Let’s Get Connected:
The National Self Advocacy Resource and Technical Assistance Center

Your Partner In Strengthening Self Advocacy
Thanks for spending time with us.
You will be able to:

1. Learn how to access resources on the SARTAC website
2. Identify ways you can partner with SARTAC
3. Explore ways to host a self-advocate Fellow
4. Learn how we are “connecting the dots” between self advocacy and other civil rights movements
5. Embrace the need for and promote strategies to support people with IDD in professional careers at disability organizations
6. Discuss the future of self advocacy including growing leadership among youth and people with diverse backgrounds
Your Presenters!

Max Barrows
SARTAC TA Specialist,
Outreach Director,
Green Mountain Self-Advocates,
VT LEND Faculty

Stirling Peebles
SARTAC TA Specialist
VT LEND Fellow,
Advocacy Educator,
Green Mountain Self-Advocates,
Dissemination Asst.,
Think College Vermont

Nicole LeBlanc
Former SARTAC Fellow
NCAPPS Person-Centered Leadership and Advisory Group Coordinator,
Advocacy Specialist for State of Maryland
Your Presenters!

Karen Topper
SARTAC TA Specialist, Administrative Director, Green Mountain Self-Advocates

Danielle Underwood
SARTAC Fellowships Coordinator, UMKC Institute for Human Development (MO UCEDD)
What is SARTAC?
What is SARTAC?

We strengthen the self-advocacy movement by supporting self-advocacy organizations to grow in diversity and leadership

- Share success stories
- Peer to Peer connections
- Create best practice tools
- Make connections between self-advocacy and other civil rights movements
- Provide 24 self-advocates with policy leadership opportunities
- Clearinghouse website of self advocacy resources
- Provide training and technical assistance
A Project of National Significance

Funded by:

- ACL Administration for Community Living
- AIDD Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- ASAN Autistic Self Advocacy Network
- SWi Southwest Institute
- GMSA Green Mountain Self Advocates
- TASH
- UMKC Institute for Human Development

A University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities
SARTAC Fellowships
Strengthens The Movement By Providing Fellowships For Self Advocates

- Award 6 Fellowships per year (24 total)
- Individual projects designed by self-advocates to work on policy and leadership topics
- Each Fellow partners with a Host organization (can be a UCEDD, another DD Network member, Self-Advocacy or Community Organization, etc.)
- builds personal skills needed for careers in policy and leadership
12 Fellows have completed projects

Marie Malinowski
New York

Steven Powe
Washington, DC

Danielle McGill
Florida

Robert Peterson
Illinois

Cole Browne
Kansas

Shiloh Blackburn
Idaho

Samuel Capozzi
California

Thomas Caswell
Vermont

Kelsey Cowley
Indiana

Kevin Greenstein
New York

Sorretie Jaro
Washington

Nicole LeBlanc
Maryland
6 Fellows are working on projects now

Jeff Johnson  
Missouri

John McCarty  
Georgia

Michelle Middlemiss  
Pennsylvania

Christinne Rudd  
Florida

Melissa Southall  
West Virginia

Julian Wang  
Colorado

http://selfadvocacyinfo.org/fellows/
Current projects

- Confronting Segregated Education and the School Pipeline to Prison
- It’s My Life – Expanding Supported Decision Making
- My Safety, My Rights – Training for Law Enforcement
- Sustainability Planning for Self-Advocacy Group Networks
- Overcoming Transportation Barriers in Rural Areas
- Engaging the Younger Generation of Self Advocates

Learn more at: http://selfadvocacyinfo.org/fellows/
Nicole LeBlanc
SARTAC Fellow

Nicole was awarded the David Joyce Outstanding Advocate of the Year for exceptional work in public policy.
Now Taking Fellowship Applications!

2020-2021 Fellowship Deadline to Apply: December 18, 2019

Take a flyer ▪ Learn more at: http://selfadvocacyinfo.org/fellows/

SARTAC Fellowship Application Now Open

What is SARTAC?
The national Self Advocacy Resource and Technical Assistance Center (SARTAC) was created to assist regional, state, and local self advocacy groups across the country. It is funded by the Administration for Community Living® (ACL). SARTAC serves as an online clearinghouse for information about the history of the self advocacy movement and best practices, and provides training, technical assistance, and Fellowship opportunities. The lead organization is Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SAABE). Other partners in this effort include UMBC Institute for Human Development (MO-UCEDD), TASH, Southwest Institute for Families and Children, Autistic Self Advocacy Network, and Green Mountain Self-Advocates.

What is a Fellowship?
A SARTAC Fellowship is a one year project designed by a self advocate. Each fellow works with a Host organization partner to complete the project, which should help the Fellow grow their own skills as a leader. The project might work on finding new ideas to help solve problems many people have. It must end with a report or products others can use after the project is over. The fellows work on their projects about 6 hours each week. SARTAC pays Fellows $5,000 to complete their projects. Six Fellows will be chosen this year. This is the fourth round of Fellowships. To see a list of current and former Fellow's projects, visit selfadvocacyinfo.org/fellows.

You can also find preparation documents on the same webpage.

Deadline to apply: Wednesday, December 18, 2019, 5 pm (Pacific time)

How to apply: Full information and online form at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SARTAC-Fellows2020

Want to learn more first to decide if you want to apply?

You may want to join the "How To" webinar with live closed captioning (will be archived at selfadvocacyinfo.org):

"How To Apply for a SARTAC Fellowship"
Wednesday, November 13, 2019
11:00 am | Central Standard Time (Chicago) | 1 hr 30 mins

By computer, smart phone or tablet: https://zoom.us/j/972874637
or dial by closest location: +1 669 900 6833 US (New York) or +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
Use meeting ID: 972 874 637

"SARTAC is a Project of National Significance of the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) funded by Administration for Community Living (ACL) Grant Award Number 90INSC0001-01-00."
Technical Assistance

Peer to Peer Connections
Does your group or organization need help?

SARTAC is here to answer questions and help you find the information to strengthen your self-advocacy group.

We provide technical assistance on many self-advocacy topics. We answer your questions by email, phone or video conference. We are able to visit your group if funding is available.
Technical Assistance

Max Barrows, SARTAC TA Specialist meeting with peer leaders from 7 states at a National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities annual meeting.
SARTAC
Clearinghouse Website

273 Resources created by self advocates and their organizations
SARTAC Clearinghouse Website
selfadvocacyinfo.org

Your one-stop resource for organizing and supporting self advocacy groups
Civil Rights Movements

Our history project includes:

- A plain language article about the history of the self-advocacy, African American, and LGBTQ social justice movements
- Recorded interviews with self-advocacy movement leaders
- Recorded interviews with African American movement participants and historians
Self-Advocacy and Beyond
Interviews with Leaders of the Self-Advocacy Movement

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NB550wevUc
Breaking Glass Ceilings

SARTAC employs 8 self advocates on the management team for SABE and partners. Fellowships are opening doors to professional careers.

Tia Nelis Presenting
Thomas Caswell recording a podcast
Stirling Peebles Social Media Specialist
Tips for Including Workers with Intellectual Disabilities in Your Organization

https://selfadvocacyinfo.org/resource/tips-including-workers-disabilities-organizations/
Tips and Tools for an Inclusive Work Place

Green Mountain Self-Advocates is a statewide disability rights organization in Vermont. People with and without intellectual disabilities work for us. Overtime we have discovered helpful ways to work together as a team. Here are a few tools we suggest you try to support the inclusion of workers with intellectual disabilities. This is not a complete list. We welcome suggestions!

Assistive Technology Programs ............................................. 2
Dropbox ............................................................................ 3
Email .................................................................................. 4
General Tips ............................................................................
Google Docs ...........................................................................
Job coach ..............................................................................
Job Evaluation ........................................................................
Logs .....................................................................................
Meetings ..............................................................................
Presenting ..........................................................................
Scripts ...................................................................................
Schedules .............................................................................
Set Up ...................................................................................
Stirling’s Accommodations

• My primary tool I use is a **to-do list**, it keeps me focused.
• My **Job coach** assists with brainstorming, developing strong writing, time management, staying organized, and reminders to follow-up on communication.
• **Transportation** is essential to the success for many professional jobs.
• **Co-workers** help me be part of the culture at work, provide emotional support and build confidence.
Max’s Accommodations

- Keeping **track** of what I need for **appointments** etc.
- Use devices for **live chatting** during meetings
- Writing **prep notes/scripts** to help me keep on point
- While presenting, **keeping track of time**
- **Taking notes** at meetings and events so I can recall details when completing reports.
- **Emotional support**
- **Transportation** to work appointments
Accommodations - General Tips

• Frequent **staff meetings** to keep everyone on the same page

• During events like conferences or fundraisers: **To Do list** written and printed so everyone knows where to check for the next assignment

• Make an **office culture about emails**

• To Do lists - should be in **order of importance**

• **Debrief** soon after a meeting or event to plan next steps, to talk about important highlights, to answer questions
An aspiring ally can…

- Remind partners to **send out meeting materials AT LEAST** one week **ahead** of time
- If one is not happening, ask for **breaks** in the meeting
- Advocate for **Plain Language** version of materials.
- Support co-workers to speak up - practice asking questions and **discuss** a list of comments **before meetings**.
- **BOTTOM LINE** - when things are inclusive and **accessible**, **all people benefit** not just people with disabilities!!!
Tips for working with someone long distance

• **Zoom meetings** work better than phone meetings.
• Use a **Google Doc** so you can both see notes or what the other people are typing.
• Send an email after a meeting that shares the key points, follow up items, and deadlines.
• If you have a long-term project, schedule **check-in’s** at least once a week.
• It may be easier to **answer questions with a phone call** rather than an email or text message.
Round 1

Put important info first

Short sentences 15-20 words max!

Use common words

Avoid jargon and acronyms

One idea per sentence

Focus on need to Know information

Use active voice

Use words with 3 syllables or less
Other Outcomes
Strengthens the Movement By Creating Tools People Can Use

Easy Read & Plain Language Editions

- Self advocates Guide to Medicaid
- They Work For Us: A Self-Advocate’s Guide to Getting Through to Your Elected Officials
- Real Work for Real Pay
- Medicaid Community Settings Rules (To be Released in 2019)
Examples of Collaborative work with AUCD

Sex Talk for Self-Advocates

A webinar series
(5 recorded so far!)

Using real self-advocate questions from a survey, we have three sexuality educators answering questions about sexual relationships.
Other Outcomes

Advisory Committee – created 2 toolkits

► “Building Bridges: Using Your Self Advocacy Tools to Build Coalitions”

Supports **two National Self Advocacy Conferences** that showcases Best Practices in self advocacy
(June 7-9, 2018 and October 1-3, 2020)
Group Activity

Pick a question, discuss it and write your ideas. If you finish move on to another question.

1. How do we get youth engaged in self-advocacy?
2. What are your best examples of including People with IDD in Leadership roles? What more could they do?
3. What will self advocacy look like in the future?
4. How can SARTAC support your work as a UCEDD/LEND?
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SARTAC is a Project of National Significance funded by the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) funded by Administration for Community Living (ACL) Grant Award number 90DNRCO001-01-00

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