



THE ALLIANCE
FOR
CITIZEN DIRECTED SUPPORTS

Growing **Self** Direction
from the
Ground UP

Applied Self Direction Virtual
Conference June 2021

Outline

- Presenters
- Who Is the Alliance?
- Establishing the Alliance
- Mission
- Timeline
- Organizational Priorities
- Committees
- Webinars
- Lives-In-Progress



Presenters



●
David James 'DJ' Savarese
Co-Chair
Alliance for Citizen Directed
Supports



●
Lateef McLeod
Board Member
Alliance for Citizen Directed
Supports



●
Marian Frattarola -Saulino
Co-Chair
Alliance for Citizen Directed
Supports

Who is the Alliance?

The Alliance is a new and growing membership association that includes everyone who is committed to ensuring that Dis/Abled people live fully included lives of their own design.



Many of our members include :

- People with disabilities
- Family members
- Activists and Advocates
- Provider Agency Leaders
- Direct Support Professionals
 - Policy Setters
- Agencies and Organizations



Establishing the Alliance

The Alliance for Citizen Directed Supports was established in 2017 out of the National Partnership for Full Inclusion as a response to the need for an organizational home for people who are using self-directed supports, people who want to begin using self-directed supports, and others who support citizen directed supports.

Our Mission

The Alliance for Citizen Directed Supports was established in 2017 out of the National Partnership for Full Inclusion as a response to the need for an organizational home for people who are using self-directed supports, people who want to begin using self-directed supports, and others who support citizen directed supports.

This means the power to choose

- Where they live
- Who they live with
- How they spend their days
- What supports will best help them achieve their goals



Timeline of the Alliance 2015 to 2018

2015

Jul - Dec

Idea for the Alliance started at National Partnership for Full Inclusion meetings, and developed among four founders

Jan

Formal proposal to establish the Alliance created and shared

Jul

Alliance for Citizen Directed Supports incorporated

Sep - Dec

Committee of Founders established organizational priorities

2016

2017

Jan - May

Nominated and elected Founding Board

Jun

Established social media presence

Jul - Dec

Founding Memberships opened; distributed membership survey; submitted Northeast Arc proposal; AUCD conference poster session

2018

Jan

Founding Board has first strategic planning session

Feb

Webinars: *Supported Decision Making & Everyone Communicates*

Apr

Board established strategic priorities; request to author article for AutCom newsletter

May

Presented at Applied Self Direction Conference

Jun

AAIDD poster symposium; signed letter to American Speech-Language-Hearing Association supporting Facilitated Communication and communication choice

Jul

3rd Webinar: *Self Directed Services: Lessons Being Learned*; joined National Leadership Consortium on Developmental Disabilities; 150+ new members

Timeline of the Alliance 2018 & 2019

2018

Aug

4th Webinar:
Pragmatic Advocacy in Trying Times exhibited at HCBS Conference

Sep

5th Webinar:
Understanding and Supporting LGBTQIA+ People with Developmental Disabilities, first new member webinar chat; received IRS tax exempt status

2019 & Going Forward

Develop and **launch an online community** that will connect our members to provide a network of support and resources

Presentations and meet ups at regional, national and international conferences to **build connections in local neighborhoods and communities** around issues and initiatives



Increase our membership - let's grow to 500 members!

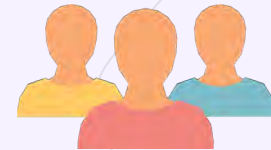
Continue to **establish a network of partners** who support the principles and practices of self direction

Expand our international outreach and presence by collaborating with other organizations dedicated to self direction and innovation in service

Secure **grants, sponsorships, and partnerships** to support the expansion and sustainability of the Alliance



Develop an active network to provide **technical assistance and support** to members



Organizational Priorities

2021 - 2022



Organized by impact level, priorities will be accomplished by established committees and increasingly by the paid consultants as the organization grows and thrives.

Prioritizing ensure that intersectional justice has a place in all activities, and that this method will guide all committee actions.

Committees

Through 2022

Full Inclusion Fund

Organizes, communicates, and provides microgrants to people with disabilities who are or want to self-direct their services and lives.

Membership Engagement and Communication

Focusing on developing and producing products and opportunities to inform, engage, and support Alliance members.

- Resource Hub
- Lives in Progress
- National Network/Directory of Support Brokerages
- Identifying Opportunities for Member Representation at the State Level
 - CIL | PPA | CIL| DD Council

Committees

Through 2022
(cont.)

Development, Fundraising, and Recruitment

Increasing the reach of the Alliance, by including lists of people who have interacted with the Alliance, as well as recruiting and maintaining Alliance members and donors.

Public Policy and Political Action (Est. 2020)

Focusing on policies that impact people with disabilities, this includes developing information and resources for members and engaging with policy makers, policy influences, and stakeholders to establish the Alliance as a policy resource.

- HCBS Advisory Coalition Liaison
- NCAPPS Liaison
- Applied Self Direction Liaison

Webinars

Showcasing people with disabilities leading self-directed lives and who have utilized directed support. These presenters discuss how they organized support in their lives, and many of the Alliance's presenters include:

- Board members
- Members of the community

All webinars are recorded and available for viewing on YouTube later.



Self-Direction Meet-n-Greet with Caroline Signore

Zoom: 3PM ET, Nov. 20



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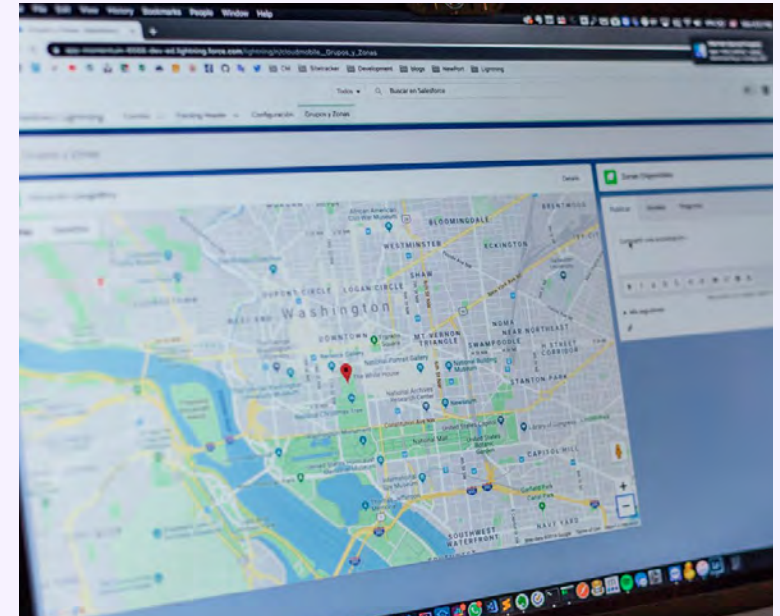
Lives-In-Progress

Motivated by Narratives

National Map & Database

Providing an interactive national map, and database to document self-advocates' experiences, allowing others to lead meaningful, diverse, self-directed lives.

- Tools, resources, and practical advice based on lived experience
- Community and paid mentorship
- Searchable by location, interests, vocations, and talents
- Free, accessible, individualized, and culturally sensitive
- Led by and for people with disabilities and their fresh thinking allies



Lives-In-Progress

Motivated by Narratives
(cont.)

Building Access

Dismantling common barriers to access such as communication, cost, and cultural misassumptions.

The database will include:

- Multi -modal formats, including augmentative communication (AAC), American Sign Language (ASL), and Easy to Read written language, and audio recordings.
- Free availability on the Alliance website
- Promotion in centrally located areas with free internet access



Lives-In-Progress

Motivated by Narratives

(cont.)

Ensuring Success

When Lives-In-Progress builds on the community, it will be successful. This model will ensure that:

- Nobody is disposable
- Adults with disabilities will build on community with one another, becoming leaders in defining what's possible in their own lives.
- Self-direction will become the norm, and segregation will be rendered obsolete.
- Living standards and lifespans will increase for adults with disabilities, resulting in instances of suicide and fratricide dropping rapidly.



We want to hear from you ...

Thank you!

We couldn't have done it without you and the support you provide us.

- How could the Alliance best meet your needs?
- What are your interests/skills and are there ways you can contribute toward the future of this growing organization?





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Self Direction from the Ground UP
ASD Conference 2021.

Thank You

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

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