



# Supporting Illinois Brothers and Sisters

We are stronger together.



[www.sibsnetwork.org](http://www.sibsnetwork.org)

## Who we are

S.I.B.S. began with the dream of one sibling and grew into an established Illinois non-profit organization. While support and advocacy have been focused on parents and people with disabilities, siblings have often been left out of the conversation. Siblings play an important role in the lives of their brother or sister with disabilities and have their own unique needs and experiences that should be discussed and addressed.



## Our mission

Our mission is to provide support to siblings of people with disabilities in Illinois by connecting them with information, networking opportunities, and resources in order to enhance the quality of life for their entire family.

## Our purpose

S.I.B.S. supports siblings of individuals with disabilities in Illinois through various activities and resources designed to:

- Provide opportunities for siblings to interact personally with one another
- Promote access to information of specific importance to siblings
- Educate parents, agencies, and the public regarding the unique needs of siblings
- Provide siblings with the necessary tools to advocate with their siblings with disabilities to improve the lives of their entire families.



# Connect with us



(708) 989-3619



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www.sibsnetwork.org

## Socials



SIBS Network



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@SIBS\_network



Supporting  
Illinois Brothers  
and Sisters



## Our beliefs

- Individuals with disabilities have equal rights to dignity, respect, and growth in society
- Siblings are uniquely positioned to ensure their loved one's present and future care in partnership with service organizations and government
- Siblings are powerful advocates for policies and services that meet the needs of their brothers and sisters as well as other individuals with disabilities
- When siblings connect, they can provide valuable support to one another to enhance each other's lives and the lives of their family member

## What we do

Promote knowledge:

- We provide siblings, parents, and professionals with information and resources on topics of special interest such as future planning needs, navigating the Illinois service system, and understanding the unique needs of siblings.

Foster community:

- We connect siblings to each other for peer support through social gatherings, online chat groups, and educational events.

Advocate and empower:

- We promote leadership opportunities for siblings in the community. We welcome opportunities to present on sibling needs and opportunities at conferences. We dialogue with legislators to amplify the sibling voice.



## Supports for Young Siblings

We provide families of younger siblings with referrals to certified local Sibshops or other sibling programs designed to support young brothers and sisters. We connect those interested in becoming Sibshop facilitators with certification information.