

# Annual Activities & Accomplishments

July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014



[www.siblingleadership.org](http://www.siblingleadership.org)

**Providing siblings of individuals with disabilities the information, support and tools to advocate with their brothers and sisters and promote issues important to them and their entire families**



A leader in the **sibling movement**, in 2014 the Sibling Leadership Network (SLN):

- Grew the sibling network to over **4000 siblings & supporters with 17 state chapters**
- Held strategic discussions with **self-advocacy groups**, included self-advocates on committees, and continuing to have a SABE (Self Advocates Becoming Empowered) representative on the SLN Board
- Became officially a **501(c)3 tax exempt organization**
- Had **full participation** of SLN Board in financial contributions to grow the organization
- **Engaged members** through active committees including Policy & Advocacy, Information & Support, Research, Communications, and Chapter Development
- Created an **Advocacy Toolkit** for Siblings that includes Sibling **Policy Videos** and the 2014 **Sibling Policy Brief** highlighting legislation significant to siblings
- Promotional sponsor of the **Disability Policy Seminar** in DC and hosted a Sibling Meet and Greet
- Advocated for **policies that support siblings** of people with disabilities and their families
- Co-hosted with the Sibling Support Project, **SibNet, the largest online network of adult siblings** from across the country to provide peer support and information
- **Led webinars** to educate network on relevant topics such as the **Affordable Care Act**

- Managed the **Siblings Department in QualityMall.com**, an online site that showcases informational resources and products for people with disabilities and families
- **Celebrated National Siblings Day** through social media connections and chapter events
- Participated as an active member of the **National Partnership Council** of the Supporting Families Community of Practice, **Advisory Committee member** of The State of the State in Developmental Disabilities, **Advisory Committee Allie member** of The Southern Collaborative Self-Advocacy Regional Technical Assistance Center called "Our Community Standing Strong", **Knowledge Translation Partner** for the Community Living Policy Center, and **Partner Organization** of the Collaboration to Promote Self-Determination
- **Represented the sibling voice** at the Symposium on Supported Decision-Making for People with Intellectual Disabilities
- **Connected siblings** at the local, state, and regional level for **peer support** and **networking** through events such as "Sibs in the City" weekend and state chapter conferences
- Shared information and conducted outreach on the Sibling Leadership Net **YouTube** channel
- Developed the **SLN website** to be a rich resource and **disseminated information** for siblings and their families
- **Educated professionals and families** through conferences and events across the country about the importance of the sibling perspective
- **Strengthened partnerships** with numerous national organizations
- Began **planning the 2015 National SLN Conference** in Louisville, KY



**The Sibling Leadership Network thanks the amazing volunteers from across the country for their dedication to make our organization what it is today!**

#### **SLN Board of Directors**

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#### **SLN Chapter Representatives**

AL\*  
 CA-Julie Neward  
 CO-Sandra Tucker  
 DC-Rachel Patterson  
 GA\*  
 IL-Nora Handler  
 MA-Cindy Haddad  
 MI-Jennifer McFarlane  
 MN-Jeremy Warring  
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 NY-Lindsay Hyland  
 OH-Sarah Hall  
 PA-Lynne Mack  
 TN-Emma Shouse  
 WI-Kristin Lanari  
 UT-Amy Notwell  
 \*undergoing leadership change

