



The Arc of Illinois 2026 Convention

Panel Presentation: Artificial Intelligence as a Positive Resource: At work and in your life

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

2 PM to 2:45 PM



Welcome



The Arc of Illinois 2026 Convention

Panel Discussion

Artificial Intelligence as a Positive Resource: At work and in your life

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Panel Discussion

Artificial Intelligence as a Positive Resource: At work and in your life

Agenda

1. Welcome and Review of Agenda
2. Introductions and Presentations from each Panelist
3. Questions from the Moderator to the Panelists
4. Artificial Intelligence Demonstration
5. Questions, Answers and Discussion
6. Wrap Up and Thank You



Panel Introductions



Panel Introductions

1. Gary Arnold, Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities
2. Sydney Badeau, Arc Wisconsin
3. Chad Sobieck, People First Wisconsin
4. Jada Thompson, The People's Lobby

Panel Introductions

Each Panelist will introduce themselves and answer the questions below.

1. Who are you?
2. Where do you live?
3. What do you do during the day?
4. What Artificial Intelligence Platforms do you use?
5. How do those AI platforms support you?

Gary Arnold

- My name is Gary Arnold.
- I live in a Chicago Suburb called Oak Park.
- I work for an Illinois Agency called The Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities.
- I sometimes use Artificial Intelligence to support research I do for work (ChatGPT). I also use Artificial Intelligence to help me create graphics for work and for my hobbies (ChatGPT).



The Arc Illinois Conference

Sydney Badeau



How Sydney uses Co-Pilot

- Helps edit emails to sound more professional.
- Brainstorms ideas for more slides.
- Looks over documents to see if there is a topic idea I'm missing.
- Can explain challenging words or metaphors someone says in a meeting.

How Sydney Uses NotebookLM

- Uploads a document.
- Has it make a video or audio overview of the document to help me understand it or know what is missing.
- Creates flashcards about it.



How Sydney uses Gemini AI

- Adds events and reminders to her calendar.
- Assists with challenges that arise with work.



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How Sydney uses Whisper Flow AI

- To dictate emails or messages when on her phone.
- To help get ideas out when tired of typing.



Chad Sobieck

- My name is Chad Sobieck.
- I am a proud disability advocate.
- I am currently an intern of the Arc Wisconsin; President of the People, First Wisconsin Madison Chapter; President, Youth leadership Forum Board.
- My primary goal is to enhance the independence and rights of myself and people with disabilities to live their best lives.



Chad Sobieck

- Write emails
- Create tables in spreadsheets or Documents
- Brainstorm ideas
- Speech dictation
- Writing



Jada Thompson

Chicago, Illinois

- The People's Lobby
- Best Buddies Global ambassador
- The Chicagoland Autism Connection
- CTA ADA Advisory Committee
- Disabled People of Color Coalition





Questions from the Moderator for the Panel

Panel Questions

1. What advice would you give to someone who has not used Artificial Intelligence but would like to try it?
2. Is there anything we should watch out for when we use Artificial Intelligence?
3. How can we keep ourselves safe when we use Artificial Intelligence?
4. Is there anything new you are excited to try with Artificial Intelligence?



ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE

Artificial Intelligence Demonstration



Discussion





Thank You

Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities
The Arc of Illinois Convention
April 29, 2026

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