

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Self-Advocacy Network of Michigan is a group of self-advocacy organizations that promote self-determination, power, personal rights, freedom and choice. It is a network that provides assistance, guidance, resources and advocacy to people with disabilities in creating and maintaining the self-determination movement.

Adopted by the Michigan Self-Advocacy Network March, 2001

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THE SELF-ADVOCACY NETWORK OF MICHIGAN



Creating leaders,
Affecting Change
Through collective advocacy

WHO WE ARE AND WHY

We are self-advocates, who reside throughout Michigan. We are leaders of our local self advocacy groups. We come together to share experiences and become one voice as we advocate for change. Michigan has many successful local self-advocacy groups, but the state lacked connection among these groups. The Self-Advocacy Network works to bring self-advocacy groups and organizations together.

Our purpose is to be a resource that provides technical assistance on self-advocacy and self determination and to advocate as a collective body across Michigan on issues in the disability community.

OUR GOALS

To Facilitate collaboration among self-advocacy groups and organizations throughout Michigan.

To provide consultation and technical support to local self-advocacy groups and organizations that organize groups to facilitate advocacy efforts for system change.

To make training available to people with disabilities on:

Leadership
Self-advocacy
Person-centered planning
Self-determination

To form a strong self-advocacy base for the dissemination of information on disability issues at the state and national levels.

To establish the Network as a collective voice of expertise.

OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In the short time we have been an organization we have accomplished the following:

Had monthly teleconference calls with an average of 10 to 12 people representing 9 localities across the state.

Elected officers and completed writing our by-laws

Written letters on Person-centered planning and the closure of the institution at Southgate.

Presented testimony on the mental health budget cuts.

Spearheaded efforts to bring self-advocacy training to individuals with disabilities in their local communities by Shifting The Power trainers and advocates.