

Team Oregon!



Map of Oregon



Crater Lake in Oregon



Oregon Flag



Oregon Coast

Self-Advocacy Groups in Oregon

The BIG Picture

- Almost 20 self-advocacy organizations meet on a regular basis
- Most groups are in bigger cities
- Some groups are in small towns
- Some groups focus on training and advocacy, others are social activities
- Many groups have been started and supported by providers who want to hear from self-advocates and what they want

Self-Advocacy Groups in Oregon

- Self-Advocates As Leaders (SAAL)
 - Statewide
 - Train and develop strong leaders.
 - Leaders participate in creation of [become partners that create] policy (rules) and legislation (laws) that affects their lives.
 - Members of key stakeholder groups including DD Coalition, Staley Implementation Group, and DD Council, other policy groups.
 - Help support local self-advocacy groups in their communities.

Self-Advocacy Groups in Oregon

- Emerging Leaders Northwest (ELNW)
 - Oregon and Southern WA
 - Resource center led by youth
 - For young people with disabilities
 - Provides training and resources
 - Interact with other young people
 - Interactive Website
 - Mentoring young and up coming leaders
 - Leaders may gain valuable employment experience

Self-Advocacy Groups in Oregon

- **Advocates in Motion (AIM) (Multnomah County)**
 - Advise Bethesda on policies and procedures
 - Sit on committees, recruitment, retention, interview panels
 - Advocate at the Capitol for funding of services
- **Washington County Self-Advocates**
 - Trainings, including high schools about transition to employment
 - Meeting with local legislators advocating for services
 - Participating on boards of DD Brokerage organization

Self-Advocacy Groups in Oregon

- People First of Eugene/Springfield
 - One of the first self-advocacy group in Oregon
 - Involved in advocacy work locally and Salem Capitol
 - Work with transition students
 - Involved with statewide conferences
 - Act social group, taking trips together

Resources

- Self-Advocates As Leaders (SAAL)
 - Funding from Oregon DD Council and Seniors and People with Disabilities (SPD)
- Emerging Leaders Northwest (ELNW)
 - UCEDD at OHSU
- Other Resources
 - Individuals supporting groups
 - Other provider organizations, groups and programs
 - Brokerages
 - Families

What Has Worked

- **Self-advocates** who are active and involved.
- **Trainings:** My Voice My Choice, Not Another Board Meeting, Voting Rights, Transition to Employment
- **Support services funding:** Helping self-advocate get support to attend meetings.
- **Specific Programs**
 - Partners in Policymaking
 - Oregon Network
 - Advocacy Days Trainings

Challenges and Struggles

- \$\$\$ MONEY \$\$\$
- Transportation
- Youth Involvement
- Respect Issues
- Working Together
- Finding Support for the group that is ongoing such as provider organizations.
- Engaging other groups like Autism groups

Most Proud Of

- Oregon is the birth place of People First in 1973
- Oregon's statewide Self-Advocacy organization is led by a paid Executive Director with developmental disabilities.
- First state to close all institutions in Oregon!
- Self-advocates who are active and involved.
- Apology (saying you are sorry) from the Governor for forced sterilization (a surgery that stops a person from having babies).
- Respectful language bill passed.
- Easy Voting Guide

Goals and Dreams

- Oregon State Summit
- Oregon State Coalition of Self-advocacy Groups
- Funding Issues are Fixed
- Reach More Youth
- Changing Ideas About Disability
- Help Self-Advocates get Jobs in the Community
- No Labels
- Self-Advocacy is Written into IEP as Part of the Plans
- Using Technology to Stay Connected Statewide

Team Oregon Represents

- Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities
 - Cynthia Owens and Judy Cunio
- National Youth Leadership Network (NYLN)
 - Emily Holmes
- OHSU, Emerging Leaders Northwest
 - Emily Holmes, Chuck Davis, and Josiah Barber
- Bethesda – Advocates in Motion (AIM)
 - Teresa Lermon and Robert Bertrand

Team Oregon Represents cont.

- Self Advocates As Leaders
 - Eddie Plourde, Kristi Cule, and Hannah Bowen
- Washington County Self-Advocates
 - Mary Oliver
- Disability Rights Oregon
 - Julie Anderson
- University of Oregon Center on Human Development
 - Jim Clark

Oregon Photo and Image Citations

- Crater Lake Photo
 - <http://www.kval.com/news/50477532.html>
- Oregon Coast Photo
 - <http://www.destination360.com/north-america/us/oregon/when-to-go>
- Map of Oregon and Oregon Flag (to be fair)
 - Microsoft Clip Art