



Council on Developmental Disabilities



Office of Protection and Advocacy  
For Persons with Disabilities



A.J. Pappanikou Center for Excellence  
in Developmental Disabilities

# Connecticut Partners in Policymaking 2012

---

---

## *A Self Advocacy Training Program*

*“Building partnerships to make a difference  
in the lives of persons with disabilities”*

**Partners in Policymaking  
Training Schedule and Application  
APPLY TODAY!**

**Space is limited.**

***Deadline for Applications is Friday, January 6, 2012.***

**A Project of:**

The Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities

***In partnership with:***

The Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities

The A.J. Pappanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities

# **What is Partners in Policymaking?**

---

---

The goal of Partners in Policymaking is to foster a collaboration among people with disabilities, parents who have children with disabilities, and policy makers at national, state and local levels. Partners teaches people to be community leaders.

Graduates of past Partners in Policymaking training in Connecticut have become involved in key policy and advocacy roles in the state. The graduates of Connecticut Partners in Policymaking often become members of boards, councils, task forces and advisory committees. Some move into paid positions addressing policy and program issues for people with disabilities and their families. They are recognized as skilled and capable leaders in disability issues in their communities and in the state.

# **Who Should Apply for Partners?**

---

---

- Parents of children with disabilities
- Individuals with disabilities

Participants should be able to actively participate in training and discussion and complete an independent advocacy project. Twenty-eight (28) participants will be selected to attend this training program. One half of the participants will be parents of children with disabilities and one half will be individuals with disabilities.

**All applicants should be willing and able to make a commitment to attending all seven sessions.**

*Participants will be required to sign a contract agreeing to attend all seven sessions and complete their selected project. Participation in all sessions is required in order to graduate from the program.*

# When and Where is Partners Training?

---

---

- The Connecticut Partners in Policymaking training consists of seven weekend training sessions with nationally recognized speakers and state experts in disability issues. All training is provided at no cost to participants, including the cost of overnight accommodations and all meals.
- Sessions are held at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel, 275 Research Parkway in Meriden. Training begins at 5PM on Fridays and runs until 4PM on Saturday.
- The seven training sessions will be held on the following dates in 2012:  
February 10-11      April 13-14      June 8-9      September 14-15  
March 9-10      May 11-12      August 10-11

*PLEASE NOTE THESE DATES WHEN SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION.  
PARTICIPANTS MUST ATTEND ALL SESSIONS—NO EXCEPTIONS.*

- The project will provide dinner on Friday night and breakfast and lunch on Saturday.
- All hotel costs including overnight accommodations and meals will be paid by Connecticut Partners in Policymaking
- The project will pay for transportation, personal assistance services and child care costs to a limited number of participants who need and request this assistance.

## How Do I Apply?

---

---

*Complete the enclosed application form or contact:*

Molly Cole, Director  
CT Council on Developmental Disabilities  
460 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106  
860-418-6157      800-653-1134 toll free      860-417-6172 TTY  
[Molly.cole@ct.gov](mailto:Molly.cole@ct.gov)

# You Can Make A Difference!

---

---

## *You Will Learn To:*

- Increase your skills in leadership and advocacy.
- Meet and dialogue with leading experts in the field of developmental disabilities.
- Develop grassroots efforts to affect public officials and public policy.
- Understand resources and services, and access needed supports.

## Topics Will Include:

---

---

- History of the Disability Movement
  - Self Advocacy
  - Independent Living
  - Inclusive Education
  - Employment and Housing
  - Building Inclusive Communities
  - Natural Supports
  - Assistive Technology
  - Effective advocacy skills
  - Legislative process and skills for public testimony and policy advocacy
- 
- 



Partners in Policymaking  
CT Council on Developmental Disabilities  
460 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106



Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities  
60B Weston Street  
Hartford, CT 06120



A.J. Pappanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities  
263 Farmington Avenue  
Farmington, CT 06030-6222