floor, Springfield, IL 62703.

If you need support to complete the survey, The Alliance can help! Let us know by emailing us at info@selfadvocacyalliance.org.



Hello Illinois,

I am Max. I work for SARTAC (Self Advocacy Resource and Technical Assistance Center). We are a national self-advocacy center. We recently got funding for 5 more years. SARTAC has many great FREE things to offer:

- Meetings every week on Thursdays. Self-advocates and allies from more than 30 states connect. It is great to meet people from other states, **AND we are always looking for people to present at these meetings.**
 - Meetings are at 1:00pm ET, 12noon CT, 11:00a, MT, 10:00am PT
 - Always the same link: <https://zoom.us/j/324815633>
- Resources made by self-advocates can be found at: <https://www.selfadvocacyinfo.org/resources>. Please check out our website to find out what is happening on the national stage of self-advocacy.
- Help with finding other resources and information that you are looking for. Let me know if I can help.

We are always looking for handouts and trainings made by self-advocates for our website if you want to share these things from your state.

Have a wonderful holiday,

Max Barrows, Co-Director
Self-Advocacy Resource and Technical Assistance Center (SARTAC)

max@gmsavt.org

Office: 802-229-2600

[selfadvocacyinfo.org](https://www.selfadvocacyinfo.org)

[Watch SARTAC on YouTube!](#)

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.

The focus at the November meeting was “Let’s Talk About Rights”. In case you missed it, check out the recording [here](#), and the PowerPoint slides [here](#).

Join the next meeting on **Monday, December 27, 2021** from **2 – 3pm** as we focus on Planning for 2022. Join Zoom Meeting [here](#). Meeting ID: Meeting ID: 834 1776 9865. Passcode: 635699

Featured Awesome Resources Created by SANYS
The Self-Advocacy Association of New York State



RIGHT 2 RIDE

Right 2 Ride is a video based, peer-to-peer training about Taking Public Transit, Transportation Advocacy, and the Americans with Disabilities Act as it relates to transportation.

Learn On Your Own: Take the class with video and Q & A, Watch the video (in English, Spanish, or ASL), and get handouts from the classes. [Click here for all](#)

[Click here to download](#) SANYS facilitators guide and handouts to use in your group or classroom. Videos and handouts (in English, Spanish, or ASL).

Right 2 Ride Support Group

You are invited to join and get support for your transportation journey! Right 2 Ride Support Group meets on Zoom the 1st Saturday of each month from 1 – 2pm Central Time. [Click here to sign up](#)



Chicagoland Disabled People Color Coalition (Chicagoland DPOCC) is an initiative of UIC IDHD

Chicagoland DPOCC (Disabled People of Color Coalition) Meeting Schedule
All public meetings are open to everyone, including disabled people of color living in the Chicagoland area, family members, and allies.
Public meetings will be virtual on Zoom. The link to the public meetings is <https://tinyurl.com/DPOCC-Pub>.

Our next meetings will take place at 3pm on the following dates:

- Friday, December 10, 2021
- Friday, January 28, 2022
- Friday, February 25, 2022
- Friday, March 18, 2022
- Friday, April 29, 2022
- Friday, May 6, 2022

We hope to see you all soon!

Connect with DPOCC!

e-mail: chicagolanddpocc@gmail.com

web: chicagolanddpocc.wordpress.com

Like us on Facebook: @chidpocc

Follow us on Twitter: @chidpocc

Follow us on Instagram: @chidpocc

Celebrate Human Rights Month in December from CQL (Council on Quality and Leadership)



Each December we like to recognize Human Rights Month! While the rights of all people should be respected, supported, and promoted every day throughout the entire year, this is an important time to shine a spotlight on rights - especially for people with disabilities. There are a number of key dates that are important to highlight each December:

- **December 3rd**

The United Nations General Assembly established the [International Day of Persons with Disabilities](#) in 1992, which is observed annually on December 3rd.

- **December 10th**

Each year on December 10th, [Human Rights Day](#) is recognized. This day aligns with the proclamation of the [Universal Declaration of Human Rights \(UDHR\)](#) on December 10th, 1948.

- **December 13th**

The [Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities \(CRPD\)](#) was adopted by the United Nations on December 13th, 2006. It describes all rights of people with disabilities and provides guidance for protecting and promoting rights.

Click [here](#) to learn even more about rights.

“It’s my right to speak up and speak out!”



SARTAC Zoom Meetings are run by Self-Advocates from across the country for our peers and allies.

Meetings Every 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 Meetings



December 16

RIGHT 2 RIDE

The Self-Advocacy Association of New York State will describe their new video-based, peer-to-peer training about Taking Public Transit. This is an amazing resource with videos, handouts, facilitator guides in both English and Spanish!

December 23

Ken Capone Equal Employment Act

Ken Capone, Public Policy Coordinator, for People on the Go of Maryland, had a bill named after him. The bill ends subminimum wage in the state. Ken joins us to tell us about it. Come hear him speak on how he made this happen.



December 30

Share Your Dreams for 2022

Let's use this time to reflect. What is something you are proud of that happened in 2021? What are your hopes and dreams for self-advocacy in 2022?

