

I want to learn more. Who can I contact?

You can send an email to
Self-Advocates of Michigan
at [mdhhs-dd-
council@michigan.gov](mailto:mdhhs-dd-council@michigan.gov).

Self-Advocates of Michigan

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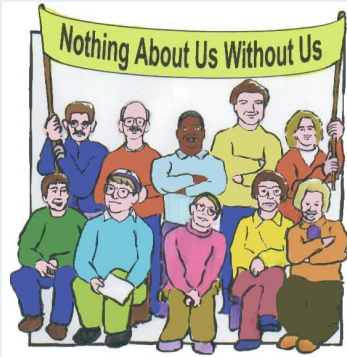
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Self-Advocates of Michigan





Who is Self-Advocates of Michigan?

Self-Advocates of Michigan (SAM) is a statewide organization led by leaders with developmental disabilities. It promotes the values of diversity, inclusion, equal rights and the self-determination of individuals with disabilities. It respects the capabilities of people with disabilities. Self-Advocates of Michigan is guided by the principle of "Nothing About Us Without Us". This principle means no policy should be decided without direct participation of people whose lives will be affected by that policy or decision.

How can I participate in Self-Advocates of Michigan (SAM)?

Who can be a member?

A voting member is an individual who:

- identifies as a person with an intellectual and/or a developmental disability,
- lives in Michigan, and
- is 18 years or older.

What are the expectations of members?

Members are expected to:

- Support the mission, vision, and purpose,
- Advocate for policies that reflect the values of SAM,
- Help SAM achieve its goals, and
- Attend activities and events of SAM whenever possible.

Why should I join?

As a member, you will:

- Advocate with others who have a shared vision,
- Increase the voice of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and
- Network and connect to other peers.

What is the Mission, Vision, and Purpose of Self-Advocates of Michigan?

Mission: To empower people with developmental disabilities to advocate and take ownership of their lives.

Purpose: To advocate for independence, inclusion, freedom, opportunity, respect and dignity, while making the public aware of the abilities of people with developmental disabilities throughout Michigan.

Vision: To empower people with developmental disabilities to live fulfilling lives according to their own choices.

