

# THE LEADERSHIP SERIES

Advocates in Action is now accepting applications for the Leadership Series Class of 2024! **The deadline to apply is Friday, January 19th, 2024.**

## About the Leadership Series

The Leadership Series is an in-depth learning experience that's user-friendly, interactive, informative, and fun! We created the Series with a team of Self-Advocates and other allies to empower Rhode Islanders aged 18 and older who have an intellectual/developmental disability (I/DD) to speak up for themselves, navigate the DD System, connect with the community, and live life on their own terms, just like everyone else does!

While the Series is designed primarily for individuals who have an I/DD, family members, staff, and friends who will be supporting a class member are also welcome to apply.

Applicants don't need to read or write to participate in the Series. We present information in a variety of formats, including pictures, video, music, games, art, and more, to make the content engaging, inclusive, and accessible. We also have a team of Leadership Series graduates who work for our organization as Peer Mentors who will be available to answer questions, assist with homework, and support class members throughout our time together.

The Series begins with a virtual retreat on **Wednesday, February 7th, from 10:30 am - 2:30pm**, followed by weekly classes that meet over Zoom. **Classes meet every Wednesday from 1:00-2:30 pm**, beginning **February 7<sup>th</sup>** and ending **June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024**.

Each class focuses on different topics about Self-Awareness, Self-Determination, and Self-Advocacy. Some of the things you'll learn about include:

- About the RI Developmental Disabilities Service System
- Qualities of an Effective Leader
- Community Integration
- Disability Rights
- How Government Works and How to Vote
- Making Informed Decisions
- Person-Centered Thinking and Individualized Service Plans
- Personal Introduction and Communication Skills
- Public Speaking and Presentation Skills
- Technology Tips
- And More!



