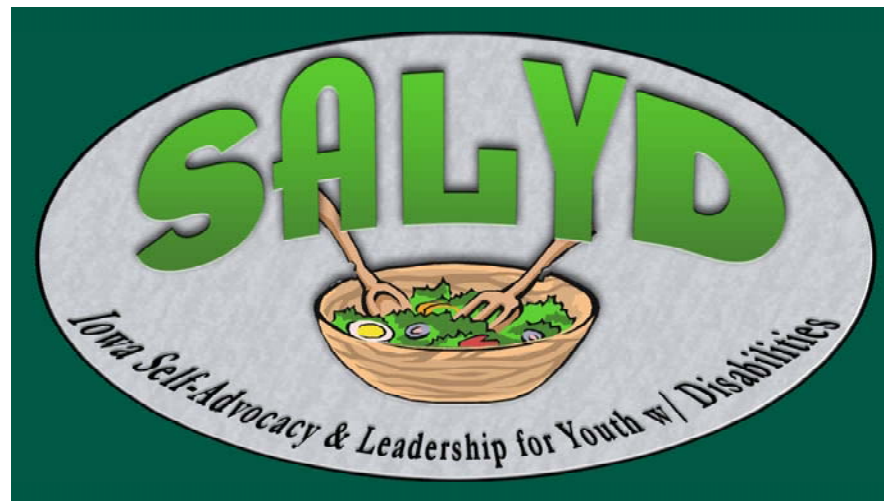


REACH OUT!  
BELIEVE US,  
IT'S WORTH IT!

Self-Advocacy and Leadership for  
Youth with Disabilities

# Self-Advocacy and Leadership for Youth with Disabilities



## Our Mission:

- I Individuals
- O Opening
- W Working
- A Avenues

# Our History

## 2004

- July: ASK Resource Center encourages Dept. of Human Services (DHS) to apply for Youth Information and Resource Center Grant.
- October: DHS awarded Youth Information and Resource Center Grant from ADD
- December: DHS establishes key organizational partnerships.

# History cont.

## 2005

- January: DHS hires project co-directors.
- February: Initial meeting of co-directors and partners; determine that partners will serve as advisors with project leadership to come from youth.
- March: First youth board meeting.
- April: Board approves mission.
- May: Board approves logo; members present at Risky Business conference and conduct focus groups.
- June: Board members develop informational Power Point presentation.

# History cont.

## 2005

- July: Board approves SALYD brochure; SALYD funds production of Iowa Youth Leadership Forum video; board chair and directors present Power Point at TA Institute.
- August: SALYD launches website, listserv and message board [www.salyd.org](http://www.salyd.org) .
- September: SALYD hosts disability rights activists Norman Kunc and Emma Van Der Klift who present to People First of Iowa, service providers, and at a Des Moines high school.
- October: Board members present at state diversity conference.
- November: Bylaws approved.

# History cont.

## 2006

- January: SALYD adopts strategic plan; members record radio spots for [www.mytransitioniowa.org](http://www.mytransitioniowa.org)
- February: SALYD partners with Third Wave to hold advocacy congress.
- March: Members participate in state Parent/Educator Connection conference.

# History cont.

## 2006

- April: Members participate in Citizens Health Care Working Group town meeting; co-director presents at high school transition conference.
- May: SALYD hosts “Spring Fling” social and recruiting event; co-director interviews legislative and gubernatorial candidates prior to Iowa Primary; co-director participates in Literacy for Leaders.
- June: SALYD partners with ASK Resource Center to present at Arc of Iowa state convention.

# Our Partners

- Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS)
- ASK Resource Center
- Iowa Division of Persons with Disabilities Youth Leadership Forum (YLF)
- Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services (IVRS)
- Center for Disabilities and Development, Iowa's University Center for Excellence on Disabilities (CDD)
- Iowa Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council
- Iowa Protection and Advocacy (P&A)
- Sumo Group
- Third Wave
- ID Action
- People First of Iowa (PFI)
- Points of Light Foundation
- State Public Policy Group
- Parent-Educator Connection

# How Our Partners Have Helped Us....

## Department of Human Services

- Applied for initial grant
- Provide project management and funding

## ASK Family Resource Center

- Provide office space for a monthly fee
- Co-sponsored Spring Fling, allowing us to use their tax ID number
- Include co-director in office life
- Co-presented with SALYD at Arc state convention



# How Our Partners Have Helped Us (cont.)

## **Youth Leadership Forum**

- Assisted SALYD to identify youth leaders with disabilities who currently serve on the board and as staff

## **Center for Disabilities & Development**

- Assumed major administrative responsibility for grant when DHS grant manager became incapacitated due to a serious automobile accident

## **Iowa Governor's DD Council**

- Staff regularly attend SALYD board meetings and lend expertise
- Paid for food at board meetings
- Paid start-up costs for website and message board

# How Our Partners Have Helped Us (cont.)

## Iowa P&A

- Staff member, whose twin sons are on SALYD's board, has donated many hours of time to help them participate and organize social and training functions
- Director's son's place of employment is looking to do a fund-raiser to benefit SALYD

## Sumo Group

- Helping us to acquire nonprofit status
- Pay for website hosting

# How Our Partners Have Helped Us (cont.)

## **People First of Iowa**

- Helped us with start-up of our website

## **Points of Light foundation**

- Donated staff time to help us develop a strategic plan

# How We Have Helped Our Partners

## DHS

- Participated in Iowa Medicaid Enterprise focus group, recommending improvements in Iowa's service delivery system

## ASK

- Co-director assisted with Literacy for Leaders event

## YLF

- Paid for videos of 2005 YLF and CLF (College Leadership Forum) sessions; shown at 2006 National ADA Symposium

## IVRS

- Helped them identify youth to record audio clips for [mytransitioniowa.org](http://mytransitioniowa.org)



# How We Help Our Partners (cont.)

## **CDD**

- Co-director serves on Community Partnership Advisory Council
- SALYD board participated in an Iowa's Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities (ILEND) focus group, identifying critical issues facing young adults with disabilities



## **Third Wave**

- Co-director serves as active member of steering committee
- Board members participated in Congress to identify statewide advocacy priorities

## **ID Action**

- Members participated in Capitol Day
- Co-director interviewed legislative and gubernatorial candidates



# How We Help Our Partners (cont.)

## **PFI**

- Paid for a presentation by Norman Kunc and Emma Van der Klift

## **State Public Policy Group**

- Participated in focus group to discuss volunteer opportunities for young Iowans with disabilities.
- Participated in Citizens Health Care Working Group town meeting.

## **PEC**

- Presented and staffed a booth at state transition conference.

# How We Reach Out

## Website

## Listserv

- Prepare agendas
- Communicate about upcoming events
- Polls
- Share general disability-related information

## Special Events

- Norman Kunc/Emma Van der Klift Presentations
- Spring Fling



# How We Reach Out (cont.)

## **Side SALYD's and Support Groups**

## **Recruiting by Word of Mouth**

## **Providing Disability Accommodations**

- Transportation
- Food
- Agendas
- Reading documents

# How We Reach Out (cont.)

- Participating on State Boards and Commissions
- Iowa Commission of Persons with disabilities
- Statewide Independent Living Council
- Statewide Rehabilitation Advisory Council
- Iowa Council on Assistive Technology
- Center for Disabilities and Development Community Partnership Advisory Council
- DHS Personal Assistance/Comprehensive Family Support Services Council
- Statewide Youth Advisory Council
- Youth Leadership Forum
- College Leadership Forum
- Third Wave

# Self-Advocacy and Leadership for Youth with Disabilities (SALYD)

## **For More Information**

Nichole Goble, Co-Director  
ASK Resource Center  
321 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
515-243-1713  
[nichole@askresource.org](mailto:nichole@askresource.org)



Mike Hoenig, Co-Director  
Center for Disabilities and  
Development  
100 Hawkins Drive, Room 140A  
Iowa City, IA 52242-1011  
319-353-6448  
[michael-hoenig@uiowa.edu](mailto:michael-hoenig@uiowa.edu)

