



FAMILY SUPPORT
NETWORK

6th Annual Informational Seminar



presented by



*The Arc of Illinois, Family Support Network and
the Ligas Family Advocate Program*

AGENDA

March 22, 2018

8:30 - 9:00 a.m. - **Registration and Visit with Vendors**

9:00 – 9:15 a.m. - **Welcome and Overview**
Presented by Shirley Perez, Director, Ligas Family Advocate Program

9:15 - 10:30 a.m. - **“Learn More Than You Can Imagine about Government Benefits!”**
Presented by Sherri Schneider, President of Family Benefit Solutions, Inc.

Sherri's presentation will update us on the confusion around Medicaid benefits, Re-determination and so much more! Her informative interactive presentation will discuss: the who, what, where and when of SSI, SSDI, IL Medicaid, Medicare, how benefits change over a lifetime, how NOT to lose these benefits and what these benefits can pay for.

10:30 - 10:40 a.m. - **Break**

10:40 a.m.-12:10 p.m. - **“Understanding CILS and What Benefits are Offered to Families”**
Presented by Ryan Croke, Executive Director, Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living

This presentation will educate you about Illinois' 22 Centers for Independent Living which are among more than 400 Nationwide. All CILs are non-residential, nonprofit community-based organizations that work with individuals and their families to secure decent healthcare, housing, education and employment.

12:10 - 1:10 p.m. - **Lunch**

1:10 – 2:30 p.m. - **“Things You Need to Know About Guardianship and So Much More...”**
**Presented by Barry G. Lowy, Director, Office of State Guardian,
Guardianship and Advocacy Commission**

All the information that you need to know about Guardianship, issues and tips on how to address difficult situation when the ward and the guardian are not in agreement. Come learn about House Bill 2665 that provides for training of newly appointed guardians!

2:30 - 3:30 p.m. - **Visit with Vendors**

About the Presenters

Ryan Croke



Ryan Croke is the Executive Director of the Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living. Immediately prior to this role he served as Associate Chancellor for Public Affairs at the University of Illinois Springfield.

As the son of deaf parents, INCIL's mission of equal opportunity, dignity and inclusion is personal to Ryan. Illinois' 22 Centers for Independent Living are among more than 400 nationwide. All CILs are non-residential, nonprofit community-based organizations that work with individuals and their families to secure decent healthcare, housing, education and employment.

In addition to his work at UIS and with INCIL, Mr. Croke was instrumental in prioritizing accessibility, inclusion and integration for people with disabilities during almost a decade of service in state government. As Deputy Chief of Staff (and later Chief of Staff) to Governor Pat Quinn, Mr. Croke was co-chair of the state's "Employment and Economic Opportunity for People with Disabilities" task force, where he spearheaded efforts to promote community-based, integrated employment as the first option for individuals with all types of disabilities. He previously served on the Board of the Springfield Center for Independent Living, and currently serves on the Boards of Directors for the Boys & Girls Club of Central Illinois and Innovate Springfield (a tech and nonprofit startup incubator).

In 2012 Mr. Croke was recognized by the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired "for visionary efforts in advocating for individuals who are blind." INCIL is a statewide association of 22 Centers for Independent Living that advocates for the integration and inclusion of people with disabilities in Illinois. The association also promotes the professional development, improvement, and expansion of community-based, consumer-controlled CILs, and promotes community education throughout the state.

Barry G. Lowy



Beginning January 2017 Barry G. Lowy assumed the position of Director of State Guardian with the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission. During his first year with OSG he participated in efforts to pass House Bill 2665 that provides for training of newly appointed guardians, has established a satellite OSG office at Shapiro Developmental Center to bring better service to OSG residents of that facility, and acted to secure the rights of 310 remaining OSG Ligas class members.

Prior to this position he had been with Equip for Equality from February 1999, initially as a senior attorney, then as project manager and supervising attorney of Equip for Equality's probate and protective cases. He has litigation experience across multiple subjects dealing with persons with disabilities ranging from individual representation in state probate court to federal class action litigation on behalf of adults seeking developmental disability services in community settings and was part of the Ligas class counsel team. He has litigated multiple adult guardianship cases on behalf of

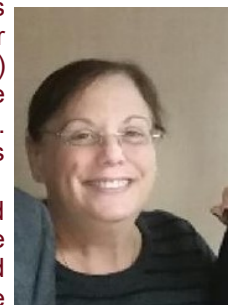
individuals with developmental and psychiatric disabilities including the appellate decision of Guardianship of Muellner v. Blessing Hospital which prevents guardians from compelling wards with mental illnesses into nursing homes against their wishes.

He has a law degree from Tulane University School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Lake Forest College.

Sherri Schneider

For more than 25 years, Sherri Schneider as founder of Family Benefit Solutions, Inc. has been tirelessly dedicated to helping individuals with special needs and their families. Her career began as a Case Manager in a Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA) where she helped those with developmental disabilities and mental illnesses acquire the government benefits they so desperately needed, including SSI, Medicaid and food stamps. She was instrumental in creating one of the first Community Living Facility (CLF) facilities funded under a Medicaid waiver.

Sherri now meets privately with families to thoroughly assess their individual situation and pursue the appropriate benefit assistance program(s), personally guiding them through the application process. Based on her vast experience, she has skillfully established and maintained open, productive relationships with government agencies involved in the decision-making process. Professionals find her in-service expertise to be invaluable as they navigate the government benefit process.



Cost & Registration

March 22, 2018 - 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Registration 8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Registration Fees for Participants are:

Arc/FSN/Ligas Members:

Self-Advocate/Family Member..... \$ 0
Professional.....\$100.00
Vendors\$160.00

Non Arc/FSN/Ligas Members:

Self-Advocate/Family Member..... \$ 0
Professional.....\$130.00
Vendors\$195.00

*Vendors - Please note round tables with table covers will be provided. If you need a rectangular table, you must make a special request when registering. These tables are limited and will be assigned in the order they are requested and payment processed.

The registration fee covers the cost of materials, refreshments and lunch. Professionals and Vendors, please complete the attached registration form, fax it to 815-464-5292, then mail the hard copy along with your check to:

The Arc of Illinois
20901 S. LaGrange Rd., Suite 209
Frankfort, IL 60423
815-464-1832

Notice of any special accommodations is required Two Weeks prior to the event. Contact The Arc of Illinois at 815-464-1832.

FAMILIES AND SELF-ADVOCATES

THIS IS A FREE EVENT for Families and individuals with disabilities. However, registration is required. Families only please register by sending an email to Shirley@thearcofil.org or calling 708-331-7370!

CEUs will be offered for this training. Licensed Social Workers, Licensed Nursing Home Administrators and QIDP's signing in and out on the day of the event are entitled to four (4) credits.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS Participants canceling their registration 72 hours in advance will be entitled to a credit or refund, less a \$50.00 administrative cost. No refund or credit will be given for cancellation less than 72 hours before the seminar.

LOCATION

Heritage Plaza Banquet Facility
The Bethune Room
1500 West 95th St.
Chicago, IL 60643

Located directly across from the Third Baptist Church. There is free parking in the Church parking lot. NO Parking in the Currency Exchange lot!

Registration Form

"6th Annual Informational Seminar"

March 22, 2018

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One form per person, please print legibly.
Your name will appear on your name tag
as it appears on this form.

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Agency/Vendor: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

AMOUNT PAYABLE:

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

_____ Fax form and send check to The Arc of Illinois
(815-464-5292)
_____ Check enclosed payable to The Arc of Illinois
_____ P.O. or State Voucher # _____
_____ Charge to my Credit Card

Name as it appears on credit card: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Card holder's signature: _____



651 E. 159th Place
South Holland, IL 60473

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**THERE WILL BE VARIOUS VENDORS
WITH INFORMATION ON WHAT'S NEW
IN MEDICAID, CILS,
STATE GUARDIAN AND MORE!**

LOCATION

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Facility
1500 West 95th St.
Chicago, IL 60643**