



Illinois Stakeholders: You're Invited!

Future of the Field Virtual Conference Day

Thursday, March 16th

10AM - 12PM and 1PM - 3PM CT

The National Leadership Consortium on Developmental Disabilities, funded by the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities (ICDD), is pleased to offer a **FREE Virtual Conference** on the future of the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities field.

This conference is open to Illinois disability service providers, legislators, ICDD Council members, people with developmental disabilities and self-advocates, family members and anyone else in the intellectual/developmental disabilities field. Registration will be limited to 500 people, so [register soon!](#)

Schedule:

Welcome

Session 1: Future of the Field: Where are We Going? (10:00 – 11:00 AM CT)

Session 2: Advocacy & Changing the System (11:00 AM – 12:00 PM CT)

BREAK (12:00 – 1:00 PM CT)

Session 3: The Workforce: Challenges and Innovations (1:00 – 2:00 PM CT)

Session 4: Ache of Your Absence: A Discussion on Belonging (2:00 - 3:00 PM CT)

Attendees will leave the training with:

- Increased knowledge related to current trends and directions in the intellectual/developmental disabilities field nationally.
- An understanding of how these trends affect the future of the services that providers offer.
- Examples of strategies and resources that will be helpful to improve the quality of services offered in Illinois.

To register for this webinar, [please click here.](#)

For Questions – contact Kristen Loomis at kloomis@natleadership.org

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Speaker Information

We are excited to share information below about our speakers! More to come!

Session: Ache of Your Absence: A Discussion on Belonging

Erik Carter, Luther Sweet Endowed Chair in Disabilities, Baylor University



Erik Carter is the Luther Sweet Endowed Chair in Disabilities at Baylor University and Executive Director of the [Baylor Center on Developmental Disabilities](#). His research and writing focus on principle-driven and research-based strategies for promoting full participation, belonging, and valued roles for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). He is particularly interested in the intersection of faith and disability, where his work focuses on calling, equipping, and supporting churches to be places of deep embrace and contribution for individuals with IDD and their families.

Session: Advocacy & Changing the System

Max Barrows, Outreach Director, Green Mountain Self-Advocates



Max Barrows is Outreach Director for Green Mountain Self-Advocates, a position he has held since 2007. He mentors youth and adults with developmental disabilities to speak up for themselves and become leaders. GMSA is a lead partner of the [Self-Advocacy Resource and Technical Assistance Center \(SARTAC\)](#). Max leads SARTAC's technical assistance team assisting local and state self-advocacy organizations across the nation. Max connects with people on all levels advocating for true-inclusion of people with developmental disabilities. In his work, he advances the message that when you meet an individual with a disability, presume competence. He received a [White House Champions of Change award](#) for this work in 2015 and [Champion of Equal Opportunity award from the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities](#) in 2019. Max is an accomplished self-advocate from Vermont who served as a board member for [Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered](#) from 2008 to 2016.