

IL Partners in Policymaking

A Leadership Training Program

Class 3 beginning on September 20—21, 2019



****Training Topic Examples****

Disability History, Inclusive Education & Life Long Learning, Assistive Tech, Supported Living, Person-Centered Planning, Service Coordination and Self Direction, Self-Advocacy, Medicaid, Supported & Customized Employment, IL Legislation and Policymaking, etc.

Funded by The Council

This project is an investment of the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities. The mission of the Council is to help lead change in Illinois so all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities exercise their right to equal opportunity and freedom.

Participation Requirements

*A commitment to attend eight weekend sessions in Normal and Springfield IL, and to complete monthly homework and a Personal Advocacy Project. There is **no** financial cost to participants.

*An interest in learning and practicing new skills in a comfortable and safe environment.

*A desire to build and strengthen a network of people from diverse cultural backgrounds and life experiences.

*A willingness to learn from national and state experts who share our vision and values.

Partners at a Glance

PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING® (also known as Partners) is a leadership training program designed for adults with developmental disabilities and parents of school age children with developmental disabilities. Partners teaches leadership skills, and the process of developing positive partnerships with elected officials and other policymakers who make decisions about the services that you and your family use. Partners is accessible, informative and empowering. The graduates of Partners often become members of boards, councils, task forces and advisory committees; some run for elected office.

PARTNERS is about systems change – creating, working towards, and achieving a vision of shared values about people with disabilities. It is based on the belief that the most effective and enduring public policy decisions are made by the people who need and use services in partnership with elected officials and other policymakers. It is about becoming confident in oneself, competent in the knowledge and information received, and comfortable in sharing the life experiences and expertise one brings to the program.

Watch for further Partners in Policymaking information and the application for Class 3 on the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities website: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/icdd/Pages/default.aspx>.