

# SSAN

Statewide Self-Advocacy Network

**NEWSLETTER NO. 2, FALL 2012**



*"We know successful advocacy means exercising leadership and building partnerships."*

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State Council on  
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## About the Network



The Network connects self-advocates, their communities and statewide organizations to increase leadership and advocacy by persons with disabilities. By uniting voices, working with partners and taking action, we:

- Share important information in ways people understand.
- Learn and practice successful leadership.
- Lead by example and mentor others.
- Make a difference in communities and society.
- Help community organizations work together on advocacy issues.

Representatives from area boards and statewide organizations learn, organize and take action together. Members and their organizations:

- Gain experience and knowledge.
- Gather information from communities about important issues.
- Reach out and building new partnerships.
- Create advocacy plans and take action to achieve outcomes.
- Share expertise, information and leadership tools.
- Unite many voices so persons with disabilities lead the way.



## Network Advocacy Outcomes



*"We're strong, we're united and we are one family."*

### Members:

- Achieve personal leadership outcomes
- Represent others and speak on their behalf.
- Reach out in their communities and exchange information.
- Increase participation in regional and statewide advocacy.

### Network:

- Builds strong membership with operating rules and leadership tools.
- Links people and communities across the state.
- Uses technology to train, communicate and share.
- Reports on progress.

## Report from 2nd Meeting – July 2012

### Day #1

Members from 19 statewide advocacy agencies and area board regions continued to “build a bridge” to increase leadership by persons with disabilities. They shared views about the Network purpose and their job as members. Then added ideas about a logo that helps others understand what the Network is all about. Everyone shared updates on advocacy mission statements and activities in their communities. Time was also spent practicing video calling technology and the Network’s online Google group.



### Day #2

Members elected Austin Taylor as the new chairperson and Trena Wade vice chairperson. They considered a Network mission statement and approved Network meeting rules. Members exchanged advocacy information and continued with leadership and community activity updates. Member reports were videotaped and are available online

[http://scddadvocacy.org/nov2012\\_resources.shtml](http://scddadvocacy.org/nov2012_resources.shtml)



## What's Next

### QUARTERLY MEETING IN NOVEMBER

The Network will complete its mission statement and launch a new logo. Members will move forward with taking action on their advocacy goals and report outcomes. Outreach continues to be important so the Network expands its reach in communities and hears advocacy interests from diverse communities.

*"Along with all the other grassroots groups in the region, we give updates so that information gets to everyone."*

### Technology Training

*"Technology works with advocacy - like computers, Internet, AdobeConnect."*

Members had many opportunities to practice online technology, video calling and the Network Google group. Reaching across the state to communicate with one another and exchange information in communities remains important work as members began to host meetings using video conferencing. Future video use includes inviting new partners to online meetings to accomplish regional advocacy plans. Using video conferencing will provide an alternative to having all meeting in person, especially when it takes two hours to get to a meeting that only lasts for an hour.



# Network Resources

[www.scddadvocacy.org](http://www.scddadvocacy.org)



State Council on Developmental Disabilities Advocacy Resources

WATCH THE INTRODUCTION TO THE SCDD VIDEO

		
		
		
		
		
		



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 Concept and Design by Board Resource Center [www.brcenter.org](http://www.brcenter.org)

To find out more about the Network and leadership tools, contact SCDD at [council@scdd.org](mailto:council@scdd.org) or check out the website.

*I will use my personal and professional role to assist in developing resources and supports to give people with disabilities an opportunity to be fully included."*

**"IT IS AWESOME TO BE INVOLVED."**