

# Annual Activities & Accomplishments

2014-2015



[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 2015 the Sibling Leadership Network (SLN):

- Grew the sibling network to **over 5000 siblings & supporters with chapters in 19 states**
- Held the **2015 National SLN Conference** in Louisville, KY with people from 24 states as well as Taiwan, Israel, and Ireland
- Continued to designate a Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) representative on the SLN Board to ensure ongoing **collaboration with self-advocates**
- Strengthened **partnership with SABE and Parent to Parent** and presented at various conferences sharing our work together
- Joined forces with **Sibs' Journey** and added them as a new organization on the SLN Board to focus on young adult/college-age siblings
- Had **full participation** of SLN Board in financial contributions to grow the organization and engaged in state and federal funding focused on supporting siblings
- Disseminated the **Sibling Advocacy Toolkit** and the 2015 **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 **Self-Directed Supports**
- **Engaged members** through active committees including Policy & Advocacy, Support & Information, Research, Communications, and Chapter Development
- **Connected siblings** at the local, state, and regional level for **peer support** and **networking** through events including "Sibs in the City" events, state chapter conferences, and ADA 25 celebrations



- **Educated professionals and families** through conferences and events across the country about the importance of the sibling perspective
- **Strengthened partnerships** with numerous national organizations
- 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, **Knowledge Translation Partner** for the Community Living Policy Center, **Partner Organization** of the Collaboration to Promote Self-Determination, **Advisory Council** of The Arc's Center for Future Planning, **Family Advisory Council** of Families Information Systems Project, and **National Advisory Council** of the Family Support Research and Training Center
- Conducted a **National Sibling Survey**
- **Created a learning community** around peer support for siblings
- Wrote a **Chapter Development Guide**
- Held national book club in celebration of the publication of ***The Sibling Survival Guide***
- Celebrated **National Siblings Day** through social media connections and chapter events
- Managed the **Siblings Department in QualityMall.com**, an online site that showcases informational resources and products for people with disabilities and families
- **Developed two new videos on family support** from the perspective of self-advocates and disseminated through the Sibling Leadership Net **YouTube** channel
- Developed the **SLN website** to be a rich resource and **disseminated information** for siblings and their families



**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-Winona Raby  
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 GA-Nick Perry  
 IL-Nora Handler  
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 MD-Carolyn Chen  
 MI-Jennifer McFarlane  
 MN-Jeremy Warring  
 NH-undergoing leadership change  
 NJ-Kara Sellix  
 NY-Lindsay Hyland  
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 UT-Amy Notwell  
 VA-Dana Yarbrough  
 WI-Kristin Lanari

