



Annual Activities & Accomplishments

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

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.



As a **leader in the sibling movement**, this year the Sibling Leadership Network (SLN):

- Celebrated the **11 year anniversary** of the SLN!
- Grew the network to **over 6,000 siblings and supporters with chapters in 26 states:** AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, IL, KY, MD, MA, MI, MS, NJ, NC, NY, OK, OH, PA, SD, TN, UT, VA, WA, WI.
- Strengthened partnership with **Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE)** by presenting at SABE conference and continuing to have a SABE leader on the SLN Board to ensure ongoing **collaboration with self-advocates**.
- Advocated for **policies that support siblings** of people with disabilities and their families as well as developed and disseminated a quarterly **Policy Newsletter**.
- Actively engaged siblings to get involved in **civic engagement and voter participation**.
- Advanced research about siblings of people with disabilities and presented on **sibling research** at various conferences and on webinars, including for the **American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD)**.
- Continued a strong partnership with **Siblings with a Mission** through participation in their Sibling Symposium.
- Distributed a **sibling curriculum for the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) programs** that train graduate students to work with people with autism and their families in collaboration with Siblings with a Mission.
- Adopted a Commitment Statement to Diversity and Social Justice created by the **Diversity and Social Justice Committee** comprised of siblings across the country.
- **Hosted a Sibling Multicultural Roundtable** that brought together a panel of diverse siblings who discussed various parts of their identities and how their backgrounds have impacted their sibling experience and world view.
- 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.
- Celebrated **National Siblings Day** through social media connections and chapter events.

- **Connected siblings** at the local, state, and regional levels for **peer support** and **networking** through events and state chapter conferences.
- Through collaboration with Cornell University's Yang-Tan Institute on Employment and Disability and SibsNY, **created SiblingResources.org** which includes two free online self-paced courses to provide information and resources about the experiences of people with disabilities.



- **Educated professionals and families** across the country about the importance of the sibling perspective through webinars, conferences and events, including at the **Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD), Little People of America (LPA)**, as well as state chapters of: **The Arc, Developmental Disabilities Councils, Partners in Policymaking, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness.**
- Facilitated Sibling Breakfast at the **Disability Policy Seminar** to connect siblings of people with disabilities and discuss relevant policies for families.
- Provided expertise through active membership on various Advisory Councils including: **The Arc's Center for Future Planning, the Illinois Supported Employment Action Teams and the Family Support Research and Training Center.**
- Expanded our **international relations** through collaborations with sibling organizations in other countries and hosted siblings from South Korea.
- Shared important information for siblings through **The Sibling Survival Guide** book.
- 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!

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