

ENVISIONING THE FUTURE: ALLIES IN SELF ADVOCACY
Chicago Regional Summit
Sponsored by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities
April 19-20, 2012
Hilton O'Hare, Chicago, Illinois

The purpose of the summit is four-fold:

1. To assess what is currently happening in the states in self-advocacy – the support, structures, activities, accomplishments and challenges;
2. To plan steps we can take to strengthen and enhance current efforts at the state level;
3. To develop recommendations for actions that we can take at the national level; and
4. To develop policy recommendations that can lead to a stronger, more effective, and long lasting self-advocacy movement across the country.

State Teams invited to the Chicago Summit: Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Kentucky, Nebraska, South Carolina, and Texas

TEXAS STATE TEAM MEMBERS

Bridget Allen, Autistic Self Advocacy Network
Shaun Bickley, Autistic Self Advocacy Network
Ricky Broussard, The ARC of Texas
Consuelo Castillo, Self Advocates Becoming Empowered
Richard Couder, Texas State Independent Living Center
Shelley Dumas, Center for Disability Studies – UT Austin
Rodney Hanneman, Coalition of Texans with Disabilities
Jamie Martinez, National Youth Leadership Network
James Meadours, Disability Rights Texas
Jackie Pacha, Texas A&M Center for Disability and Development
Heiwa Salovitz, ADAPT of Texas
Joe Tate, Community Now!
Candi Ware, Texas Advocates
Roger Webb, Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities
Jon Weizenbaum, Department of Aging & Disability Services

Goal 1: Strengthen & Support all 4 TX Self-Advocacy Organizations		
How? What needs to happen? Next steps: resources, supports, overcome barriers	Who? Who will do this? Partners, Individuals	When? Timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding – Learn about ways the DD Network provides funding to others 	Self-Advocacy Organizations and DD Network	90 Days
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outreach – All 4 Self-Advocacy Organizations will promote each other 	Self Advocacy Organizations Local Self Advocacy Groups UCEDD's Disability Rights Network Community Advocates	Aug 31
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-Advocacy Organizations and Self-Advocates will be hired to provide services (training) to other organizations. Identify skills, knowledge & people. 	4 Self-Advocacy Groups In-Kind Support Partners	Aug 31
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train Parents and Families – about Self-Advocacy and letting people live their own lives. 	Self-Advocacy Organizations, Schools, UCEDD's, Parent Organizations, and Parent Conferences	June 30

Goal 2: Close at least 1 State-Supported Living Center		
How? What needs to happen? Next steps: resources, supports, overcome barriers	Who? Who will do this? Partners, Individuals	When? Timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-Advocates from all 4 organizations will do more outreach with people living in centers 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide more opportunities for people living in institutions to experience community 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-Advocacy Organizations/Individuals will be hired to provide information about other living options/choices 		
Team TX will meet for follow up by June 30, 2012		

National Recommendations

- AIDD re-prioritize money or support to Self Advocacy groups in the States (like NYLN) and/or have AIDD have internal staff dedicated to Self Advocacy
- AIDD Commissioner to communicate to Governors the importance of increasing number of Self Advocacy on boards/councils/advisory board/commissions, etc. – anything Governor-appointed/related
- The new re-organization will give AIDD Leadership the opportunity to form stronger relationships with Dept. of Aging, RSA (CIL), Education – especially promoting the hiring of Self Advocates at the state level to conduct training
- Conduct or expand research on why states do poorly in DD services and get a better understanding of Self Advocacy in those states
 - How Self Advocacy could be strengthened in states? Is there a breakdown?
- AIDD prioritize research on how Self Advocacy groups are funded, what works well and share with other groups as potential strategies

Additional information including Team presentations and reports is available at:
<http://alliesinselfadvocacy.org/stateteams/state-team-presentations-and-plans/>