

# Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance

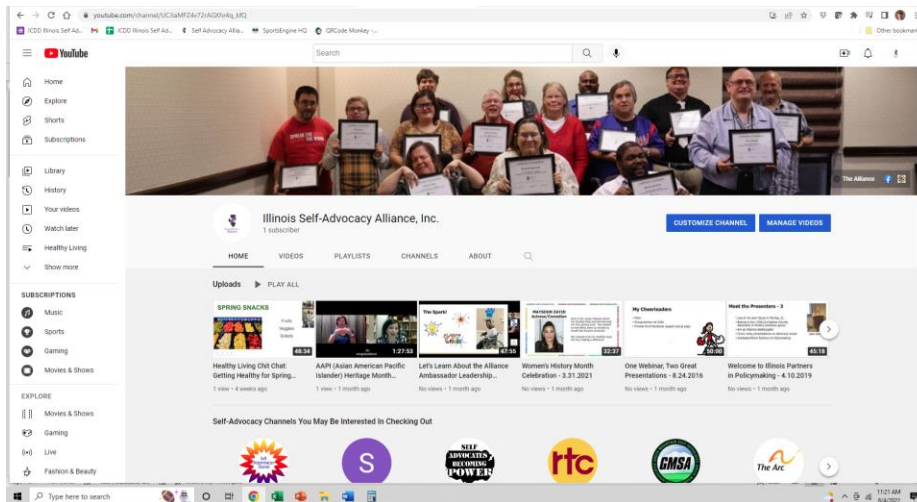
## The Alliance News

Issue #124

August 2022



### Announcing The Alliance's YouTube Channel!



With 4 playlists and more than 60 recorded presentations, you're sure to find something of interest. New presentations will be uploaded so be sure to subscribe to get notifications.

Check out our channel [here](#) or go to YouTube and search for Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance.

### 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

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Website: [www.selfadvocacyalliance.org](http://www.selfadvocacyalliance.org)

Find us on Facebook at Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance



## **Welcome Jaime Jay Cornejo, The Alliance's Spanish Coordinator!**

Jaime (pronounced HI- Meh) JAY Cornejo (Cor-NEH- Ho), is currently working as an Embedded English and Humanities tutor at Chicago's Harold Washington College. He self-identifies as a U.S. born, gender non-conforming, straight, mixed, brown, South American/ Latino man with a physical disability. He is an experienced poet, spoken word artist, independent writer, former musician, and soon-to-be-published author of his autobiography *Scarred and Proud: The Poet, The Mic and Shades of Disability*. His artistic and community work emphasizes intersectionality and the cultural diaspora. It ranges from hip-hop pedagogy, to mentoring, to utilizing art as a tool for radical change, to comprehensive social ideas of disability, masculinity and ethnicity. He has developed as a disability justice and youth rights activist for over a decade within the larger Illinois disability community. He previously worked in Chicago Public Schools (CPS) and in other direct social service organizations supporting black, brown and various immigrant communities across the city. Jay obtained his M. Ed in Policy Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2011, and his B.A. in Philosophy and African American Studies at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 2009.

As the Spanish Coordinator, Jaime will be responsible for translating materials and resources, doing outreach to Spanish-speaking and Latino communities, and help to create a Spanish-speaking member group chapter.

You can email Jaime at [jaime@selfadvocacyalliance.org](mailto:jaime@selfadvocacyalliance.org) . Jaime looks forward to working with the Alliance and advocating for our underserved communities - nothing about us without us.

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Jaime "JAY" Cornejo trabaja actualmente como tutor y educador de inglés y humanidades en la Harold Washington College de la ciudad de Chicago. Se identifica como un hombre nacido en Estados Unidos, heterosexual, culturalmente mezclado, moreno y sudamericano viviendo con una discapacidad física. Es un experimentado poeta, artista de poesía hablada y escritor independiente con pasado musical. En los próximos meses publicará su autobiografía titulada Cicatrizado y Orguloso: El Poeta, El Micrófono y las Sombras de la Discapacidad. Su labor artística y comunitaria se basa en la intersección de identidades y la diáspora: la pedagogía del hip-hop, el trabajo juvenil, utilizar las artes como un arma para el cambio social radical, e ideas sociales comprensivas y alternativas sobre la discapacidad, masculinidad y las etnias. Por más de una década, se ha desarrollado como un férreo activista y organizador de justicia social y juvenil dentro de la comunidad discapacitada de Illinois. Anteriormente se desempeñó en las Escuelas Públicas de Chicago (CPS) y en otras organizaciones de servicios sociales directos apoyando a las comunidades negras, latinas e inmigrantes alrededor de la ciudad. Jaime obtuvo su Magister en Educación en Políticas Públicas de la Universidad de Illinois en Chicago en 2011, y su Licenciatura en Filosofía y Estudios Afroamericanos de la Universidad de Illinois en Urbana- Champaign en 2009.

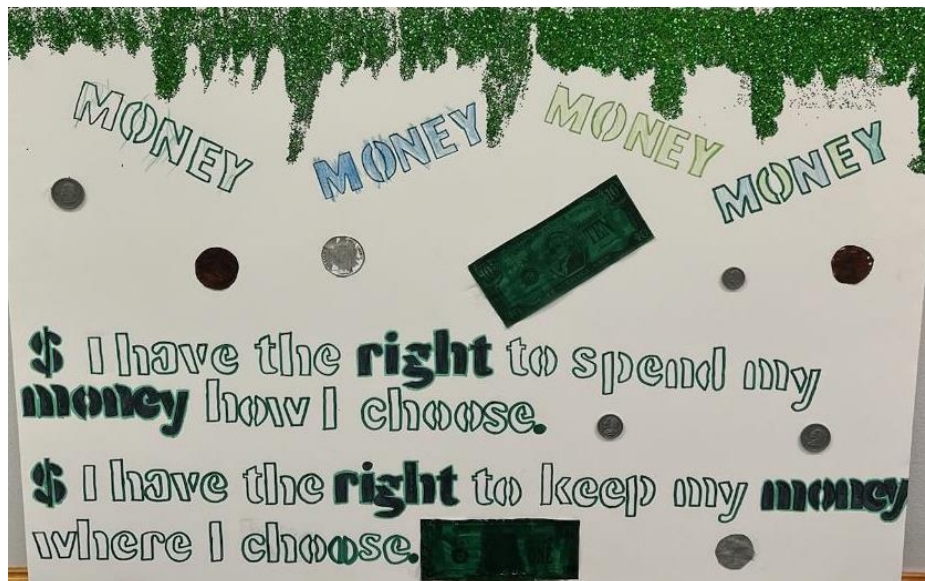
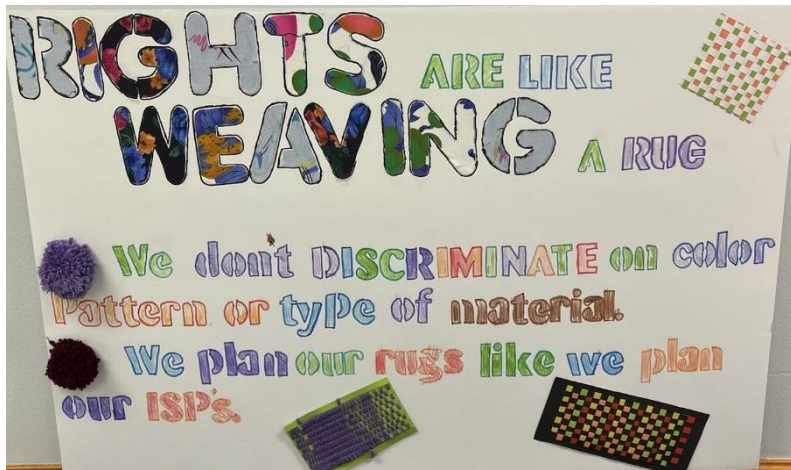
En mi rol como coordinador de español, soy el encargado de traducir los materiales y recursos de inglés a español. Estableceré y mantendré contacto con las comunidades latinas-principalmente familias que hablan español-y facilitaré la creación de un grupo satélite de abogacía.

Me pueden contactar a través de mi correo electrónico [jaime@selfadvocacyalliance.org](mailto:jaime@selfadvocacyalliance.org) . Será un gusto trabajar con La Alianza y servir a nuestras comunidades más necesitadas. ¡Nada sobre nosotros sin nosotros!





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Do you want to learn more about money? How you get it? How can you save it and how you can spend it? If so, sign up to get weekly positive messages about your money!

National Disability Institute, in collaboration with the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities, launched the text message campaign, **Illinois Money Wellness**, to deliver financial wellness information for people with disabilities and the people who support them.

Illinois Money Wellness encourages good money habits by sending one text per week with resources and advice.

Use the [sign-up form](#) or text MONEY to [833-313-0298](tel:833-313-0298) to sign up for #ILMoneyWellness text messages.

**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 send an article, a poem, a piece of artwork, photography, write a column, or ask a question. Send your content to [info@selfadvocacyalliance.org](mailto:info@selfadvocacyalliance.org).



## 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



## August 18 Meeting - Supported Decision Making

Courtney Hineman is from Ohio. She will share how she uses Supported Decision Making in her life. Courtney is a Community Outreach Advocate, working for the Butler County Board of Developmental Disabilities. She works with Josh Young from The Ohio Network for Innovation. They present to families and people with disabilities about Supported Decision Making.



## August 25 Meeting - New Covid Resources

Two state self-advocacy groups will share videos and other resources they made to encourage people to get the Covid-19 shot.



## COVID-19 Resources Made By and For Self-Advocates



### How Covid-19 Affected My Life

[Click here for](#) Videos made by self-advocates from Phoenix, Arizona that describe how Covid-19 has affected their lives.



### Stay Healthy, Stay Safe, Stay Educated Covid-19 Resources

[Click here to](#) get videos and flyers made by the Proud Parents group from Connecticut. The flyers are available in Spanish and English.



### Vaccines...The Great Lifesaver!

[Click here for a video](#) made by the Virgin Islands DD Council. The video tells the history of vaccinations and how vaccinations save and continue to save lives.

**"You have to dream before your dreams can come true."**

A. P. J. Abdul Kalam