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# Illinois Imagines

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May 2015



## True-Funk honored for work with team

April 22, 2015, Illinois Imagines Champaign team and Public Policy Committee member Kerri True-Funk received the Lois Haight Award of Excellence and Innovation from the Victims' Rights Caucus of the U. S. House of Representatives. Kerri was nominated for the award by Representative Rodney Davis (R-IL 13th) for her work with the Champaign County Illinois Imagines Team and her dedication to making rape crisis services available to all survivors. The award is named in honor of Judge Lois Haight, a long-time victims' rights advocate from California. The award was presented during National Crime Victims' Rights Week in a ceremony held at the Rayburn Office Building. Congratulations Kerri!



*VRC award recipients pictured below from left to right: Robin Smith from Video/Action; Kerri True-Funk; Bill Brady from Truckers Against Trafficking; Mary Travers Murphy; and William Kellibrew, IV.*

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## 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.

## Spotlight



### Lake County

One of the agencies on the Illinois Imagines Team in Lake County is working with the first responders in their area. Center for Enriched Living sits on the Lake County Team and they have been doing these amazing trainings the past couple of years with the fire departments around their community to promote disability awareness and also train on how to respond to calls with people of different abilities. Below is a link for the news report that abc7 came out and did on the training.

<http://abc7chicago.com/668482/>

The Illinois Imagines Team in Lake County plans to do a similar training with law enforcement. We hope this inspires many of you to do the same.

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## June Webinar topic set

Three self-advocates from Illinois were asked to participate with two others from Washington D.C. in a panel where we would be asked questions by VERA folks and by the audience. For the June webinar, we are going to recreate some of those questions. We will be asked: How we got to where we are? How our passion for people with disabilities who have been sexually abused has helped get laws passed, helped local collaboratives consolidate and rely on each other?

If you have an idea for a webinar contact Shirley Paceley at [SPaceley@ma-conresources.org](mailto:SPaceley@ma-conresources.org)

## Kansas City Bound

The state team is preparing to go to a national "Grantee Meeting" sponsored by the Office on Violence Against Women in Kansas City in late May. Several team members will be presenting workshops focused on the Illinois Imagines toolkit or doing plenary sessions. Our goals are to not only to share about Illinois Imagines, but to bring new ideas back to share with all of you.



## Silent Witness

Linda Sandman, right, and Lisa Cesal of the Illinois Imagines Chicago collaborative took part in the Standing Silent Witness event sponsored by Rape Victim Advocates during Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April.

## 2015 Annual Conference on Independent Living

Caprisha Willimams, self-advocate on the DeKalb Team asked that we share this link to the national Independent Living Conference.

<http://www.ncil.org/2015-annual-conference-on-independent-living/> Caprisha hopes to attend as a youth member and is saving money so she can attend. She hopes to see some other people there from Illinois Imagines teams. Thanks for sharing this Caprisha!

## It's the Riot

Check out the Riot magazine on Relationships and Romance. The Riot is a magazine by and for self-advocates. We would love to see some Illinois self-advocates submit articles or art work to the Riot in the future.

<http://www.theriotrocks.org/blog/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Relationships-Romance-Booklet-14.6.24.pdf>

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