



**Twenty-Ninth Annual
Developmental Disabilities Day**

Registration & Workshop Information

MY HOPES, MY DREAMS,



MY FUTURE

Thursday, May 18th, 2017

Doors open at 8:00 am

The Conference Center Niagara Falls

101 Old Falls Street - Niagara Falls NY 14303

Visit www.ddday.org to register online

2017 Features

**Innovative Workshops - Concession Service - Agency and Vendor Fair
Art Gallery - Live Performance/Interactive Area - Parents Corner
Awards Luncheon - Open Reception**

Presenting Sponsor



www.parkviewhs.com

2017 DD Day Registration Form

Name: _____

Agency (if appropriate): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____ Phone: _____

I am a(n) (please check all that apply):

Individual with Disability Family Member Professional Other _____

How did you hear about DD Day?

Print Advertisement Social Media Other _____

I am registering for:

Workshops and Lunch (\$35) Lunch Only (\$20) Workshops/Fair Only (\$15)

Lunch Choice: (All lunches come with fruit cup, chocolate mousse, and bread sticks)

Turkey Dinner
 Julienne Salad (Gluten Free)
 Spring Risotto (Vegetarian and Gluten Free)

Registration Scholarship

I am an individual with a developmental disability and/or have a family member with a developmental disability and would like to apply for a scholarship to attend the workshop and fair only. **Scholarships are limited – apply early!**

SESSION NUMBERS											
Please circle your workshop for each session. Register for only one workshop per session.											
Session 10:30 – 12:00	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Session 1:45 – 3:15	12	13	14	15	16	17	18				

Important 2017 Registration Information

- Registration deadline is **May 9, 2017**.
- Register online at <http://www.ddday.org>
- Registration on the day of conference is \$20 – **No lunch is provided.**
- Mail this registration form (above) with your payment (checks must be made out to DD Day) to:

DD Day 2017 – PO Box 46 – Strykersville, NY 14145

Additional accommodations: If you need an interpreter, FM loop, or other accommodations, please contact Becky Popiel at (716) 655-5043

2017 Schedule	
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Registration
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Welcome - Partnership and Art Logo Award Announced
9:30 am – 10:15 am	Keynote Presentation
10:15 am – 10:30 am	Break and Fair
10:30 am -12:00 pm	Morning Workshops
12:00 pm – 12:15 pm	Break and Fair
12:15 pm – 1:30 pm	Awards Luncheon
1:30 pm – 1:45 pm	Break and Fair
1:45 pm – 3:15 pm	Afternoon Workshops
3:30 pm – 5:30 pm	Reception (Music by “Universal Mind”)

OPENING PRESENTATION

9:15 AM – 10:15 AM

Jamie Brewer, Star of FX’s “American Horror Story”

In her keynote speech, Jamie will focus on advocacy, diversity, and inclusion and how they impact the lives of persons with disabilities. She will also speak about the Arts and will discuss how everyone can fulfill their hopes and dreams. Finally, Jamie will share video clips of her experiences, as well as host a Q&A session for those in attendance.

BIOGRAPHY

Jamie Brewer is a guest artist at Yale School of Drama. She lives in the Los Angeles area, and is best known for her recurring roles over 3 seasons of AMERICAN HORROR STORY. In Murder House, she played sweet Adelaide the daughter of Constance (Jessica Lange), in Coven as Nan a "witch in training" who called out Madame Delphine LaLaurie (Kathy Bates), and she appeared in Freak Show as Marjorie, Chester’s (Neil Patrick Harris) nasty little ventriloquist doll. In 2015, Jamie was the first woman with Down syndrome to walk in New York’s Fashion Week in Carrie Hammer’s collection “Role Models not Runway Models.” Jamie has a strong voice as an advocate for the community with disabilities and has served on the Governmental Affairs Committee for the state of Texas. Jamie has received her Musical Theatre Certificate, completed her first year of Meisner's studies, and is working toward her Bachelors of Fine Arts.



Intended Audience Key: I=Individual, F=Family, P=Professional, E=Everybody

#1. Keynote Breakout Session

Jamie Brewer, Actress and Advocate

Jamie will discuss her challenges and successes of being an actress with a disability in Hollywood today. There will be time during her session for questions and answers.

#2. My Choices, My Responsibilities-Living a Self-Directed Life!

Harpeet Saran-Rokicki, Fiscal Intermediary, People Inc., Stacia Paluszynski, Fiscal Intermediary, Aspire of WNY, Marcie Gruttadauria, Fiscal Intermediary, Community Services for the Developmentally Disabled (CSDD), Nicole Costner, Independent Living Program Coordinator, Community Services for the Developmentally Disabled (CSDD), and Robert Kozlowski, Fiscal Intermediary, Aspire of WNY

Self-Direction is not just a buzz word! Self-Direction offers amazing choices for living your life to the fullest but also comes with equally awesome responsibilities. Let us help you decode self-direction, share some amazingly creative ways people are using these individualized supports to live their dreams, and perhaps inspire you to join the journey! The presenters represent four WNY agencies providing self-directed services and will provide you with tools and information to help you self-direct your life. (E)

#3. Special Education Rights and Responsibilities

Phylcia Brown, Special Education Advocate Urban School Districts and Carol Pearce, Director of Family Support Services and Intake, Learning Disabilities Association of Western New York

This presentation is a discussion on the rights and responsibilities of families related to the Special Education process, to include a panel discussion with a special education advocate, psychologist, special education teacher, and general education teacher. (F, P)

#4. Developing an Emergency Preparedness Program in a Human Services Organization

Thomas Ess, Associate Vice President Residential Services / Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, People Inc.

Developing an Emergency Preparedness Program in a Human Service Organization outlines the steps needed to develop a robust Emergency Preparedness Plan in a Human Services organization that serves a vulnerable population. Using the principles from the Harvard Kennedy School Leadership in Crises Program and the lessons learned from the two-year development of the People Inc. Emergency Preparedness Plan, the presentation will provide Administrators insight into what is needed to handle and prepare for natural or man-made disasters. (P)

#5. Safe at Home: Skill-Building for Safer Independent Living

Molly Clifford, President of Prevention 1st and Julia Engstrom, Program Coordinator of Community Health Strategies

Prevention 1st is finishing a pilot program of 30 individuals with I/DD to build fire safety and injury prevention skills. People with I/DD living independently are at greater risk for unintentional injuries, but through personalized assessment and training, individuals can reduce risks and increase confidence in staying safe at home! Through an interactive presentation, audience members will learn how they can apply "Safe at Home" principles in their own lives and those of the people they care for. (F, I)

#6. A Positive Representative of Parenting a Child with Disabilities: Lessons and Practical Applications for Professionals, Parents and Caregivers

Donald Levin, Author

Donald Levin is the author of four mystery novels in which the main characters are a police detective, Martin Preuss, and his son Toby, a teenager with profound handicaps. Reviewers often comment on the characters' loving relationship and the accurate, sympathetic portrait of Toby. This presentation will discuss how the author developed the character of Toby and will also describe the novels' positive representation of parenting a child with disabilities. The talk will be instructive for professionals, parents, and caregivers. (F, I)

#7. If you couldn't read this, Could Assistive Technology Help?

Kim Naus, MS.ED.BBA, Coordinator of CAT Client Services, University of Buffalo, Center for Assistive Technology, Carol Nottingham, MS. CRC, Certified Rehabilitation Counselor, Parent Network of WNY, and Erin Brunelle, Research Support Specialist, University of Buffalo

This presentation will include an introduction to and sampling of smart devices, apps, and software that assist individuals at all levels of reading. We will combine demonstration, discussion, and hands-on activities with a range of ideas for the beginning, struggling, or adult reader for whom reading standard print is difficult. Assistance with accessing reading services will also be provided at the CAT vendor table. We look forward to making a difference in your reading ability! (E)

#8. Pathways to Housing

Linda Rinaldo, Associate Vice President/Housing Navigator, People Inc., Chris Albee, Residential Director/Housing Navigator, Heritage Centers, and Timothy Gorny, DDPS1/Housing Coordinator, OPWDD

In this presentation, presenters will cover materials and provide information to I/DD individuals, family members, providers, and their circle of supports on the various ways to pursue non-certified housing options. The methods presented would include self-direction pathways, housing navigator methods, and non-certified housing mechanisms to explore in housing searches to promote independence. (E)

#9. Special Needs Ministries Within Our Churches

Susan Spiesz, Special Education Teacher and Co-Founder of E1M (EveryOne Matters) Ministries and Tricia Doricko, CPSE Assistant of Grand Island School District

When local churches reach beyond the comfort zones and embrace families with special needs children, *the entire fellowship is blessed in dramatic ways*. In this presentation, attendees will discover some practical steps on how to invite people with disabilities and their families into the fold of Christ's fellowship and will hear stories that will inspire and encourage you as you embark into the exciting world of disability ministry outreach. Additionally, you will learn about what some local churches are doing to reach out to individuals affected by disability. It is our vision that Every church and every pastor in Western NY be personally involved in disability ministries, which allows the love of God to flow in all directions. (F, I)

#10. Effectiveness of a Sensory Adapted Dental Environment on Behavior. Anxiety and Completion of Dental Visits for Individuals with Disabilities

Larrie Wagner and Morgan Nims, Kaylie Potter, and Brianna Breeding, Occupational Therapy Students, SUNY at Buffalo

SUNY at Buffalo students are completing a research study on how sensory adaptations used during dental examinations effect the success of the dental procedures, the anxiety, and the behavior of children with developmental disabilities. In this presentation, adaptations, behavioral approaches, motor techniques, and results from this study will be summarized and shared. We will also provide individuals, caregivers, and healthcare professionals with information on applying techniques to decrease anxiety and uncooperative behaviors, as well as tools to improve oral health for individuals with developmental disabilities. (F, P)

#11. Self-Directed Services-SDS-An Introduction

Lisa Harrington Associate Director of Workforce Development, Aspire of WNY, Mike Rogers, Grassroots Presenter, Western/Buffalo Region, Self-Advocacy Association of NYS Advocacy and BJ Stasio, Self-Advocacy Coordinator of OPWDD

Self-directing your services and supports may be an option for you! The aim of Self-Directed Services (SDS) is to shift your role from being a passive participant to becoming a partner and leader of your supports and services. This presentation will provide you with a basic introduction to what Self-Directed Services are, from people who live it every day! Come and learn about the options and choices that may be available to you. (E)

#12. Winner of the Partnership Award will share best practice ideas and tips to workshop attendees.

#13. It's My Life: I'm Hiring (Self-Directed Services, hiring and managing your own staff)

Cyndy Rathbun, Program Specialist, Parent Network of WNY

In this workshop, individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members will learn the necessary skills to identify and use Self-Directed Services in the most effective ways. Easy-to-use tips and strategies will be provided to help find, choose, and keep high quality Direct Support Professionals. (E)

#14. It's My Life-It's All About Me. (Person Centered Planning)

Rick Banner, Self-Advocacy Coordinator and BJ Stasio, Self-Advocacy Coordinator of OPWDD

Person Centered Planning is the foundation of meaningful services and supports for persons with disabilities. This workshop includes hands-on experience with tools, to help develop effective person centered plans that identify the various needs of an individual (e.g. habilitation needs, health care or behavioral needs) and strategies to address these needs. (E)

#15. Inclusion through Advocacy-Initiatives that Work

David Whalen, Founder, Disability Awareness Training; Project Director, Niagara University First Responders Disability Awareness Training

As noted by the National Organization on Disabilities, INCLUSION is the leading domain in addressing equality for individuals with disabilities; however, it 'just doesn't happen'. Individuals with disabilities and disability advocates must take the lead in ensuring this occurs. Disability Awareness Training, based at Niagara University, will introduce the audience to proven initiatives, most recognized at the state and federal level that move INCLUSION forward through advocacy and empowerment. Guidance, tools, and resources will be provided. (E)

#16. TIES (Together Including Every Student)

Kathy Costello, TIES Program Director, Starbridge

Together Including Every Student (TIES), developed in 1997 by two parents of children who have disabilities, promotes the participation of students and young adults who have developmental disabilities in inclusive, organized extracurricular and community activities through the support of trained student volunteers. Participants are able to join activities of their choice in their school and/or community with support of a trained peer volunteer where previously, they may have been supported by an adult, such as a parent or paraprofessional, and were not included. (F, P)

#17. "The 15 Most Powerful Words of all Time"

Sammy Violante, Inspirational Speaker

Do you want to accomplish your most true and everlasting recovery? Are you ready to discover the ultimate answer for your most personal hopes, your greatest dreams, and your amazing future? Come listen to Sammy V who presents an amazing recovery story from major adversities in his life and through this incredible journey. He has found his true purpose and ultimate passion in life. "If I can do it, you can do it." "I'd love to tell you how I did it." (F, I)

#18. How I Learned to Rethink Autism

Lisa Reye and Lisa Clinton, mothers of Philip and Kaylie, who have nonverbal autism

This talk will chronicle Lisa and Lisa's journeys with their children from diagnosis, early interventions, the struggle of not having communication, and finally their breakthroughs to communication through Rapid Prompting Method (RPM). Now able to communicate through spelling on a letterboard and typing, Philip and Kaylie have been able to access mainstream education and advocate for others through their blogs and appearances in media such as Channel 2 News, The Buffalo News, Parents Magazine, The Mighty, and Sesame Street Be Amazing Autism Initiative. Lisa and Lisa are the founders of Buffalo RPM, an organization dedicated to teaching Rapid Prompting Method to families in Western New York. (F)

Event Features

DD Day is proud to announce the following new and exciting additions this year:

Parent Welcome Table

Table will be located in the main foyer for parents to use as a resource after checking into registration. Support will be on hand to give guidance on workshops and the venue setting.

Performance/A Healthy You – Mind, Body, Soul

Various performers including music, poetry and dance will entertain throughout the day. Located in the Cataract Room. There will be light refreshments in the afternoon. *A Healthy You* includes Yoga, Zumba, Healthy snacks, and Self-expression!

Art Gallery

Displayed throughout the building, agencies from around WNY showcase the many talents of their art programs. As always, the art exhibit will feature this year's winning DD Day logo design, along with the runners-up. The winning logo design can also be found on merchandise that is available for purchase at the DD Day Souvenir Shop, throughout the conference.

Parent Corner

Please stop by to speak with professionals who will help you navigate the multiple and often times confusing systems. It will be located in the vendor fair area.

Agency and Vendor Fair

A wide variety of agencies and vendors who serve people with developmental disabilities will be on hand to provide information and linkage for everyone in attendance. **For the first time, some vendors will be selling a few of their products at the conference, so be sure to bring some extra money for shopping!**

Concessions will available on the day of the event.

DD Awareness Day Merchandise

A variety of items will be available for purchase to commemorate this event:

T-shirts \$10.00

Tote Bags \$10.00

Water Bottle \$10.00

Additional merchandise will be available on the day of the event.

Reception – 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Please join us for a reception featuring the hip sounds of **Universal Mind**. There will be free pop and appetizers, along with a basket raffle and cash bar. You must be present to win the basket raffle.



A Healthy You Mind, Body & Soul

**This year we will be offering
a custom-made area for those
attendees who want to experience
something a little more interactive.**



**Yoga, Zumba, Healthy Snacks,
Interactive Demos and Self-expression!**

Located in the Cataract Room



Find us on social media!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ddday2017>

Twitter: @DDDayOfficial

Wordpress: <https://dddayofficialblog.wordpress.com>

Flickr: DDDayOfficial

Email: developmentaldisabilitiesday@gmail.com

