

Our Positions on: Education and Services



We believe that our siblings and others with disabilities have the right to education in the least restrictive environment with the supports necessary to achieve full inclusion.

We believe our siblings should have access to extracurricular activities of their choosing and be provided with the supplemental aids and supports necessary for participation.

We support the development of comprehensive educational plans with full access to the therapeutic supports, services, and accommodations necessary for academic achievement.

We support the ongoing training of educational personnel and administrators to foster a culture of inclusion and disability competency within schools.

We believe local funding in Illinois should not determine the quality of educational programs provided to students with disabilities, and we support increased funding at the state level to ensure equitable educational programming for all.

We believe school districts should provide comprehensive details regarding post-graduation resources and opportunities, including higher education, in order for individuals with disabilities, their families, and their Sibs to make informed decisions.

We believe Sibs should be included in the IEP process. Sibs are uniquely positioned to see and communicate our siblings' preferences, interests, needs, and strengths in order to inform educational planning.

Our Positions on: Community Integration & Employment



We believe that our siblings and others with disabilities have the right to integration within their community systems in Illinois, including those with high medical and behavioral/mental support needs. We support the phasing out of institutional living in Illinois.

We support appropriation of funding in Illinois to ensure the community system reflects the capacity, quality of service, and staffing necessary to support our siblings and others with disabilities.

We support the improvement of public transportation systems in Illinois to ensure accessible and safe travel for individuals with disabilities.

We believe in the access to individual and systemic supports that allow our adult siblings and others with disabilities to succeed within fair employment opportunities.

We support competitive, living wages for all.

We support the ongoing training of employers to expand employment opportunities and to foster a culture of inclusion and disability competency within workplaces.

We support legislation that allots individuals with disabilities their fair share of affordable, accessible, and integrated housing resources.

We believe that adults with disabilities, their families, and their Sibs should be provided understandable information related to community choices and employment.

We believe adults with disabilities have the right to seek employment and living communities of their choosing and may elect their Sib to support their decision-making.

We believe Sibs are uniquely positioned to see and communicate our siblings' preferences, interests, and strengths in order to inform decision-making for future planning.

Our Positions on: Health Care



We believe that our siblings and others with disabilities have the right to affordable, accessible, and quality health care services.

We vehemently oppose the discrimination of individuals with disabilities in health care due to their medical predispositions. We support legislation that secures access to critical medical supports, including, but not limited to, cancer therapy, organ transplants, mental health services, and targeted treatments.

We support the ongoing training of medical professionals to encourage effective communication and interactional skills in working with individuals with disabilities. We believe that medical professionals must convey information to individuals with disabilities, their families, and their Sibs in understandable ways.

We support the ongoing training of medical professionals to foster culturally competent practices addressing the intersectionality of disability, race, religion, sex, and socioeconomic status of their patients.

We support the expansion of private and public health care benefits to improve health outcomes for individuals with disabilities. We promote the wider acceptance of governmental health care coverage by medical practitioners to expand medical access for Illinois residents with disabilities.

We support the advancement of medical research and public health initiatives that reduce medical disparities for individuals with disabilities in the state of Illinois.

We support Sibs in accessing Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) benefits while caring for their sibling with a serious health condition.

We believe adults with disabilities have the right to seek a medical practitioner of their choosing and may elect their Sib to support their decision-making.

We support research related to caregiver mental health as well as access to mental health resources addressing the stress Sibs may experience throughout their siblings' lifespans.

We believe Sibs should be viewed as critical members of their siblings' medical decision-making team. Sibs are uniquely positioned to detect and communicate health changes in their siblings in order to inform medical decisions.

Our Positions on: Financial Tools



We believe that our siblings and others with disabilities have the right to economic advancement by earning and saving money.

We support legislation that encourages the values of financial independence, productivity, and self-determination for all individuals with disabilities.

We believe in the accessibility of financial opportunities and benefits, including individual development accounts and governmental benefit programs.

We believe that Illinois financial assistance programs must be fully funded and expanded in order to avoid long waiting lists.

We believe that the pursuit of employment and the accruing of fair wages should not disqualify individuals with disabilities from accessing health care, benefits, and supports and services necessary for positive quality of life.

We believe adults with disabilities have the right to seek investment and spending opportunities of their choosing and may elect their Sib to support their decision-making.

We believe that adults with disabilities, their families, and their Sibs should be provided transparent, understandable information related to financial opportunities in order to promote financial literacy for all.

We recognize that Sibs may incur increasing amounts of out-of-pocket expenses in caretaking for their siblings, and we support legislation that decreases the economic burden of caretaking on families.