



Dear Friends and Supporters:

The Self-Advocacy Association of New York State, Inc. (SANYS) is a not-for-profit organization developed and run by individuals with developmental disabilities. The organization’s goal is to help people with disabilities learn to speak up for themselves, individually and collectively as leaders in the community. Our grassroots mission is to support new groups and existing self-advocacy groups. Self-Advocacy Groups support people to speak up and become leaders within their communities that in turn can lead to a regional opportunity for individuals to run for election to the SANYS Statewide Board of Directors for a term of three years. These Statewide Regional Conferences offer the opportunity for peer elections along with workshop training experiences and social and professional networking.

Here, in the Western NY Region of the Self-Advocacy Association of NYS (Finger Lakes & Buffalo), we annually hold a two-day conference in June. On average, we have 350 registrants every year who look forward to learning more about speaking up for themselves and others while for some it’s about having a great time meeting up with old friends and making new ones. What ever the reason, I think you’ll agree that having annual forums that offer these types of opportunities to people with disabilities, their families and support staff is an opportunity to enrich the lives of all as a welcome opportunity to be in the community as students eager to learn, as teachers willing to share from personal experience and to grow in personal self-advocacy as well as advocacy for others.

The Self-Advocate Members of the WNY Conference Planning Committee are hard at work making all the arrangements for the upcoming 2019 Conference, themed “ Get off the Bureaucracy Bus and Reinvest with Us”. If you believe this is an ideal you would like to sponsor then please consider being an advocate through your financial support at one of the three sponsorship levels listed below. Of course you are most welcome to register and participate in the conference community itself. Registrations will be available by early April and can be ordered by calling 585/461-8776 or 716/517-3598. Your advocacy commitment will be listed in the conference program and announced during the conference by a committee member.

Can we count on your financial support and ***include you in this years theme***.....

“ Get off the Bureaucracy Bus and a Reinvest in Us”

(Agency or Individual Name)_____chooses to be a sponsor advocate for the 2018 WNY Self-Advocacy Conference in the amount of:

- 2019 WNY Conference Platinum Sponsor \$501 - \$1000 _____**
- 2019 WNY Conference Gold Sponsor \$251 - \$ 500 _____**
- 2019 WNY Conference Silver Sponsor \$ 10 - \$ 250 _____**

Please mail a copy of this letter by May 24th along with your sponsorship check made payable to: **“SANYS”**

**Mail to: The Self-Advocacy Association of NYS
620 Westfall Road, Suite 652
Attn: Jason Belicove, Fundraising Committee
Rochester NY 14620.**

Thank You! - The WNY SANYS Conference Fundraising Committee: Jason Belicove (Chair), Caitlin Weir, and Kim Henchen.