



## Rhode Island's 16th Annual Statewide Self-Advocacy Conference

Thursday, October 20th, 2011  
The Crowne Plaza Hotel

Welcome to Rhode Island's 16th Annual Statewide Self-Advocacy Conference! The name of this year's event is "Believe". We're here today to talk about living life to the fullest and speaking-up for the things that matter most to people who have a disability, family members, allies and friends.

Believe in yourself ... believe in freedom ... believe in equality ... believe in community ...

### **Believe in Self-Advocacy!**

Today we hope that all of our conference attendees can see beyond any disability labels that society may have stuck on you. See beyond labels that you may have stuck on someone else, too. See beyond all of that and believe in possibilities. Don't let all the negative news or bad attitudes get you down.

Dream big and hang on to those dreams because they really can come true!



Hosted by Advocates in Action, with support from PAL

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[aina@advocatesinaction.org](mailto:aina@advocatesinaction.org) ♦ [www.advocatesinaction.org](http://www.advocatesinaction.org)



**Believe 2011**



**CONGRATULATIONS  
SELF-ADVOCACY AWARD  
WINNERS!**



**LEADERSHIP**



**BROKEN RECORD  
AWARD**



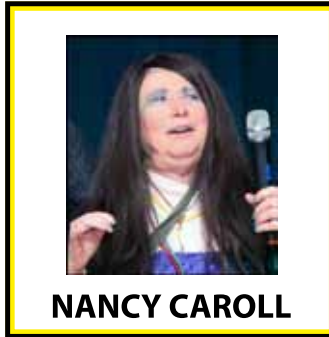
**JEREMY VANDALL  
PROFESSIONAL**



**FRIEND OF  
SELF-ADVOCACY**



**LISA CAETANO**



**NANCY CAROLL**



**MADELINE FREIBERGER**



**KATHLEEN SAMWAYS**



**We Believe in Community!**

We are collecting for the RI Food Bank.

Bring your food items and cash donations  
to the table in the foyer, near Registration.

Times are tough for everyone.

Let's help our neighbors in need.

*Together we can make a difference!*

*Congratulations for hosting  
Rhode Island's 16th Annual  
Statewide Self-Advocacy Conference*

**Keep Speaking-Up!**

**The John E. Moran Foundation**  
*To underwrite initiatives that benefit people  
with intellectual and developmental disabilities*



# 2011 CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:30am - 9:30am

## Registration

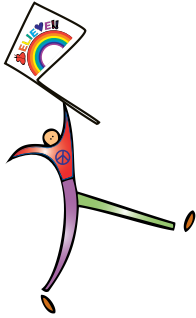
Get in Line before 9:00 to enter our Early Bird Raffle!  
Bring your food items and cash donations for  
the RI Community Food Bank to the table in the foyer



9:45am - 10:45am

## Opening Session

Get Grooving with Our Dancing Parade!  
Join Jimmy Isom & Madeline Freiberger  
as they sing God Bless America  
Welcome to our Keynote Speaker:  
Author and Composer, Maureen Gaynor!



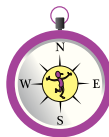
11:00am - 12:00pm  
**Six Breakout Sessions**



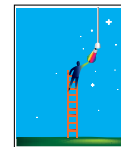
12:15pm - 1:45pm

## Awards Luncheon:

Congratulations 2011 Award Winners!  
Early Bird Raffle Winners Announced  
2011 Faces of Self-Advocacy Slide Show



2:00pm - 3:00pm  
**Six Breakout Sessions**



3:15pm - 5:00pm

## Resource Fair and Exciting Xtras

Book Signing and CD Sales by Maureen Gaynor  
Arts and Crafts, Dancing,  
a Visit from Lemon the Duck,  
Games, Face Painting, and More



5:30pm - 6:00pm

## Evening Registration

*\*If you're here for both day & night, you don't need to register again\**

6:00pm - 10:30pm

## Dinner & Costume Dance Party

## CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

### ROTUNDA

11:00 - 12:00



#### To Whom this MAY Concern...

*Kevin McHale* will host this Self-Advocacy opportunity. Members of *Lamplighters* and the *Advocates in Action Leadership Series* will share personal stories about how budget cuts are affecting them.

Learn how to write a letter to your elected officials and tell them what you think.

### BRISTOL A

11:00 - 12:00



#### You're *NEVER* Going to Believe This

Our keynote speaker, *Maureen Gaynor*, has more to share! *Mo* has done many amazing and "unbelievable" things. She never lets attitudes or obstacles stop her.

Get inspired while you learn how to start working on your own amazing life's story! Believe It and Go for It!

### BRISTOL B

11:00 - 12:00



#### Greetings from Rebecca

Come to this session to learn how *Rebecca Beaton* started her own greeting card business.

Rebecca creates cards on a computer and uses a headstick to design them.

Find out how she gets the job done!

2:00 - 3:00



#### Don't Worry ... Be Happy

*Emily Howard, Pam Monaghan & Some Happy Friends!*

Many of us are upset about the budget cuts. It's easy to be sad because people keep talking about all the bad news in the world.

Join us to share some GOOD NEWS!  
What makes you smile?  
What makes you happy?  
Let's talk!

2:00 - 3:00

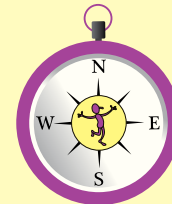


#### "AT" is Where It's At!

"Assistive Technology" helps people who have disabilities do things more easily.

Join biomedical engineering students from URI to learn about some AT that they designed, including arm barrier, an eye gaze board and a headstick pointer used by co-presenter *Rebecca Beaton*.

2:00 - 3:00



#### Being the Person In Charge

Do you want to be in control of your individual plan?  
Hire your own staff?  
Pick the support services you need that work *for you*?

*Maya Colantuano, Deanne Gagne, Sheila Guy & Kelly Richards* will explain how you can become the person in charge by using "Self-Directed Supports".

## CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

### TIVERTON

11:00 - 12:00



#### Believing in Time Banks

*Hilary Hoban & Ellen Kreutler*

In a Time Bank, people trade abilities, strengths, and time.

Learn how you can share and contribute your abilities through the RI Time Bank. Earn time dollars and use them to get help with some of the things you need.

### OCEAN

11:00 - 12:00



#### Oh Yes We Can!

*Janice Cotham,  
Darlene Faust & Nathan Frade*

Got a problem?  
No Problem!

We can help you  
find a solution.

Learn some tips for problem solving that are sure to come in handy for many areas of life.

### PATRIOTS

11:00 - 12:00



#### We Get Around, and So Can You

Join *Dawn Burke* and *Kelly Richards* as they take you for a video ride on RIPTA.

Taking the bus is easy. Learn how you can catch a ride on RIPTA to stay active, get to your job, and visit the places that you enjoy.

2:00 - 3:00

### Bee In Motion

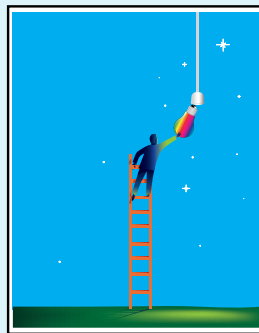
#### Bee in Motion

*Dennis Harvey* started his own business called "Bee in Motion".

Learn how he got started and join the fun as you dance, sing, laugh, and *MOVE*.

You will have a great time with Dennis, the "man in motion"!

2:00 - 3:00

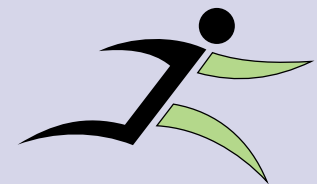


#### Believe and Achieve

Join the *Our Voices Count* Self-Advocacy group as they honor three of their members.

This will be a celebration of life, inspiration and hope for the future!

2:00 - 3:00



#### Employment Can Work for You!

*Christina Battista &  
Tonja Blicker-Ucran*

Having a job can be very rewarding! You don't have to be afraid to go to work.

We'll talk about some of the barriers that stop people from getting a job and how to get past them.

Let's Get to Work!

Here's some of what you'll see at  
the Resouce Fair  
In the Foyer from 3:15pm-5:00pm

**PLAY GAME  
WIN PRIZES!**

**Bee In  
Motion**

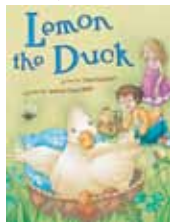
ARTWORK by



*Lisa Marotto*



Get Your **BELIEVE**  
Tie-Dye T-Shirts  
at the  
Conference Sales Table  
in the Foyer



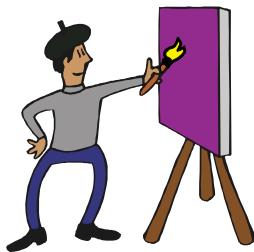
A Visit from  
**LEMON the Duck!**



Learn About  
Riding the  
**RIPTA BUS**



Stop by and  
Say **WOOF**  
to  
**Sammy**  
the Therapy Dog!



Make Your Mark  
on the  
**STORY WALL!**  
Available **ALL DAY**  
in the  
Foyer

## ROTUNDA

4:00-5:00pm  
**Afternoon  
Dance Party**



## BRISTOL A

4:00-5:00pm  
**Get Creative  
with  
Arts and Crafts**



Congratulations from  
Seven Hills Rhode Island

**Defining Dignity**



**Thank You to**  
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John O'Brien & Carol Blessing editors

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The Journey of Judith Snow

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The Whispering Pines Conference Center is one of Rhode Island's most unique places to hold a meeting or conference. Our beautiful, quiet country setting with over 2,300 acres of forests, lakes and streams ensures that your meeting participants can think and work in a distraction-free environment.

We offer overnight accommodations for up to 64 guests, meeting space for up to 100 people gourmet meals, and high-speed wireless internet access, comfortable conference rooms with ergonomic furniture, fieldstone fireplaces, and scenic views from each meeting room.

During your free time enjoy a hike in the woods, or take a canoe out on Lake Eisenhower to see scenery that you will only see in our rural setting. We have a recreation area where you can play tennis, basketball, volleyball, bocce, croquet, or horseshoes. After the day is through enjoy S'mores on one of our Adirondack chairs by the lakeside campfire. Call today for your complimentary tour of our facility.



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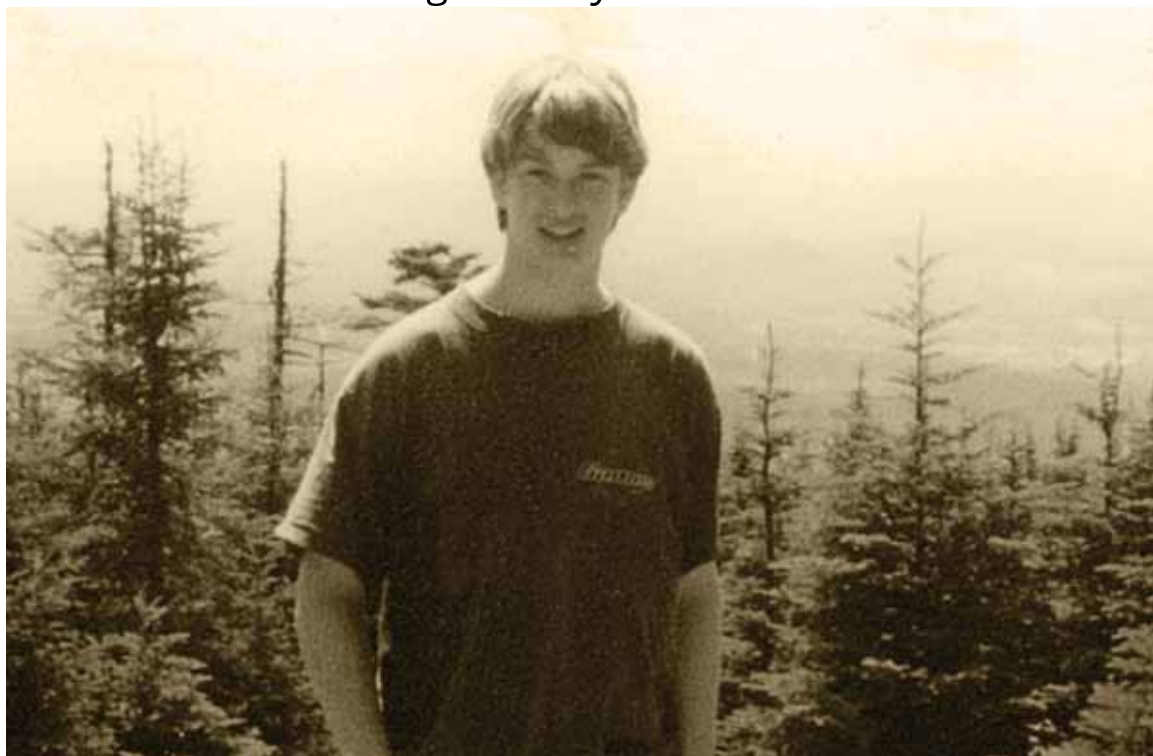


Special Thanks  
to the  
Charlie Thompson  
Memorial Fund  
for Supporting  
Rhode Island's  
16th Annual Statewide  
Self-Advocacy Conference

Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island  
is proud to support the  
*16th Annual  
Statewide Self-Advocacy Conference*



We are Honored to Dedicate this Year's Conference Program  
in Loving Memory of Matt Chase



He Made a Difference.