
Illinois Imagines

April 2015



Regional Trainings Held

In March, Illinois Imagines held four Regional Meetings across the state to train self-advocates and allies how to use the "Guide for Starting Empowerment Groups." The trainings were held in Chicago, Rockford, Macomb and Savoy and more than 100 people attended. Thank you to everyone who came together with enthusiasm and left with tools to start peer support groups in their communities. We have already heard of groups which are in the planning phases. Keep us informed and let us know if we can be of any assistance.



Rachel Broudreau (left), Patty Morgan (center) and Teresa Sies attended the training in Macomb.

Spotlight

McLean County

The McLean County Chapter of Illinois Imagines participated recently in "Coffee with a Cop." A news article is linked below. Netia Carey, self-advocate, is seen talking with an officer in the newspaper photograph.

Since the interaction, members of the McLean County team have been invited to attend Role Call at the Bloomington Police Department.

This is a nation-wide program, so it might also be available in your community.

http://m.pantagraph.com/news/let-s-talk-event-brings-cops-community-together/article_65237bcd-14d7-5378-8039-a12fc9a2ba18.html?mobile_touch=true

Webinar Schedule

○ **May 20, 10:00-11:00 a.m. - McLean County Chapter - Past, Present, Future**

Members of the Illinois Imagines McLean County Chapter share their history, accomplishments, struggles, rebirth and current actions. All collaborations have ups and downs. Come and learn about the experiences of the people on this team.

Central Illinois Collaborative going strong

The Central Illinois Imagines Collaboration serving Peoria, Tazewell and Woodford Counties began as a pilot site for the statewide Illinois Imagines initiative. Our collaboration joins the Center for Prevention of Abuse Sexual Assault Program with numerous disability service providers including Advocates for Access, the Special Education Association of Peoria County, EPIC, the Department of Rehabilitation Services, the Guardian and Advocacy Commission, the Illinois

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Family Violence Coordinating Council, and others. In the beginning, team members facilitated cross training and assessments of our respective agencies' ability to respond to survivors with disabilities and responding to trauma. Over the years, our team has focused on providing prevention education to individuals living in group home settings, youth and young adults in school settings and has even provided a very successful 6 week healthy relationship group for men and women



Members of the Central Illinois Imagines Collaboration recently met. The team serves Peoria, Tazewell and Woodford Counties and has been meeting for the past seven years.

attending EPIC. The program is fortunate to have two very dedicated self advocates, Patti Morgan and Theresa Sies. The self advocates

participate in every training session along with Rachel Boudreau, Prevention Educator at the Center for Prevention of Abuse



Members of the Illinois Imagines statewide team held trainings on the Guide to Starting Empowerment Groups. Trainers at the events were: Front row left to right: Mary Suggs, Mary Hettel and Shirley Paceley. Back row: Marge Parker, Krescene Beck, Alice Kieft and Teresa Tudor.

SAAM I Am

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM).

Please be aware that many local rape crisis

centers and teams will be hosting events throughout April. It would be great to have self-advocate representation at as many events as possible during SAAM. If you take part in events, please send photos to sblack@icasa.org.

