Participating in advisory groups

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Savannah

Started doing advocacy at age 12

Was active in Youth organizing (both mental health and Cross disability) in late teens & early 20s

State & Federal level policy advising; non-profit boards

Currently on the PADDCC, PASILC, various advisories for The PA Office of Developmental Programs, & Vice President of a state level org called SAU1 (... in addition to my day job doing ASAN’s social media)
Why join advisory groups?

Your unique experiences = new ideas.

You learn more, and become in the know.

Experience -> Confidence -> More Experience

Make connections.

... Sometimes even for fun.
What does an advisory group do?

Policy advising
DDCs
Government Advisory
Project Advisory

Non-profit boards
SILCs
Specific Advisory
What does an advisory group member do?

- Answer questions
- Promote the work
- Be heard
- Go to meetings
- Make decisions
- Work together
- Stay up to date
- Represent
- Draft statements
- Create change
How do you apply to be on an advisory group?

Know your issues
Show up for the group
Know what you can give
Ask!
Accommodations: Yes Here Too.

Think about what this board asks
What do you need in order to do it?
What resources can you draw from?

SHARE!
How to prepare for a meeting

Ask for information

Know how to get to or connect with the meeting

Know when the meeting is

Know who to contact if you have issues

If you have materials ahead of time, READ THEM!

Check if there’s anything you were supposed to do
What now?

Show up
Look at the agenda
Take notes
Listen to what the topic is
Look for places to add to
Consider follow up later

ASK:
How do they run meetings?
When are breaks?
Are you allowed to vote?
Who manages logistics?
What are the ground rules?
HELP!

I don’t understand what we are talking about!

What happened to my accommodations?

I disagree a lot, how do I share that?

I don’t like what we are doing!

Another member treats me poorly because of my Age, disability or another attribute!

I’m having a hard time/am frustrated & am struggling!
Where do I join?

- DDCs
- SILCs & CILs
- Self advocacy groups
- UCEDD projects
- State government meetings
- Other non-profits
Resources

Inclusive Leadership in Action
http://disabilities.temple.edu/programs/leadership/ilia.shtml

PADSA Resource Guides
https://pacific-alliance.org/resource-guides/
Questions?
Thanks for joining us!

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The Autistic Self Advocacy Network

http://autisticadvocacy.org/

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