



# 2019 Wisconsin Self-Determination Conference

## Back to the Future Self-Determination Powered By Innovation



**October 14 - 16, 2019**  
Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells, WI







Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (BPDD) is charged under the Developmental Disabilities Act to improve self-determination, independence, and inclusion in community life for people with developmental disabilities.



Here are some Board opportunities that you and your family can participate in:

- Partners in Policymaking
- Self Determination Conference
- SPARKS mini grants to make communities more inclusive
- Community Conversations
- Supported Decision-Making

To learn more about The Board visit our website at [wi-bpdd.org](http://wi-bpdd.org) or give us a call at 608-266-7826.



## Who Should Attend?

Self - Advocates

Educators

Family Members

Advocates

Providers

# Back to the Future: Self-Determination Powered by Innovation

Your past never defines your future.

**In the words of Mahatma Gandhi, “The future depends on what we do in the present.”**

Every day we learn about new technology that has been developed to help us live better, be stronger, or simply have more fun. Technology can break barriers, level the playing field, and open doors - literally and figuratively! It is the future.

There are some who say, “I’ve done just fine without technology in my life” and that may be true. There are sessions for you at the conference too. There are many things from our past that should not or cannot be replaced. They are tried and true. There is no substitute for actual human contact, that personal connection you make when you’re face to face with someone. Talking! Remember that? We need more circles of support and person-centered planning in our lives. Technology shouldn’t take the place of things that are working, but technology can help someone overcome barriers they are currently experiencing. It is a great equalizer.

For those of you who have already embraced technology, this conference will be like a trip to the candy store! Technology can be used to help someone self-direct. It can help us find solutions in a different way. You will learn ways technology can improve your life.

From the very beginning of the Self-Determination Conference, self-advocates have had the opportunity to share their successes and struggles so others can understand and learn from their experiences. Self-determination is inspired by our past, and in touch with tomorrow. At the Self-Determination Conference, our experiences will move us forward!

Thousands have been inspired to live more self-determined lives, to do their own thing rather than picking from a menu of services. We’ve become more resourceful and expanded the possibilities for a life just like everyone else’s. We come together to share common values of self-determination and self-direction.

We hope this twelfth Self-Determination Conference will inspire you to try new things, expand your universe and empower YOU to share your ideas with all of us.

So, for this conference, let’s keep an open mind and take a **BYTE** out of technology! Who knows-you may just find something that will improve your life.

## Self-Determination – to infinity and beyond!



# Monday, October 14

REGISTRATION OPEN 12 - 7 PM

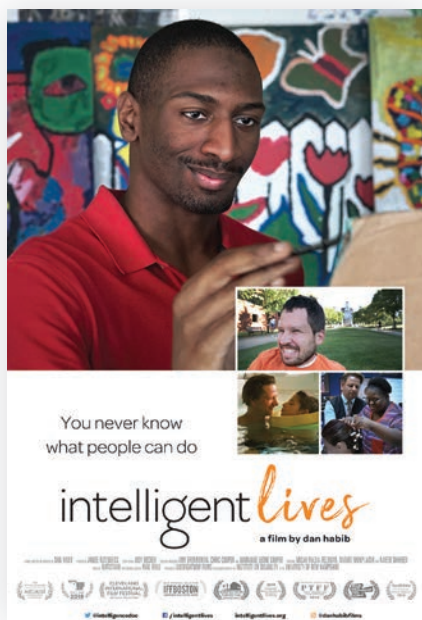
Pre-conference Labs: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

**StorySlam:** Interested in telling your story? Megan McGee from Ex Fabula will help you do just that! At the end of the session, you'll learn about opportunities to share a story at the Club SD StorySlam. Room: Aralia

**Self-Determination YouTube Channel:** Join the first YouTube Channel run by people with disabilities. Help create some videos, be a reporter and maybe even star in your own video. Room: Aloeswood

**Innovation Station:** Put on your inventor's hat and come with your ideas for creating a business, inventing a product, or developing an App. We'll help you develop your idea to display during the Tuesday Technology Huddles – the top ideas could be awarded grants to help bring to life! Room: Marula


**Self-Determination Conference 101:** Are you attending the conference for the first time? With a conference packed full of this many things, you don't want to miss anything! Room: Mangrove



## MONDAY NIGHT KICK-OFF: 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM Dinner, a Movie and a Scavenger Hunt!

Join the first Self-Determination Conference Scavenger Hunt! Explore the conference area and beyond at the Kalahari and earn a \$5 gift voucher to spend at the microexhibitors booths Tuesday and Wednesday.

### Here's how to play:

1. Find some friends and make a team. 4-8 people work best. We can help you find a group!
2. Choose someone with a smartphone to download the scavenger hunt app: Scavify 
3. Follow the Scavify Instructions, submit your answers, and have fun!



Meet **Micah Fialka-Feldman**: Micah is featured in Intelligent Lives; a documentary by Dan Habib. You will have an opportunity to meet Micah before the film.



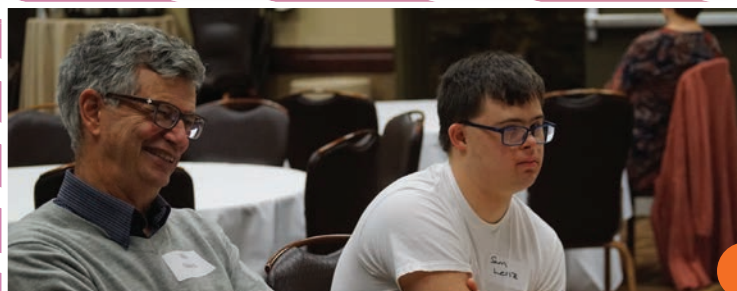
# Agenda at a Glance

## Day 1: Tuesday, October 15

7:30 am - 9:00 am	Registration, Networking & Breakfast
9:00 am - 10:00 am	<b>General Session 1, Keynote: Micah Fialka - Feldman</b>
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Networking Break & Exhibitors
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	<b>Really Good Learning Sessions</b>
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch, Diehard Awards & Networking
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm	<b>Really Good Learning Sessions</b>
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Innovation Labs & Tech Huddles
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Break & Hotel Check-In
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Dinner & People First Wisconsin Auction
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<b>Club SD - StorySlam</b>

## Day 2: Wednesday, October 16

7:30 am - 9:00 am	Breakfast
9:00 am - 10:00 am	<b>General Session 2, Keynote: Self-Determination YouTube Channel</b>
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Networking Break & Exhibitors
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	<b>Really Good Learning Sessions</b>
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch & Networking
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	<b>Let's Talk About it! Hot Topics!</b>
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Closing & Really Good Door Prizes!












# E-Z Guide Tuesday Breakout Sessions

Sessions 1 - 9 | 10:30am - Noon

Category

Room

1	Circles of Support		Tamboti
2	Knowing Who You Are		Aloeswood
3	Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)		Marula
4	Textbook IEP's - Bridging the Cultural Barriers (Bilingual)		Aralia
5	Planning for the Future		Mangrove
6	Healthy Me Through Technology		Guava
7	Voting Technology: Make Your Voice Heard		Tamarind
8	Technology to Provide Job Coach Support		Portia
9	Making Technology a Little Less Scary		Wisteria

Sessions 10 - 18 | 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Category

Room

10	Family Engagement: Holding on Differently		Tamboti
11	Design Your Own Innovation for Change		Aloeswood
12	Technology to Get You Where You Want to Go		Marula
13	Power Your Body Into the Future		Aralia
14	Smartphones as a Self-Advocacy Tool		Mangrove
15	Junkyard Technology: A Make and Take Workshop		Guava
16	Remote Support Technology		Tamarind
17	Self-Advocacy Across Wisconsin		Portia
18	From Home to Meeting Without Leaving the Living Room		Wisteria

Key:

Advocacy



Community



Education



Employment



Health



Home



Innovation



Support



Technology



Transportation



Voting














# E-Z Guide Wednesday Breakout Sessions

Sessions 19 - 27 | 10:30am - Noon

Category










Room

19	Accessible Content is not just a Feature, it's a Mindset		Tamboti
20	Technology to Engage, Inspire, and Educate your Workforce		Aloeswood
21	Accessible tools using Microsoft Office		Marula
22	Bridging Cultural Differences through Innovation (English Translation)		Aralia
23	Guardianship and Consent		Mangrove
24	Voice Command Technology Supports for Independence		Guava
25	Video Modeling and Video Instruction: A Power Tool for Learning and Showing!		Tamarind
26	Assistive Technology and Home Modifications		Portia
27	Considerations for Work		Wisteria

Sessions 28 - 36: Hot Topics | 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Category

Room

28	Ombudsman Services and Resourcess		Tamboti
29	Voting		Aloeswood
30	Transportation		Marula
31	Self-Advocacy		Aralia
32	Workforce and Caregiving		Mangrove
33	Technology		Guava
34	Self-Direction		Tamarind
35	Housing		Portia
36	Open Space Thinking		Wisteria

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Technology



Transportation



Voting



## Keynote - Through the Same Door: Living MY Life



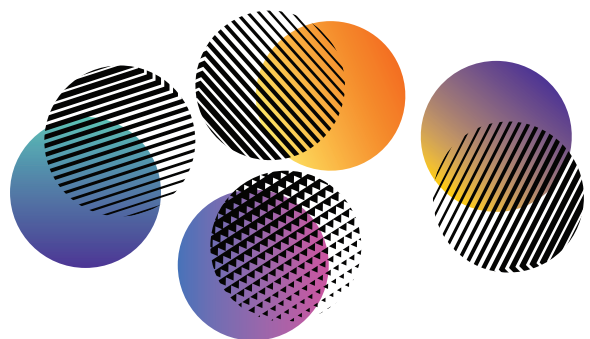
**Micah Fialka-Feldman** is a self-advocate, teaching assistant, outreach coordinator, national speaker, and pioneer who fights for disability-pride, justice, and inclusion. He is part of the first wave of adults with intellectual disabilities who have attended college and has been fully included in school and community. Micah Fialka-Feldman earned a certificate in Disability Studies from the Syracuse University School of Education in 2015. Micah currently lives in Syracuse, N.Y. where he co-teaches classes in inclusive education and disability studies. He is an outreach

coordinator at the Lawrence B. Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education. In May of 2014, Micah was appointed by President Obama to President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities. Micah's disability advocacy has a foundation in the creation of the "Beloved Community" and the notion that "A community that excludes even one of its members is not a community at all."

In 2009, Micah won a landmark federal lawsuit, *Fialka-Feldman v. Oakland University Board of Trustees*, to live in the dorms at Oakland University. After Micah had been accepted to live in the dorms in 2007, he received notification from the university that he could not live in the dorm because of "university policy." The administration argued that he was not considered a "degree-seeking" student. Micah sued Oakland University for violating his rights. After over two years of advocacy court proceedings, the Honorable Judge Duggan of the U.S. 6th District Court ruled that Oakland University had denied Micah housing based on "prejudice, stereotypes and/or unfounded fear of persons with disabilities." Micah moved into the dorms in January of 2010.



**Janice Fialka**, LMSW, ACSW is a nationally-recognized lecturer, author, and award-winning advocate on issues related to disability, family-professional partnerships, inclusion, and raising a child with disabilities. She is also a parent, poet, and a compelling storyteller. Over twenty-five years ago, Janice established herself as a major contributor to the national conversation on family-professional partnerships through her keynotes and writings, *The Dance of Partnership: Why do my feet hurt? Strengthening the family-professional partnership.* ([www.danceofpartnership.com](http://www.danceofpartnership.com))





## Awards Presentation During Lunch

**Diehard Awards** will be presented to individuals who have made a significant contribution to advocacy work here in Wisconsin. A diehard is someone with a steadfast commitment to the principles of self-determination...someone who goes above and beyond what's expected and helps others along the way. Can you guess who the Diehards are?

**Thank You for Being a Friend Award** will be presented by the Wisconsin Family and Caregiver Support Alliance. This award honors those that has made a significant impact in a family caregiver's day, week, year, or life.

## People First Gift Basket Raffle/Silent Auction

A Raffle and Silent Auction to benefit the People First Wisconsin Scholarship Fund will feature art and jewelry made and donated by self-advocates and friends of People First Wisconsin. In addition, local self-advocacy groups from around the state have put together gift baskets. Items will be on display and available for bidding on Tuesday. You can buy raffle tickets at the People First Wisconsin exhibit table on Tuesday until 4:30 pm.

*Winners will be announced before Tuesday night's StorySlam at 6:30 pm.*

## CLUB Self-Determination StorySlam (7:00 PM)

The Club SD StorySlam is an evening of true and personal stories from StoryLab participants. This noncompetitive Slam will feature true stories about technology and more. Audience members can also participate in the storytelling by submitting UltraShorts, which are brief, true personal stories written on slips of paper and then read onstage by the emcee. Come join us at the Club for stories and random acts of dance!

**Bursts of Dancing will be sprinkled in. Music by DJ Dylan**



## Keynote - Self-Determination YouTube Channel

Do you see life as a journey? Are you looking for a path that personally empowers you? We are a group of self-advocates with developmental or intellectual disabilities who believe self-determination is essential to living our best life-the life we all deserve. We're Launching our YouTube Channel at the conference! The channel is dedicated to sharing our voices about using choice and control in our lives. We will celebrate successes and show you that perseverance is possible. Through this channel you can connect with other self-advocates and people who support us. Meet the channel hosts:



**Cindy Bentley**  
Milwaukee



**Ashley Mathy**  
Rhineland



**Philip Temme**  
Madison



**Stacy Ellingen**  
Oshkosh



**Susan Borri**  
Milwaukee





# Things You Should Know

## Photography

Photos and video will be taken during the conference that will be part of the conference closing and could be posted on the BPDD Facebook page or website. If you do not want to be photographed, please let someone know at the registration desk.

## Videography provided by Tapioca Creations

Tapioca Creations is video production for businesses and organizations. Based in Madison, we serve clients headquartered throughout the Midwest and across the nation. From small local businesses to huge international corporations, we bring your message to life with style and professionalism. Visit us at [TapiocaCreations.com](http://TapiocaCreations.com) today!

## Videos Online!

Thank you to the Department of Health Services technology team for videotaping our keynote sessions and select breakout sessions. The videos will be available on the BPDD website at [www.wi-bpdd.org](http://www.wi-bpdd.org).

**Certificates of Attendance** will be provided at the Conference closing.



## Facebook

Join us on Facebook! The Wisconsin Self-Determination Conference is on the BPDD's Facebook page. To get connected, search for "Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities" from your Facebook page and click the "Like" button.



## Twitter

Join us on Twitter for live tweets throughout the conference - [#SDCBack2Future](https://twitter.com/SDCBack2Future)



### CEU & CRC Credits

will be available. Forms will be available at the conference registration desk.

CEU & CRCs provided by:

**University of Wisconsin - Stout**



# Agenda: Tuesday, October 15

7:30 - 9:00am	Registration & Networking Breakfast			North Atrium Suites 1 -8
9:00 - 10:00am	General Session 1 – Welcome <b>Through the Same Door: Living MY Life</b> Keynote Speaker: <b>Micah Fialka - Feldman</b>			Suites 1 -8
10:00 - 10:30am	Networking Break and Exhibitors			
Concurrent Workshop Sessions				
ROOMS	Tamboti	Aloeswood	Marula	Aralia
10:30 - 12:00pm	SESSION 1  <b>Circles of Support</b>  Micah Fialka-Feldman, Janice Fialka	SESSION 2  <b>Knowing Who You Are</b>  Ashley Mathy	SESSION 3  <b>Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)</b>  Curtis Cunningham, Amy Chartier	SESSION 4  <b>Textbook IEP's - Bridging the Cultural Barriers</b> Bryan Feliz, Maria Gallegos *Bilingual Session
12:00 - 1:00pm	Lunch, Networking, & Diehard Awards Presentation			Suites 1 -8
1:00 - 1:30 pm	Networking Break & Exhibitors			Suites 1 -8
Concurrent Workshop Sessions				
ROOMS	Tamboti	Aloeswood	Marula	Aralia
1:30 - 3:00 pm	SESSION 10  <b>Family Engagement: Holding On Differently</b>  Micah Fialka-Feldman, Janice Fialka	SESSION 11  <b>Design Your Own Innovation for Change</b>  Sherry Gundlach, WI Promise Youth	SESSION 12  <b>Technology to Get You Where You Want to Go</b>  Josh Massey, IRIS & Family Care Participants	SESSION 13  <b>Power Your Body Into the Future</b>  Kristy Bridenhagen, Judy Fink
3:00 - 3:30 pm	Refreshment & Networking Break			
3:30 - 5:30 pm	Tech Huddles		Self-Guided Exploration Stations	
5:30 - 6:15 pm	Break & Hotel Check-In			
6:15 - 7:00 pm	Dinner & People First Wisconsin Auction			
7:00 - 9:00 pm	Club Self-Determination - StorySlam			Suites 1 - 8





### Concurrent Workshop Sessions

Mangrove	Guava	Tamarind	Portia	Wisteria
SESSION 5	SESSION 6	SESSION 7	SESSION 8	SESSION 9
<b>Planning for the Future</b>	<b>Healthy Me Through Technology</b>	<b>Voting Technology to Make Your Voice Heard</b>	<b>Technology to Provide Job Coach Support</b>	<b>Making Technology A Little Less Scary</b>
Delores Sallis	Felicia Clayborne, Sue Urban	Wendy Heyn, Jenny Neugart	Alex Albedyll, Janet Estervig	Pete Junivall, Marie Massart



### Concurrent Workshop Sessions

Mangrove	Guava	Tamarind	Portia	Wisteria
SESSION 14	SESSION 15	SESSION 16	SESSION 17	SESSION 18
<b>Smartphones as a Self-Advocacy Tool</b>	<b>Junkyard Technology: A Make and Take Workshop</b>	<b>Remote Support Technology</b>	<b>Self-Advocacy Across Wisconsin</b>	<b>From Home to Meeting Without Leaving the Living Room</b>
Kathryn Burish, Mary Clare Carlson, Kate Norby, Hannah Rahmanpanah	Tyler Wilcox	Lauren Ireland, Chris Patterson	Cindy Bentley, Shannon Webb	Timothy Carey, Stacy Ellingen, Tyler Fallahi, Carrie Witt

**Join us for the Tech Huddles!**

**Camp Creatability**  
Suite D

**Home Automation**  
Suite F

**Innovation Station**  
Tamarind

**Attainment Company**  
Suite E

**Microsoft**  
Guava

**Tech BYTES - Navigate through the over 20 Apps and Websites**

# Agenda: Wednesday, October 16

7:30 - 9:00am		Breakfast			Suites 1 -8
9:00 - 10:00am		General Session 2 - <b>Self-Determination YouTube Channel</b> Cindy Bentley, Susan Borri, Stacy Elingen, Ashley Mathy, Philip Temme			Suites 1 -8
10:00 - 10:30am		Networking Break and Exhibitors (last chance to make purchases before exhibitors break down)			
Concurrent Workshop Sessions					
ROOMS	Tamboti	Aloeswood	Marula	Aralia	
10:30 - 12:00 pm	SESSION 19  Accessible Content is not Just a Feature, It's a Mindset  Jim Denham, Denise Jess	SESSION 20  Technology to Engage, Inspire, and Educate Your Workforce  John Dickerson	SESSION 21  Accessible Tools Using Microsoft Office  Michelle Carter, Lexi Coenen	SESSION 22  Bridging Cultural Differences Through Innovation Maria Barajas, Rosa Corona, Mayra Cruz, Maria de Mendez	
12:00 - 1:00pm	Lunch & Networking				Suites 1 -8
Let's Talk About It! Hot Topics: A Facilitated Discussion About What's on Your Mind					
ROOMS	Tamboti	Aloeswood	Marula	Aralia	
1:00 - 2:00 pm	SESSION 28  Ombudsman Services and Resources  	SESSION 29  Voting  	SESSION 30  Transportation  	SESSION 31  Self-Advocacy  	
					
2:00 - 3:00pm		General Session 3: Closing Really Cool Door Prizes			Suites 1 - 8






// Every once in a while, a new technology, an old problem, and a big idea turn into an innovation. //

- Dean Kamen

### Concurrent Workshop Sessions

Mangrove	Guava	Tamarind	Portia	Wisteria
SESSION 23	SESSION 24	SESSION 25	SESSION 26	SESSION 27
<b>Guardianship and Consent</b>	<b>Supports for Independence</b>	<b>Video Modeling and Video Instruction</b>	<b>Assistive Technology and Home Modifications</b>	<b>Considerations for Work</b>
Pam Malin	Kristine Leonard, Barbara Silver-Thorn	Patti Becker, Elizabeth Delsandro, Abigail Tessman	Tyler Wilcox	Sarah Schroeder, Beth Wroblewski

### Let's Talk About It! Hot Topics: A Facilitated Discussion About What's on Your Mind

Mangrove	Guava	Tamarind	Portia	Wisteria
SESSION 32	SESSION 33	SESSION 34	SESSION 35	SESSION 36
<b>Workforce and Caregiving</b>	<b>Technology</b>	<b>Self-Direction</b>	<b>Housing</b>	<b>Open Space Thinking</b>
				





# GET INVOLVED!



WISCONSIN BOARD FOR PEOPLE  
WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

## Apply for a Board project!

**PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING** is a six-session advocacy and systems change leadership program to develop future leaders across the state who are able to work with legislators and communities on policies and initiatives that will support the full participation and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in all aspects of life. **Apply by Sept. 1**



**BUILDING FULL LIVES:** This initiative provides training and technical assistance to support organizations that want to support people with disabilities in community settings both for employment and other activities. **Apply by Dec. 1**



**TAKE YOUR LEGISLATOR TO WORK:** Individuals with disabilities working in their community invite their legislator to visit them at work. Legislators visit their constituents with disabilities at their jobs and meet their supervisors and co-workers **Year-round**

**SPARKS GRANTS** help local grassroots groups identify and make changes in their communities that result in a positive impact on the lives of people with disabilities. SPARKS Grants are available to people with developmental disabilities and family members in Wisconsin. **Apply by Sept 1**



To find out more and get announcements about these programs, sign up for Board emails at [wi-bpdd.org](http://wi-bpdd.org) or call 608-266-7826.



# GET INVOLVED!



## Apply for a Board project!

**EMPLOYMENT FIRST:** This initiative promotes integrated employment jobs in typical business settings at minimum wage or higher in the general workforce for people with disabilities. The goal is to double the employment rate in Wisconsin in five years. BPDD partners with Wisconsin APSE and People First Wisconsin on Wisconsin Employment First. **Year-round**



**The Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition (WDVC):** is a non-partisan effort to increase voting turnout and participation in the electoral process among members of Wisconsin's disability community. The WDVC is funded by the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities and Disability Rights Wisconsin. **Year round**

**FAMILY-LED NETWORKS:** is a network of families with children transitioning from high school or adult children with disabilities that are committed to work together to educate themselves on various aspects of adult life for their child with a disability. Families meet, learn about resources, and provide support to each other. **Apply by October 1**



**WISCONSIN YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM** is a week long leadership training and career awareness program for high school sophomores, juniors and seniors with disabilities. Being selected to attend the YLF is a distinct honor that you can be very proud of and include on your resume. **Apply by May 1**

To find out more and get announcements about these programs, sign up for Board emails at [wi-bpdd.org](http://wi-bpdd.org) or call 608-266-7826.

# Tuesday Sessions

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

## Session 1: Circles of Support

Presenters: Janice Fialka, Micah Fialka-Feldman

Tamboti

Learn how Micah's "Circle of Friends" started in elementary school and has been maintained over almost 2 decades, changing with each new phase of his life. Micah and his mother will share how to start a Circle, how to keep it going, how to deal with challenges and what activities can support the Circle. Participants will be invited to share their own experiences.

## Session 2: Knowing Who You Are

Presenter: Ashley Mathy

Aloeswood

Know who you are and own it! Ashley will share what she has learned about herself and discuss how knowing yourself is important for everyday interactions you have from employers to everyone you meet. We will do an activity that helps you discover who you are and what is important to you.

## Session 3: Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)

Presenters: Amy Chartier, Curtis Cunningham

Marula

Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has spent significant time planning and preparing for their EVV program implementation as they move down the path to meet the 21st Century Cures Act EVV mandate in 2020. Wisconsin's unique and complex personal care landscape consists of more than 30,000 Medicaid members, as well as many managed care organizations, provider agencies, self-directed participants and participant hired workers within four acute and primary and LTC delivery systems. Wisconsin DHS will provide insight into their plans for implementing EVV processes and systems in 2020.

## Session 4: Textbook IEP's- Bridging the Cultural Barriers

Presenters: Bryan Feliz, Maria Gallegos  
(Bilingual presentation)

Aralia

IEP (Individual Education Program)-transitioning to High School. How bilingual students with disabilities help to bridge the generational and cultural gaps for a successful IEP.

## Session 5: Planning for the Future

Presenter: Delores Sallis

Mangrove

Planning for the future does not require a lot of money or a lot of technology. Fast forward to the future and create your vision board for a brighter future.



# Tuesday Sessions

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

## Session 6: Healthy Me Through Technology

Presenters: Felicia Clayborne, Sue Urban

Guava

This session is for those who want to learn about different applications you can use to monitor your health status and to set health goals. We will explore applications like Calm, Jefit, Sleepbot, Flo and many others that track your walking, exercise, sleep, what you eat, etc. There are even applications you can use to unwind and relax you. We will also explore how to look up health information on the internet through reliable sources. Bring your tablet or smart phone and learn some neat ways to take charge of your health goals!

## Session 7: Using Technology to Make Your Voice Heard by Voting

Presenters: Wendy Heyn, Jenny Neugart

Tamarind

This session will focus on the web-based resources that can help you be an informed and prepared voter. You can find out if you're registered to vote, where to vote, what is on your ballot, request an absentee ballot or find out about early voting all from your phone or computer. You will also learn about your voting rights and responsibilities. Important elections are ahead, and this is your chance to make sure your voice is heard!

## Session 8: Technology to Provide Job Coach Support

Presenters: Alex Albedyll, Janet Estervig

Portia

Job Coaching provides needed training and support for workers with disabilities. Learn how technology can be used to provide on-the-job supports that encourages worker independence. As the Job Coach fades, there are important steps to take to ensure success. We will discuss a process to use as you fade your support and when to incorporate technological tools and/or job modifications. Participants will receive a fading checklist, have the opportunity to practice technology used for job coaching and see examples of how to make use of suggested tools to support successful community employment.

## Session 9: Making Technology a Little Less Scary

Presenters: Pete Juvinall, Marie Massart

Wisteria

Hands on app demonstration - Learn the basics about downloading and using Apps, including a "Ways to Stay Safe" reference guide for you to take home with you.

# Tuesday Sessions

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## Session 10: Family Engagement: Holding on Differently

Presenters: Janice Fialka, Micah Fialka-Feldman

Tamboti

Parents typically search for the best ways to support their children, with and without disabilities, to live meaningful lives, especially during the transition years. Janice and Micah will discuss their experiences as parent and son, talking about the values and practical strategies used in their family. Through honest and humorous storytelling, they reveal how Micah's parents learned to shift (most of the time!) in their dance of loosening, to letting go to, as they like to say, "holding on differently."

## Session 11: Design Your Own Innovation for Change

Presenters: Stephan Bell, Sherry Gundlach

Aloeswood

Interested in making change in your community? Join this session to hear from youth and families participating in the Wisconsin Promise grant about their Community Leadership Projects. Youth and families designed their own innovative projects based on a change they'd like to see in their communities to help more people with disabilities get jobs. Through their efforts, they have opened the eyes of community members around the state and made change. Session attendees will be inspired to identify the change they'd like to see in their own community while considering their community's assets and their own personal connections. Presenters will share information about leadership and grant opportunities available in Wisconsin so that attendees can take their ideas and put them into action.

## Session 12: Technology to Get You Where You Want to Go

Presenters: Josh Massey, TMG and Includa Self-Advocates

Marula

For many people with disabilities, transportation is a huge issue. This greatly affects people's abilities to find or keep a job, to choose where to live and to determine whether they can visit friends and family. These challenges occur because people don't have their own vehicles, live in an area where public transportation isn't readily available, or transportation options are too expensive. Fortunately, there are resources available to help. Whether a person uses the Family Care or IRIS Waiver, a person can access transportation using innovative technology solutions. Explore various web-based tools that open up the world of transportation, including safety tips and pros and cons of using different transportation technology. Also learn how this is being piloted in our Long-Term Care system to redefine the transportation system using technology.

## Session 13: Power Your Body into the Future

Presenters: Kristy Bridenhagen, Judy Fink

Aralia

Learn to use the right technology for you to set and meet your fitness goals. Hear how fitness can change your mindset and mental health, improving your long-term life outcomes. Participate in fitness through the years to see and "feel" how fitness has changed with technology.



# Tuesday Sessions

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## Session 14: Smartphones as a Self-Advocacy Tool

Presenters: Kathryn Burish, Mary Clare Carlson, Kate Norby,  
Hannah Rahmanpanah

Guava

Smartphones have become a part of everyday life. Our smartphone camera can do more than just take “selfies” - it can be a valuable self-advocacy tool. In this interactive session, you will learn how to take better quality photos and utilize apps. You will also explore how to be a better self-advocate by using your smartphone camera to document your experiences, record and report safety, express your thoughts and feelings, learn and remember new skills, make visual portfolios, IEP's and person-centered service plans, train new support staff, create vision boards, design one page profiles and present your story to legislators.

## Session 15: Junkyard Technology: A Make and Take Workshop

Presenter: Tyler Wilcox

Tamarind

You don't have to be a tech geek to design a switch; all you need is some tinfoil, tape, and a little ingenuity. Finding effective AT (Assistive Technology) solutions goes well beyond using devices in new and creative ways; sometimes it means creating things on the fly or for little to no money. This workshop is intended to help participants think about why things do what they do and show them how that knowledge can be used to create inexpensive and effective AT solutions with materials that might be just laying around. At the end of the session, participants will make a simple device that they will get to take home with them and show off to their friends.

## Session 16: Remote Support Technology

Presenters: Lauren Ireland, Chris Patterson

Portia

Attendees will be provided a brief overview of remote support services and what current technology is available. Participants will hear from Lauren and her journey going from 24-hour staffing situation to utilizing remote supports. Lauren will talk specifically about how her life has been affected and how the technology can promote independence while meeting support needs. Presenters will review the assessment process. Interactive audience participation is expected. We will look at real life examples of people with complex needs and collectively identify what type of technology can be used to address specific needs. If you are looking to learn more about how technology services that have been successfully supporting people, growing independence, ensuring safety and security and how it might work for you or those you serve. This session is for you!



# Tuesday Sessions

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## Session 17: Self-Advocacy Across Wisconsin

Presenters: Cindy Bentley, Shannon Webb

Portia

People First Wisconsin has partnered with BPDD's Living Well project to expand Self-Advocacy instruction and peer mentoring for the next four years across Wisconsin. Come to this session to take part in some of the Self-Advocacy learning activities with People First Wisconsin Self-Advocacy Instructors and learn how you can get involved in peer mentoring.

## Session 18: From Home to Meeting Without Leaving Your Living Room

Presenters: Timothy Carey, Stacy Ellingen, Tyler Fallahi, Carrie Witt

Wisteria

Join self-advocates to learn how they expanded their voice using technology and the internet. Get connected to these networks and learn how to grow online communities of your own.

**3:00pm - 3:30pm:**  
**Explore exhibitors and take a short refreshment break**

Tuesday, 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM

## Tech Huddles

Go on a self-exploration through the Tech Huddles! Featured topics will offer hands on demonstrations of technology that can help you gain independence and open new opportunities. Our tech-savvy, self-determined presenters will be demonstrating apps that can help you maximize technology. Imagine all the possibilities! Ask our Tech Helpers in the **Green Apron** for assistance.

## Camp Createability

Suite D

Camp Createability Wisconsin is a video and entertainment program for individuals with Autism or other disabilities. Creating a film is a monumental effort for any group, but for those with disabilities, vital skills must be mastered to succeed, including cooperation, negotiation, listening, and taking direction. See the production process at work, learn what skills are needed to produce animation, set design, script-writing, acting, dancing, singing, prop/set building, wardrobe, make-up, directing, filming, editing, and other tasks necessary for film making. Get some hands-on experience in the Arts and Entertainment field. Check out the front and behind the camera scene, learn about videotaping, photography, animation and other digital media. Check out the green screen! **Deb Armstrong**, Camp Createability, Founder & Director and a team of Camp Createability Students

Tuesday, 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM

### Tech Huddles

#### Attainment Company

Suite E

Attainment Company has several apps directly related to supporting youth and adults with disabilities in the community. They also have software tools for developing skills to participate in the community and for daily living skills in the home. Try out these apps and see the live demonstrations. Attainment has several augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) devices that will be on display or demonstrated:

- GoTalk Communication devices (including wearables)
- GoTalk WOW on the Apple Watch
- Go Visual App for job coaching and video modeling.
- Go Worksheet App that shows how to transfer any paper checklist into a digitized option on the iPad.
- Laptop with free Google options for sharing information with other Job Coaches.
- Assessment Plus App for easy to use iPad data collection resource. Software demonstrated on iPads and laptop for skill development in accessing the community and daily living skills. **Janet Estervig**, MS, RN, Director of Curriculum and Training

#### Home Automation Huddle

Suite F

Experience how enabling technology works. There will be a model home set up with different sensors around the room to showcase how they are used to support people and how they may look in your home. Real time demonstrations of how remote support technology and other home automation technology will be ongoing. You can test out some off the shelf assistive tech devices such as Google Home and ring doorbell. Come and join us for a fun and interactive huddle! **Chris Patterson**, Owner/Member, Night Owl Support Systems, LLC, **Tim Janssen**, Operations Director, Sengistix, LLC

#### Microsoft

Guava

Experience the latest tools from Microsoft 356 solutions including gaming technology. At Microsoft, the mission is to empower EVERY person and every organization on the planet to achieve more. We take this mission seriously and we want to demonstrate to you what that means for you. **Michelle Carter**, Microsoft Customer Success Manager -- State of Wisconsin, **Lexi Coenen**, Microsoft Gaming Expert

#### Innovation Station

Tamarind

This Shark Tank incubator has turned out some creative minds. Look through the displays of innovative ideas and you be the judge! Vote for the most creative idea. Innovation Station creators Tech Bytes: See our favorite APPs Demonstrated!

#### Tech Bytes

Portia and Wisteria

Navigate through the over 20 Apps and websites.



# Wednesday Sessions

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

## Session 19: Accessible Content is not just a Feature, it's a Mindset

Presenters: Jim Denham, Denise Jess

Tamboti

Have you ever wondered how documents are accessed by people who are blind or visually impaired? As web accessibility and creating inclusive communities becomes more prevalent, it's vital to evaluate social media and digital content to ensure everyone can participate. People often do not know where to start in making posts accessible or how to access content using specific devices. In this session, we'll give you the tools you need to take the first step. This will include demonstrations of some of the assistive technology including built-in voiceover, built-in magnification and JAWS so you can learn how to access online content. Whether you're an alternative text/assistive technology novice or could write and read image descriptions in your sleep – this is for you!

## Session 20: Technology to Engage, Inspire, and Educate your Workforce

Presenter: John Dickerson

Aloeswood

Today, we face new challenges and opportunities in developing ongoing and lasting relationships between people with disabilities and those that support them. Too often in the past, our communication has been overly focused on what went wrong, when do you show up and what do you do. The staff of Quillo will share with you an App with a new approach based on personal well-being of everyone and positive psychology. We will demonstrate what you can do and even engage you in developing your own new approach for better relationships with direct care staff and better lives.

## Session 21: Accessible Tools Using Microsoft Office

Presenters: Michelle Carter, Lexi Coenen

Marula

Digital experiences span both our personal and professional lives, meaning that we need technology that can navigate both worlds. Many workplaces are increasingly working and collaborating remotely. Look at software design through the lens of disability. At Microsoft, our mission is to empower EVERY person and every organization on the planet to achieve more. We take this mission seriously and we want to demonstrate what that means for you.

## Session 22: Bridging Cultural Differences through Innovation

Presenters: Maria Barajas, Rosa Corona, Mayra Cruz, Maria de Mendez

Aralia

Navigating and accessing resources when there are diverse cultures involved. Four Spanish speaking Moms share the tools and resources they use to communicate.

(Done in Spanish with English translators)

# Wednesday Sessions

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

## Session 23: Guardianship and Consent

Presenters: Pam Malin

Mangrove

Many times, we toss around the word consent and assume we all know what it means. Other times, we are told we don't have the right to consent. How do we know what consent is and is not, unless we take time to learn about it? This session will use interactive activities, videos and humor to talk about consent. We will define it. We will discuss it. We will be empowered to use it, if we choose. And we will identify what to do when we don't consent.

## Session 24: Voice Command Technology: Supports for Independence

Presenters: Kristine Leonard, Barbara Silver-Thorn

Smart speakers (Amazon, Google, Apple Home) and smart home technology (smart locks, thermostats, plugs, lightbulbs, etc.) have the potential to enhance the independence and autonomy of both seniors and persons with disabilities. These commercial devices are relatively low-cost and easy to setup and use. Infrastructure support includes internet services and a smart phone or tablet. We have recently launched three initiatives using these technologies to promote independence, community inclusion and autonomy for individuals with intellectual and developmental disability in different communities. Populations have included transitioning adults, individuals participating in community employment and day services, and seniors. This presentation will focus on the use of smart speakers, specifically Amazon Alexa devices, and various voice command tasks relevant to daily life.

## Session 25: Video Modeling and Video Instruction: A Power Tool for Learning and Showing!

Presenters: Patti Becker, Elizabeth (Liz) Delsandro, Abigail Tessmann

Tamarind

Do you sometimes watch videos to figure out how to do things? Do you sometimes need a little help showing others what you can do, or what skills you have? In this fun, interactive session, you will learn about video modeling and video instruction! You might ask employers or personal care assistants to make a video to help you learn a skill, such as a job task or how to go shopping, in order to be more independent or do things on your own. Or, you might make a video of yourself for an interview, to introduce yourself, or to tell friends and family members about an awesome experience you had. Let's explore how videos can be a terrific tool and help you grow your community.

## Session 26: Assistive Technology and Home Modifications

Presenter: Tyler Wilcox

Portia

Discover how to improve your quality of life using assistive technology. Learn tips and tricks on how to decide on a device and know which modifications are right for you.

# Wednesday Sessions

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

## Session 27: Considerations for Work- all the moving parts!

Presenters: Sarah Schroeder, Beth Wroblewski

Wisteria

There are a lot of moving parts to think about when you start or change jobs. How much can I earn and keep my health insurance? Where do I report information about my new earnings? How will I get to and from work? What if I need special equipment or accommodations? There are resources to help you navigate these and other tricky questions around taking the leap into employment! In this session we will discuss topics like the importance of Government issued identification to start a new job, work Incentives Benefits counseling resources for answering questions about Medicaid, Medicare and other public benefits, consideration of work expenses that you may have related to your disability and ways to get help with these items, reporting your work and the best ways to avoid benefits headaches once you start working, transportation and consideration of whether getting a driver's license could be the right fit for you, including information about pre-driving assessments, and vehicle modifications, and discussing your disability and accommodations with your employer.

# Wednesday Sessions

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

## Let's Talk About It! Hot Topics

Facilitated discussions about what's on your mind.

Session 28: Ombudsman Services and Resources - - - Tamboti

Session 29: Voting - - - Aloeswood

Session 30: Transportation - - - Marula

Session 31: Self-Advocacy - - - Aralia

Session 32: Workforce and Caregiving - - - Mangrove

Session 33: Technology - - - Guava

Session 34: Self-Direction - - - Tamarind

Session 35: Housing - - - Portia

Session 36: Open Space Thinking - - - Wisteria



# Presenter Biographies

**Alex Albedyll** has been employed in the community for over 20 years. He currently works three jobs in the Madison community. He will demonstrate the use of an App that provides job coach support. Alex's favorite holiday is Halloween!

**Anna Anderson** began her work as a Family Care and IRIS Ombudsman in February 2013. Anna has worked at The Salvation Army and the YWCA around homelessness and low-income housing and services. She gained experience with community organizing and community-based case management as the Case Management Division Manager at Community Action Coalition. Before joining the DRW team, Anna worked as a Services Coordinator in Dane County's Long-Term Care Program, where she developed a passion for advocacy. That passion brought her to Disability Rights Wisconsin. Anna graduated from UW-Whitewater with a BS in Social work in 2002 and from UW-Madison with an MSW in 2011.

**Anna.Anderson@drwi.org**

**Maria Barajas** moved to Milwaukee in late 1997 from Mexico. She is married to Prudencio Becerra and together they have three children. Fatima being the oldest daughter is 26 years old, Diana is 21 years old, and Diego is the self-advocate and youngest of the three he is 16 years old. Maria is a stay-at-home mom who takes care of all of Diego's medical needs not related to his disability when he is at home. Diego was born with Down syndrome but lives a typical life with few obstacles just like anyone else. Diego communicates best through gestures, mouthing words, and using his communication device. Maria and Prudencio communicate with professionals, teachers, doctors, nurses, etc. using interpreters and/or their daughters translate written materials or interpret when present.

**Patti Becker** continues to influence the diverse fabric of self-direction in long-term care. Her experiences include provider roles of direct support and management; consultant roles with families, advocates, and funding agencies, as well as advocacy in local, state and federal venues. She is currently the Manager of Community Partnership at TMG.

**pbecker@tmgwisconsin.com**

**Cindy Bentley** is one of Wisconsin's most inspirational leaders. She helped start Wisconsin's first self-advocacy organization and is currently the Executive Director for People First Wisconsin. Cindy is a strong advocate, a nationally sought-out speaker, and respected community member. She leads by example, supporting other self-advocates and strengthening the self-advocacy movement in Wisconsin. **Peoplefirstwi@gmail.com**

**Kristy Bridenhagen** has been employed by the Stevens Point Area YMCA for the past 15 years as the Adapted Recreation and Gymnastics Director. She has found creative ways to bring fitness into her life and maintain a fitness level she enjoys. She has a passion for empowering others to find their strengths and their own path in life. **kbridenhagen@spymca.org**

**Kathryn Burish** is a 23-year-old graduate of Brookfield East High School and Project Search - Milwaukee County Zoo. Kathryn currently works at Aurora Health Care. Kathryn enjoys fashion and beauty, acting and public speaking. She is the manager of the Facebook page, Kathryn Burish Photography.

# Presenter Biographies

**Timothy A. Carey** is the creator and chief writer of the advocacy networking website DisabilityVoice (DisabilityVoice.com). Tim has served on the Assistive Technology Advisory Council and currently works as a subcontractor for Rockcliffe University Consortium and Virtual Worlds Best Practices in Education. In 2011, he received an Abilities Award from Celebrating Abilities and a Lifetime Achievement Award for Wisconsin from the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

**Mary Clare Carlson** is the Self-Advocacy Specialist at My Choice Family Care. She has more than 25 years of experience in person-centered and advocacy programs. Mary Clare excels at bringing together diverse people, resources and ideas to inspire innovative problem solving, capture opportunities and facilitate positive change.

**MaryClare.Carlson@mychoicefamilycare.org**

**Amy Chartier** is a Section Chief in the Bureau of Programs and Policy. In this role she is responsible for administration of the Include, Respect, I Self Direct (IRIS) program for the elderly and people with disabilities. She has worked in Human Services for the past 30 years. Her experience includes 25 years in leadership roles working with residential and vocational service providers throughout the state. **amy.chartier@dhs.wisconsin.gov**

**Felicia Clayborne** describes herself as visually and mentally impaired with a servant heart. Felicia attended public-school with disability challenges and came through with flying colors. She is a self-advocate, a trailblazer, and has founded 4 organizations. She is the founder, owner, and president of Abilities Travel Club in Milwaukee, a group of travel lovers, people with disabilities, and seniors.

**Rosa Corona** moved from Mexico to Milwaukee in the year 1997. Rosa is married to Israel Moran and together they have two sons. Jay Moran, the oldest of the two is 19 years old, Juan Pablo is 13 years old. Juan Pablo has Down syndrome and lives a typical life. He is a folkloric dancer and is very active. To communicate with Juan Pablo, his family uses gestures, signing, and by talking to him. Rosa communicates with professionals, teachers, doctors, and therapists through the use of an interpreter as well as the English that Rosa knows and is able to speak.

**Maria Cruz** emigrated from Mexico to Milwaukee in the year 2002. Maria is married to Efrain Chagala and together they have a son named Rodrigo Chagala. Rodrigo is 15 years old and has Down syndrome. Maria is a stay-at-home mom and regularly attends special education workshops to expand her knowledge on the subject. Maria and Efrain communicate with Rodrigo by using sign language. When speaking to professionals, teachers, doctors, and therapists the couple communicates through the use of an interpreter as well as Efrain knows and is able to speak some English.

**Curtis Cunningham** is the Assistant Administrator of Long Term Care Benefits and Programs and is responsible for the provision of long-term supports and services for the elderly and people with disabilities. He is the Wisconsin Disability Director and Vice President of the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities. **Curtis.Cunningham@dhs.wisconsin.gov**



# Presenter Biographies

**Elizabeth (Liz) Delsandro** is a senior clinical speech-language pathologist at the Waisman Center of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, working in a variety of clinics. Prior to working at the Waisman Center, she was a clinical associate professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Iowa. [delsandro@wisc.edu](mailto:delsandro@wisc.edu)

**Jim Dunham** conducts technology assessments and provides training on a wide array of tools, such as screen readers, screen magnification software, smart phones and refreshable braille displays. Being blind himself, Jim utilizes much of this technology on a daily basis. He is passionate about helping individuals with disabilities learn to use technology to accomplish tasks that seem impossible.

**John Dickerson** has spent the last 45 years in the field of developmental disabilities, 32 as Executive Director of The Arc of Indiana. His career is marked by achievement, he credits to the impact families and self-advocates have when they organize and work together. He is now the CEO/Founder of Quillo – a new mobile communications platform designed to address the staff retention problem faced by families and community-based organizations. For more information go to [www.myQuillo.com](http://www.myQuillo.com)

**Janet Estervig**, MS, RN has been a special education teacher, director of a supported employment agency for 25 years, director of a personal care agency, Employment Initiatives Section Chief for DHS, and currently creating curriculum and training for youth and adults with disabilities at Attainment Company. [Janet@attainmentcompany.com](mailto:Janet@attainmentcompany.com)

**Tyler Fallahi** is a student with Spinal Muscular Atrophy who is currently attending UW-Whitewater. He is earning his Master's degree in accounting and will become a forensic accountant. While at school, he started a website called [www.transition2collegewi.com](http://www.transition2collegewi.com) to help students with disabilities with transitioning to college life. He enjoys helping other prospective students with all aspects of college life.

**Judy Fink** was born in Chicago and moved to the Stevens Point area after graduation. She has been an active member in the Stevens Point community working at the Holiday Inn, Head Start, Epilepsy Foundation and currently at Ascension Medical and Community First Bank. Judy is active volunteer with PINC (Partners in Nurturing Communities). She is a member of the Stevens Point YMCA.

**Maria Gallegos** emigrated from Mexico to Milwaukee in the year 2001. Maria is married to Jose Luis Felix and together they have three sons. David Felix the oldest of the three is 16 years old, Kevin is 15 years old, and Bryan is 14 years old. **Bryan Felix** is a bright young man with autism, he communicates best with the people around him by talking. Maria is a stay-at-home mom and goes above and beyond trying to make sure her son has all the services and aids he needs both in school and at home. When Maria needs to speak with her son's school, doctors, and therapists she uses the English she knows as well as requests the use of an interpreter to best understand.

**Sherry Gundlach** has worked with youth with disabilities and families for over 20 years. She facilitated Parents in Partnership for 5 years and is a co-founder of the Youth in Partnership with Parents for Empowerment program. Sherry works with the WI Promise project's Family Advocacy Network. She has four wonderful adult children, one with a disability. [familiesmatter4@gmail.com](mailto:familiesmatter4@gmail.com)

# Presenter Biographies

**Wendy Heyn** is the Voting Outreach Advocacy Specialist with Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW). Wendy works with DRW staff and with the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition to provide outreach and education to people with disabilities, their families, and other stakeholders on voting rights and is working to increase the electoral participation of Wisconsinites with disabilities. [wendyh@drwi.org](mailto:wendyh@drwi.org)

**Lauren Ireland** currently lives in a Adult Family Home setting with an Alternate Overnight Supervision Technology license. She utilizes motion and contact sensors throughout her home, as well as pull cords and pendants. Lauren also uses a smartphone and has experience with voice activated computer software.

**Denise Jess** began her tenure as CEO/Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council of the Blind & Visually Impaired in 2016. Prior to this role, she served on the Council's Board of Directors. Denise's more than three decades in advocacy, leadership development, education of all ages, and small business ownership, along with being legally blind since birth, combine to provide the unique experience and perspective necessary for advancing the Council's vital mission. [djess@WCBlind.org](mailto:djess@WCBlind.org)

**Pete Juvinal** is the IT Manager at TMG. Previously, he worked for over 20 years at Illinois State University and at several non-profit companies, where he helped make IT the best part of people's days. Pete is passionate about helping people find technology to do meaningful work.

**Kristine Leonard** has more than 35 years in the field of working with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Currently she is Bethesda's Senior Director of Transition Services working with non-residential services of employment, community-based programming, and Bethesda College. [Kristine.Leonard@bethesdalc.org](mailto:Kristine.Leonard@bethesdalc.org)

**Pam Malin** has worked at the intersection of disability and abuse for over 35 years. She is a presenter at the local, statewide and national level on the topic of Sexual Assault and People with Disabilities, Healthy Relationships, Boundaries and Multi-Disciplinary Response to Victims of Abuse with Disabilities. Pam is committed to sharing her knowledge and expertise with Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Service Providers, Community Professionals, First Responders, Parents, Caregivers and Self-Advocates. She is passionate about advocating for victims of crime with disabilities. [Pamm@drwi.org](mailto:Pamm@drwi.org)

**Josh Massey**, Founder/CEO of CarePool, graduated with a degree in Economics from UW Madison and began his tech career as a recruiter in Chicago. He was the 5th hire as lead recruiter at a Chicago tech startup where he helped grow the team and revenue to \$37M. Josh had success founding [bluelineconsult.com](http://bluelineconsult.com) where his engineers built mapping systems for Mercedes and BMW. This led Josh to build a transportation technology, RideAlfred, a SaaS product for drivers. Family Care and IRIS presented him with a transportation problem, so he designed CarePool as a solution. [jmassey@carepool.us](mailto:jmassey@carepool.us)

**Ashley Mathy** is an Employment First Ambassador and Wisconsin Partner in Policymaking graduate who has spoken around the state advocating for people with special needs. She has been interviewed on the TV, radio and newspaper on multiple occasions to provide her insights on the importance of employment and education. [ashleymathy@gmail.com](mailto:ashleymathy@gmail.com)



# Presenter Biographies

**Maria De Mendez** moved to Milwaukee from Mexico in the year 1993. Maria is a single mom of two sons and 2 daughters and works full-time to provide for her children. Tatiana Mendez is 22 years old, Diego is 20 years old, Julisa is 17 years old, and Oscar is 14 years old. Julisa has an intellectual disability and communicates through gestures, signing, and by talking to her. Julisa is able to follow along and nod or gesture what she wants. Maria is able to communicate with Julisa's school, doctors, and therapists by using an interpreter.

**Kathi Miller** found herself disabled after working for many years serving people with disabilities. Through hard work, determination, and self-advocacy, Kathi has reinvented her way back. As the IRIS Lead Ombudsman for the Board on Aging and Long-Term Care, Kathi serves and empowers those who need her assistance, this time from an advocate's point of view.

**Jenny Neugart** is the Disability Community Organizer for the Board for People with Developmental Disabilities. She has more than 15 years' experience with community organizing. She is the co-developer of the Youth in Partnership with Parents for Empowerment (YiPPE) program, which trains youth and their parents on the transition from high school to the adult world. She has invested her career in eliminating barriers to employment for youth with disabilities. [Jennifer.neugart@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Jennifer.neugart@wisconsin.gov)

**Kate Norby** is the Executive Director of Member Experience at Includa. She has more than twelve years of experience leading Medicaid managed long-term care systems toward person-centered and self-determined models of service delivery. She has experience working across systems to build local partnerships that maximize community assets and respond to individualized community needs. [kate.norby@includa.org](mailto:kate.norby@includa.org)

**Chris Patterson** grew up with a sister who has a developmental disability. Chris has a strong desire to help people gain independence. He has been doing this with technology and Remote Supports for 17 years and is currently a Co-Owner of Night Owl Support Systems, LLC. [chris@nossllc.com](mailto:chris@nossllc.com)

**Hannah Rahmanpanah** is a 22-year-old graduate of the Elmbrook School District Project Strive Program and a current Project Search Intern at Waukesha Memorial Hospital. Hannah enjoys writing poetry and other inspirational pieces, singing and performing, crocheting baby hats and volunteering.

**Delores Sallis** is the mother of five children, her youngest son, Albert, is 28 years old and has multiple disabilities. Delores is the founder of Parent University, which serves as a resource center to help families in the Milwaukee area navigate systems to help their loved ones with disabilities. [Delores.sallis@gmail.com](mailto:Delores.sallis@gmail.com)

**Sarah Schroeder** is a Community Work Incentives Coordinator (CWIC). She provides benefit related services to beneficiaries regarding Social Security Administration work incentives. She also administers pre-driving assessments as one of ERI's Driving Services Specialists. Sarah has a degree in Social Work from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a Master's Degree in Library Science. She was a public librarian for many years in Illinois before returning to her home state of Wisconsin. [schroeder@eri-wi.org](mailto:schroeder@eri-wi.org)

**Georgia Scott** is a mother of an adult daughter who developed a disability around the age of 50 years old.

# Presenter Biographies

**Barbara Silver-Thorn** has more than 30 years of rehabilitation research experience working with persons with disabilities. As the Technology Solution Architect at Bethesda, she coordinates various technology support initiatives and pilot studies. She previously served as biomedical engineering faculty at Marquette University and the Medical College of Wisconsin.

**Barb.Silver-Thorn@bethesdalc.org**

**Gloria Tatum** is a parent of her adult son with cerebral palsy.

**Abigail Tessmann** is a disability advocate living a diverse and self-determined life. Abigail has worked as a bus trainer through the Cutting Edge program and has started her own business helping others with transit training. Abigail also has a passion for vocal arts and creating and eating healthy foods. **tessmannabigail@yahoo.com**

**Sue Urban**, RN, CDP, CADDCT is the Senior Director of Clinical Services for TMG by Magellan Health. Sue specializes in complex health care management and has worked with individuals with I/DD for the past 40 yrs. Sue is a past recipient of the BPDD "Diehard Professional" award for her advocacy work. **surban@wisconsin-iris.com**

**Shannon Webb** has worked for over 20 years to help people with disabilities find meaningful work and community connections. Shannon is creative and an excellent problem solver. She has worked extensively with individuals and families, service providers, and schools to increase integrated employment and strengthen self-direction in Wisconsin. She believes all people can work. **Shannon@incontrolwisconsin.org**

**Hannah Wente** manages communications, public relations, graphic design and marketing activities for the Wisconsin Council of the Blind and Visually Impaired. This includes monthly e-newsletters, quarterly newsletters, social media, website and a variety of other media. **hwente@wcblind.org**

**Donnis Whitaker** is the guardian/caregiver for her teenage granddaughter, after the death of her mother.

**Tyler Wilcox** has worked with people with disabilities for nearly 19 years and is an independent living coordinator at Society's Assets in Racine. He provides peer support for people with Autism, ADHD, mental illness, and Tourette Syndrome by using his own life experiences to show others how to advocate for themselves **twilcox@societysassets.org**

**Carrie Witt** is a Community Partnership Specialist at TMG. For the last 25 years, her work has been focused on partnering with people to build full lives in their communities using her expertise in Assistive Technology, Self-Directed Supports, Person Centered Thinking and home and community-based supports. **CWitt@tmgwisconsin.com**

**Beth Wroblewski** brings over 25 years of experience in long-term care programs, including leadership positions with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. As a leader in long-term care, Beth's career has focused on people with disabilities having opportunities and participation in all aspects of community life, including employment. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Madison and is a Certified Public Manager. **wroblewski@eri-wi.org**



## Austin's Woodshack

**Austin Kallas - Zak**  
Handcrafted Signs



## Beth's Culinary Creations

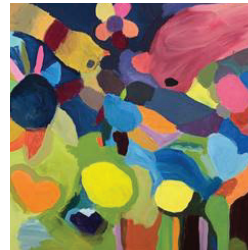
**Beth Cornell**  
Maple syrup, gourmet jams and natural skin products  
[www.facebook.com/bethsculinarycreations](http://www.facebook.com/bethsculinarycreations)



## Black Cat Designs

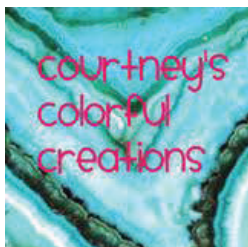
**Jennifer Sebranek**  
Art, hats, pillows, fun

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



## Caleb's Art

**Caleb Griswold**  
Greeting cards with paintings and graphic design by Caleb



## Courtney's Colorful Creations

**Courtney Kaufmann**  
Jewelry, wire work, sewing items, aromatherapy jewelry, crochet  
[www.facebook.com/courtneyscolorfulcreations1](http://www.facebook.com/courtneyscolorfulcreations1)



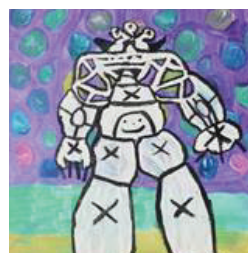
## Creative Impulse Crafts

**Rach Gerard**  
Unicorn headbands, rice bags, tooth fairy pillows, deco-letters, hair ties, rings

## Curt's Closet

**Curt Kussow**  
Nature themed T-shirts and mugs

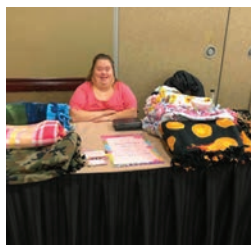
[barnett@advemp.org](mailto:barnett@advemp.org)



## Danny Universe

**Dan Severson**  
Art, art related products

[www.dannyuniverse.com](http://www.dannyuniverse.com)



**Heidi Creative Creations**

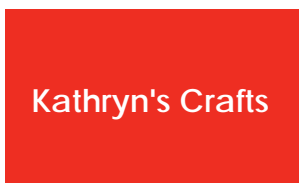
**Heidi Johnson**  
Fleece tie blankets

[www.heidiscreativecreations.com](http://www.heidiscreativecreations.com)



**Kathleen Designs**

**Kathleen Coogan**  
Amazing original art and products



**Kathryn Singleton**  
Pillows, scarves, crafts



**Made by  
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Created by  
Christa**

**Christa and Melinda Beloin**  
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jewelry, bookmarks, etc.

[2xyork@gmail.com](mailto:2xyork@gmail.com)



**Making  
Lemonade  
with Ben**

**Ben Perreth**  
Book: Making Lemonade with Ben

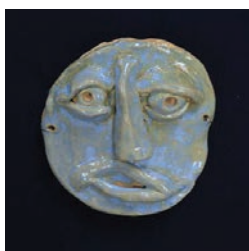
[www.makinglemonadewithben.com](http://www.makinglemonadewithben.com)



**Matt Ward  
Enterprises**

**Matt Ward**  
Origami, fractals, and drawings

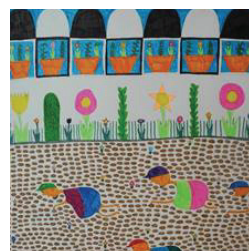
[www.mattwardenterprises.com](http://www.mattwardenterprises.com)



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**Robert Hanneman  
Greenhouse Art**

**Robert Hanneman**  
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Ryan's Artastic Art

Ryan Gobeli  
Paintings

<https://www.artworking.org/ryan-gobeli>



Saphronia Purnell

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Sassy D's

Lakesha Braggs  
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Soap products

[anna.mathy@nttdata.com](mailto:anna.mathy@nttdata.com)



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polymer clay charms and figures

[www.facebook.com/yvasart](http://www.facebook.com/yvasart)

# Exhibitor Directory

<b>Advocates4U</b> IRIS Consultant Agency <a href="http://www.irisadvocates4u.org">www.irisadvocates4u.org</a>	<b>Consumer Direct Care Network Wisconsin</b> IRIS Consultant Agency / Fiscal Management Services <a href="http://www.consumerdirectwi.com">www.consumerdirectwi.com</a>
<b>Alianza Latino Aplicando Soluciones (ALAS)</b> Bilingual Advocacy and Family Services <a href="http://www.alianzalatinawi.org">www.alianzalatinawi.org</a>	<b>Disability Rights Wisconsin</b> Advocacy Services Protection and Voting Rights Information <a href="http://www.drwi.org">www.drwi.org</a>
<b>ARTS for ALL Wisconsin</b> Art Programs <a href="http://www.artsforallwi.org">www.artsforallwi.org</a>	<b>Employment Resources Inc.</b> Employment consulting for community integrated employment <a href="http://www.eri-wi.org">www.eri-wi.org</a>
<b>Bethesda Lutheran Communities</b> Bethesda College, Project SEARCH, independent living skills, career and community connections <a href="http://www.bethesdalhc.org">www.bethesdalhc.org</a>	<b>First Person Care Consultants</b> IRIS Consultant Agency Services <a href="http://www.firstpersoncare.com">www.firstpersoncare.com</a>
<b>Care Wisconsin</b> Managed Care Organization <a href="http://www.carewisc.org">www.carewisc.org</a>	<b>GT Independence</b> Fiscal Employer Agency <a href="http://www.gtindependence.com">www.gtindependence.com</a>
<b>Carepool</b> Transportation Technology Solution <a href="http://www.carepool.us">www.carepool.us</a>	<b>iLife</b> Fiscal Employer Agency <a href="http://www.iLIFEfms.com">www.iLIFEfms.com</a>
<b>Community Living Alliance</b> Direct Support Services Provider <a href="http://www.clanet.org">www.clanet.org</a>	<b>Inclusa Inc</b> Managed Care Organization <a href="http://www.inclusa.org">www.inclusa.org</a>
<b>Community Living Connections Inc</b> Independent Living Services <a href="http://www.clconnections.org">www.clconnections.org</a>	<b>InControl Wisconsin</b> Advocacy Nonprofit <a href="http://www.incontrolwisconsin.org">www.incontrolwisconsin.org</a>
<b>Connections / LSS</b> IRIS Consultant Agency Services <a href="http://www.lsswis.org">www.lsswis.org</a>	<b>Life Navigators</b> Special Needs Trusts, Self-Advocacy Resources <a href="http://www.lifenavigators.org">www.lifenavigators.org</a>



# Exhibitor Directory

<b>Lori Knapp Companies</b> Fiscal agent, fiscal conduit, shopping services <a href="http://www.loriknappcompanies.com">www.loriknappcompanies.com</a>	<b>Progressive Community Services</b> IRIS Consultant Agency <a href="http://www.pcsdane.org">www.pcsdane.org</a>
<b>Michelle's Action Angels Community Outreach</b> Autism themed crafts <a href="http://www.michellesactionangels.org">www.michellesactionangels.org</a>	<b>Respite Care Association of Wisconsin</b> Statewide Respite Care and Advocacy <a href="http://www.respitecarewi.org">www.respitecarewi.org</a>
<b>Microsoft</b> Information & Technology <a href="http://www.microsoft.com">www.microsoft.com</a>	<b>Sengistix</b> Remote Health and Safety Support <a href="http://www.sengistix.com">www.sengistix.com</a>
<b>Mom's Meals</b> Home Delivered Meals <a href="http://www.momsmeals.com">www.momsmeals.com</a>	<b>Shepherds College</b> Post-Secondary Educational Program <a href="http://www.shepherdscollege.edu">www.shepherdscollege.edu</a>
<b>MyChoice Family Care</b> Managed Care Organization <a href="http://www.mychoicefamilycare.org">www.mychoicefamilycare.org</a>	<b>Special Olympics Wisconsin</b> Athletics Training and Mentorship <a href="http://www.specialolympicswisconsin.org">www.specialolympicswisconsin.org</a>
<b>Night Owl Support Systems LLC</b> Remote Monitoring Services <a href="http://www.nossllc.com">www.nossllc.com</a>	<b>The Arc Wisconsin</b> Advocacy and nonprofit materials <a href="http://www.arcwi.org">www.arcwi.org</a>
<b>Outreach Health Services</b> Fiscal Employer Agency <a href="http://www.outreachhealth.com">www.outreachhealth.com</a>	<b>TMG</b> IRIS Consultant Agency <a href="http://www.tmgwisconsin.com">www.tmgwisconsin.com</a>
<b>People First Wisconsin</b> Self-Advocacy Nonprofit <a href="http://www.peoplefirstwisconsin.org">www.peoplefirstwisconsin.org</a>	<b>Waisman Center</b> Information and Resources <a href="http://www.waisman.wisc.edu">www.waisman.wisc.edu</a>
<b>Premier Financial Management Services</b> Fiscal Employer Agency <a href="http://www.premier-fms.com">www.premier-fms.com</a>	<b>Wisconsin Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE)</b> Employment Trainings, Information & Assistance <a href="http://www.wiapse.org">www.wiapse.org</a>

# Exhibitor Directory

<b>Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (WI-BPDD)</b> Advocacy and Systems Change Resources  <a href="http://www.wi-bpdd.org">www.wi-bpdd.org</a>	<b>Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol</b> Information to protect, defend, and report Medicare fraud, errors, and abuse  <a href="http://www.gwaar.org/senior-medicare-patrol">www.gwaar.org/senior-medicare-patrol</a>
<b>Wisconsin Council of Physical Disabilities</b> Emergency preparedness toolkits  <a href="http://www.cpd.wisconsin.gov">www.cpd.wisconsin.gov</a>	<b>Wispect</b> Special Needs Trusts  <a href="http://www.wispact.org">www.wispact.org</a>
<b>Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition</b> Voter Accessibility, Voting Rights, Advocacy and Educational Materials  <a href="http://www.disabilityvote.org">www.disabilityvote.org</a>	<b>Yoga Accessible For All (YAFA)</b> Health and Wellness  <a href="http://www.synergytherapeuticayoga.com">www.synergytherapeuticayoga.com</a>
<b>Wisconsin Family and Caregiver Support Alliance</b> Family Caregiver Support Network  <a href="http://www.arcwi.org/wisconsin-family-caregiver-support-alliance">www.arcwi.org/wisconsin-family-caregiver-support-alliance</a>	





## Help Desk

Technology can be great fun and connect us to exciting new worlds, but it can also be confusing! Do you have questions about technology? The Help Desk is here for you! Pete Juvinall, TMG IT Manager, and his team have partnered with Widen Enterprises, Inc, to bring the Help Desk to you. This fun and brainy group is happy to help you navigate the latest technologies!

The Help Desk can also troubleshoot problems you're having with your smartphone, tablet, laptop or other high-tech gadget. Please swing by during the Networking Breaks, or schedule a time to speak with an IT representative by signing up at the TMG table. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Thank you to our Conference Planning Committee!

Patti Becker, Cindy Bentley, Cathy Derezinski, Carrie J. Gartzke, Sherry Gundlach, Vicky Gunderson, Norah Jahnke, Ashley Mathy, Shannon McKinley, Chris Patterson, Philip Temme, Sue Urban, and Rebecca Wetter



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## Notes

[illegible]

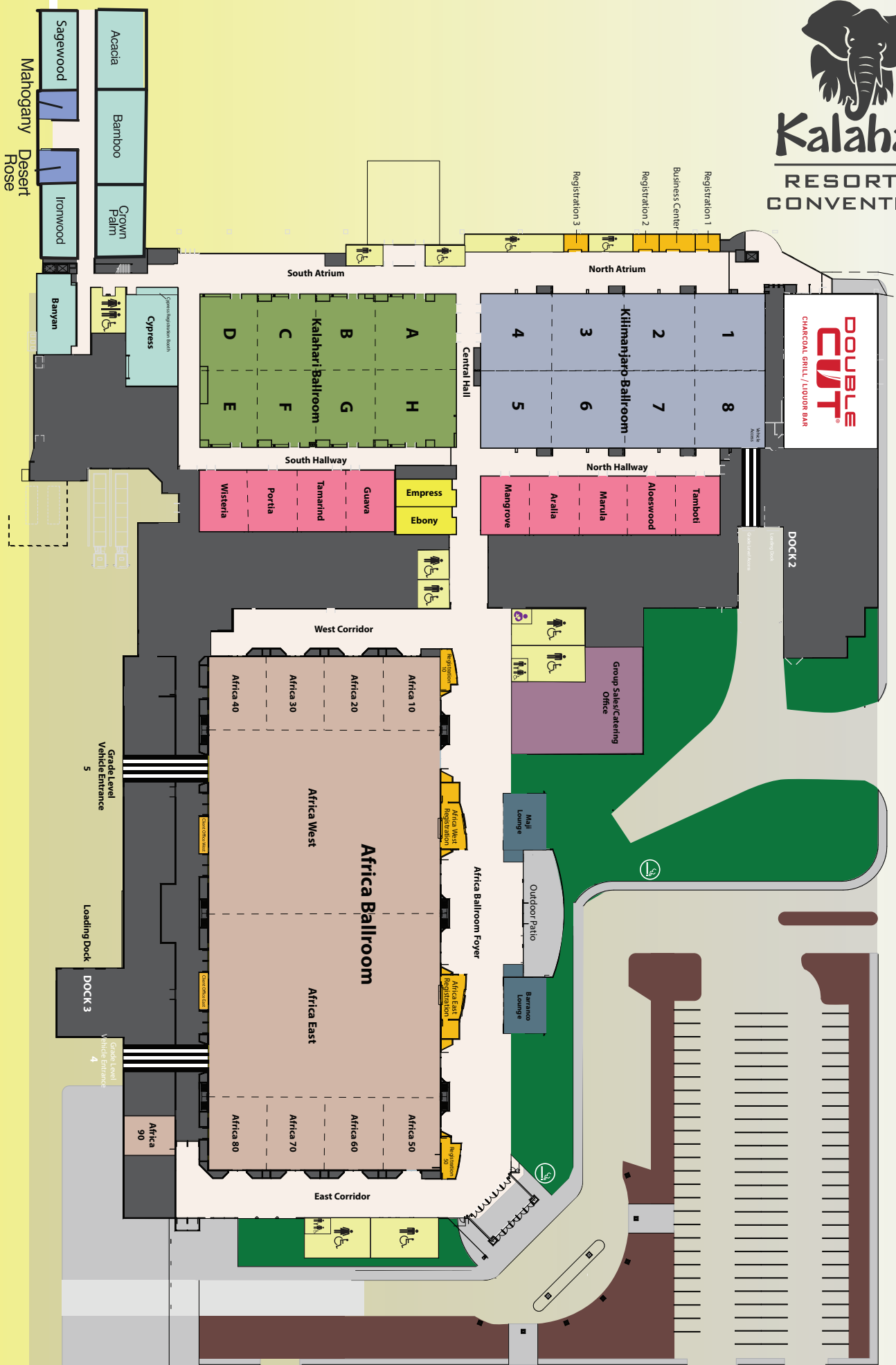
## Notes

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## Notes

[illegible]



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- ✓ Call for Presenters Opens: February, 2020
- ✓ Call for Exhibitors Opens: March, 2020
- ✓ Registration Opens: July, 2020

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# Thank You!

The Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities, People First Wisconsin, and InControl Wisconsin would like to thank you for attending this year's conference. See you next year!

