

Welcome to the 9th Annual Family Support Network/Ligas Informational Seminar



*Family Support
Network of Illinois*



We are generously funded by a grant from the Illinois Department of Human Services

Welcome our Presenters

- Sherri Schneider, President, Family Benefit Solutions
- Ronnie Cohn, Ligas Court Monitor
- Allison Stark, Director, Illinois Division of Developmental Disabilities
- Brian Rubin & Benji Rubin, Rubin Law
- Amy Newell, Director, Arc of Winnebago County

The Family Support Network (FSN)

Our Mission:

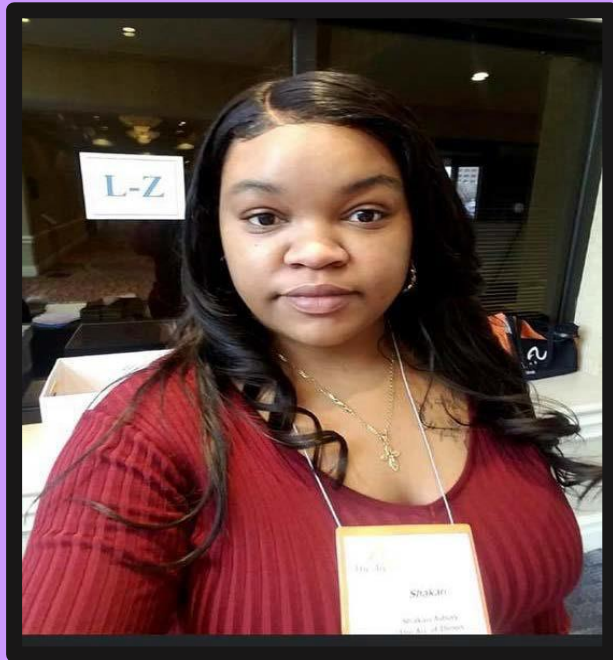
- The mission of the Family Support Network is to unify individuals with disabilities and their families to advocate for funding, services and community resources that strengthen and support the individual and the family directly by responding to their individual needs and empowering them to live in their own homes.

Troy Markert



- Troy Markert joined the Arc of Illinois Family Support Network as our Family Advocate Specialist, bringing with him over 20 years of experience in troubleshooting issues that families face. He has filled a significant gap in family advocacy; increasing our ability to assist families with unique and difficult situations, particularly in downstate Illinois.
- Within his role, relationships with ISC's, families, and other developmental disability organizations have expanded, increasing the resources that can be offered to families in need of information and support.
- The addition of the Family Support Specialist role has strengthened our ability to effectively advocate on behalf of families and self-advocates.

Shakari Asbury



- Shakari Asbury, Family Support Network Assistant and Liaison, continues to interact with families and self-advocates who call the FSN/Ligas office looking for support and resources.
- She works with and assist in getting individuals registered for Know Your Options events. She continues to support the Family Support Network Director in Partnering with organizations and connect with families who have loved ones not receiving services to share information.
- FSN continues to develop our relationships with core partners. In these challenging times we are happy to have Shakari respond out to our families and provide resources and support.

What we do:

- ◆ Our program partners with families and other support groups and organizations to provide support, education, and connection around developmental disability policy, legislative advocacy, and problem solving. We work in partnership with families who are experiencing difficulties navigating the developmental disability service system in Illinois.
- ◆ Our goal is simple – enhance a family’s ability to support an individual with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) to live as independently in the community as possible, with the supports and services that help them meet their unique goals.

Why reach out to FSN?

- ◆ Interest in becoming involved in legislative advocacy
- ◆ Difficulty locating a provider who can meet your family's needs
- ◆ Conflict or concern regarding access to services or service delivery that has gone unresolved
- ◆ Ongoing barrier within the developmental disability service system that you have been unable to resolve on your own
- ◆ Need for additional supports and services for your family due to changing circumstances
- ◆ Interest in connecting with other families who are advocating for needed services for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Illinois
- ◆ Connection to core developmental disability programs and resources throughout the state to assist families with immediate support needs and planning for future support needs
- ◆ Assistance with advocating for social, recreational, and community resources for those with **I/DD**

Thank you to our Exhibitors & Sponsor

- ACCE\$ - Avenues to Consumer Employment Services and Supports, Northern Illinois: 7820 Graphics Drive, Suite 106, Tinley Park, IL 60477; Central/Southern Illinois office: 830 South Spring Street, Springfield, IL 62704, Toll Free Number: 877-223-7781, <https://mycil.org/>
- Envision Unlimited, <https://www.envisionunlimited.org/>
- Family Benefit Solutions, 847-279-8506, benefithelp@aol.com
- Family Transition Project: <https://www.thearcofil.org/about-us/programs/family-transition-project>
- Rubin Law, Special Needs Legal & Future Planning, <http://rubinlaw.com/>
- Amy Newell, Arc of Winnebago County: <http://www.arcwbo.org/home0.aspx>
- Community Service Options, Inc. <http://www.cso1.org/>
- Prudential, **Nancy Roach-Wilder**, CFP[®], ChSNC[™], Certified Financial Planner, Prudential Advisors, Chartered Special Needs Consultant, 1901 Butterfield Road, Suite 250, Downers Grove, IL 60515, T - 630-442-6806, F - 877-840--7826, M - 224-305-2257

RUBIN

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Dedicated to the protection and well being of families with special needs.



Winnebago, Boone and Ogle Counties



Thank you!



Thank you for joining us!

- Meg Cooch, Executive Director, Arc of Illinois, meg@thearcofil.org
- Shirley Perez, Director, Family Support Network & Ligas Family Advocate Program, shirley@thearcofil.org
- Troy Markert, Family Support Specialist, troy@thearcofil.org
- Shakari Asbury, FSN Liaison, shakari@thearcofil.org
- Megan Mutti, Ligas Family Advocate, Central/Southern Illinois, megan@thearcofil.org
- Ruth Aguilar, Ligas Family Advocate, Northern Illinois, ruth@thearcofil.org



Thank you for your generous donations!



Sherri Schneider



Katherine & James Hamann

Please join us in thanking our Executive Director, Meg Cooch!

- Thank you for your leadership, vision, and guidance throughout your time at the Arc of Illinois

