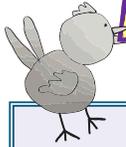


The Early Bird Gets the Discount!
 Register by
Friday, October 12th
 and **\$ave!!**



**Thursday,
 October 25th, 2018
 AGENDA AT A GLANCE**



>> **8:15am - 9:15am** <<
Conference Day Check-In

*Arrive by 9:00 am to
 Enter the Early Bird Raffle*

>> **9:30am - 10:45am** <<
Opening Session

*Welcome Andrew Palumbo!
 2018 Keynote Speaker*

>> **11:00am - 12:00pm** <<
Workshop Presentations

>> **12:15pm - 1:30pm** <<
Awards Luncheon

Early Bird Raffle Winners

>> **1:45pm - 2:45pm** <<
Workshop Sessions

>> **3:00pm - 4:00pm** <<
Workshop Sessions

>> **4:00pm - 5:00pm** <<
Power Hour

*Refreshments, Music, Raffle
 Prizes, Face Painting and More*



>> **5:30pm - 6:00pm** <<
Evening Check-In

>> **6:00pm - 10:00pm** <<
Costume Dinner Dance

*Featuring live music from
 RI's very own rock band:*

Rhode Sodas



Rhode Island's 23rd Annual Statewide Self-Advocacy Conference
 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, 2018 AT THE CROWNE PLAZA, WARWICK RI
 Hosted by Advocates in Action Rhode Island

CONFERENCE NEWS YOU CAN USE!

Self-Advocacy is about many things. It's about being empowered and included. It's about finding the information you need to make your own decisions. Self-Advocacy means that you don't live in a bubble. You're a part of society and a member of whatever community you choose. You know your rights, and the responsibilities that go with them. You're ok with taking risks, once you've weighed the possible outcomes. You make mistakes from time to time, and try to learn from them when you do ... just like everyone else!

People who have a disability don't want to be treated differently or special. They just want to live their lives on a level playing field, where everyone has the same opportunities, and each person is treated with acceptance, appreciation, and respect.

It's all about equality! That's the message we'll be talking about on Thursday, October 25th at "WHY NOT?!?", Rhode Island's 23rd Annual Statewide Self-Advocacy Conference.

"WHY NOT?!?" doesn't mean complaining every time things don't go exactly the way you want them to. Nothing in life is ever 100% perfect, 100% of the time!

"WHY NOT?!?" is about being empowered and feeling confident. It means knowing that you have the right to ask questions about the services and supports you receive, the same way you do for everything else in life. AND it means you have a right to a reasonable explanation when people tell you "no". If the answer doesn't make sense, don't accept it. Speak-up for what you believe in!

On Thursday, October 25th, approximately 350 youth and adults with developmental disabilities, families, support staff, and other allies will gather at the Crowne Plaza for this annual day of Learning, Sharing, Peer Connections, Empowerment, and FUN! You're invited and everyone is welcome! We hope you'll join us for this awesome, integrated, and unique once-a-year event!

After all, it's YOUR life!
WHY NOT live it that way?!?

WHY NOT?!?
 is made possible with support from
 the RI Dept of BHDDH
 and this year's conference sponsors.
THANK YOU!

f Find Us on Facebook:
AdvocatesinActionRI

t Follow Us on Twitter:
@AinAevents



TIP FOR ATTENDEES

From Our Conference Planning Team



PLAN AHEAD

If anyone is helping you get to the conference, share the schedule with them right away! Don't wait until the last minute to get a ride.

COME EARLY AND STAY LATE

Plan ahead so you can stay for the full event. Doors will open at 8:15am and the conference day runs until 5:00pm. If you're only coming at night, check-in at 5:30pm, and stay to party with us from 6pm - 10:00pm!

BRING WHAT YOU NEED

- **Medication?** Bring what you need so you won't have to leave!
- **Money for Extra Meals, Snacks & Drinks?** Day registration includes morning coffee, lunch and afternoon refreshments. Night Registration includes a full course dinner. Soda is not included with meals, but there are vending machines available. There will also be a cash bar in the evening.
- **Money for Conference Goodies?** A variety of conference-themed clothing, jewelry and more will be on sale.
- **Emergency Contact Information?** Every time you leave home, you should bring this with you, but just in case... Bring an emergency medical card, and the name/phone number of someone you can call if you need help during the Conference.

BRING A COSTUME TO THE DINNER DANCE

Hey, "WHY NOT?!" It's a masquerade party! There may even be a few prizes given out!



WHY NOT?!?

will be held at the
Crowne Plaza Hotel

Check-In:
3:00 pm
Check-Out:
11:00 am

801 Greenwich Ave, Warwick, RI 02886

Advocates in Action has reserved a limited number of hotel rooms for attendees who want to stay overnight as a part of their conference experience. Rooms may be reserved for Wednesday, 10/24/18 and Thursday 10/25/18.

The cost is \$124 per room, which can be shared with up to 4 roommates. This price is only for the hotel reservation. It does not include additional meals or your conference/dance registration fees.

Space for these rooms is limited. Make your reservation using the Conference Registration Form no later than Friday, October 12th to take advantage of this discount.

Overnight guests may check-in at the front desk anytime after 3:00pm. Check-out time is 11:00am. Have some form of ID ready to show. You do not need to give the hotel a credit card UNLESS you want to use room service or charge things to your room.



PRESENTER PROPOSALS DUE:

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH

AWARD NOMINATIONS DUE:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

EARLY DISCOUNT RATE ENDS:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12TH

HOTEL RESERVATIONS DUE:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12TH

FINAL DAY TO REGISTER:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19TH



GRAB YOUR CONFERENCE GEAR!
Bracelets, Hats, T-Shirts,
Hoodies & More will be
on sale at the Conference.

**PRICES RANGE FROM
\$5.00 - \$25.00**



Don't Miss this Year's Power Hour!

WHEN: 4:00-5:00pm at the Conference

WHAT: Dancing, Singing, Face Painting, Snacks, Free Resources, and a special appearance from our incredible musical guests, **Blind Faith**.

We'll also be giving out some awesome Raffle prizes at that time. You must be present to win!

Mix, Mingle and Make Some New Connections!



Questions? Call or Send Us an Email

877-532-5543

CONFERENCE@ADVOCATESINACTION.ORG

Visit our website to download Registration Forms & other Materials, along with Conference Updates.

While you're there, check out some of the skits we've created about Common Conference Conundrums & Solutions from our planning team:

WWW.ADVOCATESINACTION.ORG

