
Participating in advisory groups

— Savannah Logsdon-Breakstone —

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 PADDC, 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

Non-profit boards

DDCs

SILCs

Government Advisory

Specific Advisory

Project 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

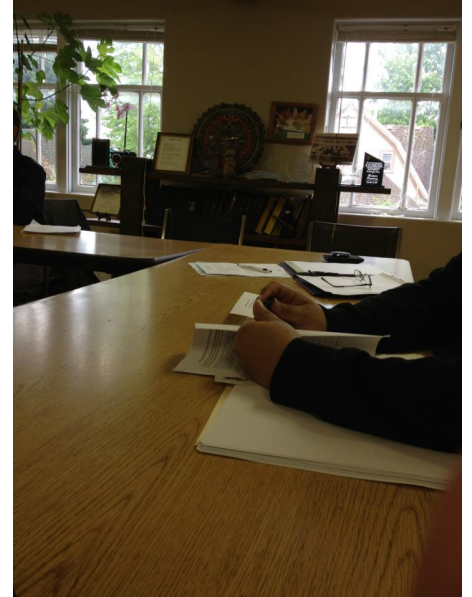
How do you apply to be on an advisory group?

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!

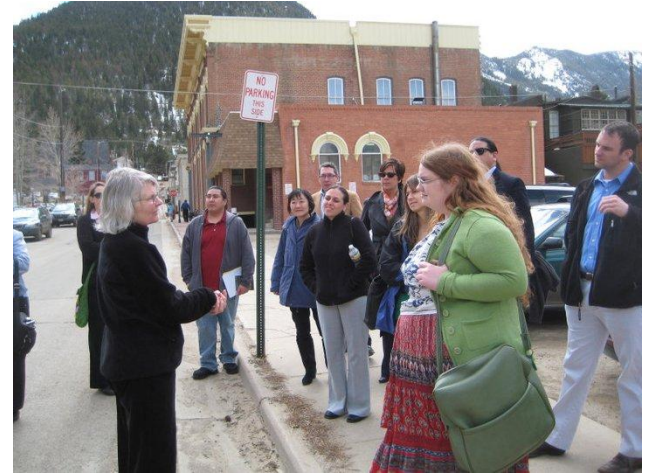
What happened to my accommodations?

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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@nicocoer (personal twitter)



The Autistic Self Advocacy Network

<http://autisticadvocacy.org/>



@autselfadvocacy



/AutisticAdvocacy/