



# Partners in Policymaking®

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Who is eligible to participate in this program?

This program is designed for adults who have a developmental disability, as well as parents of young children who have a developmental disability.

### How are participants selected, and when will I know if I've been selected?

A review committee will select participants based on several criteria. Class size is limited to 35. Applicants will be notified of the status of their application by the first week of January 2016.

### What is the time commitment required of those who are chosen to participate in this program?

Participants are required to attend eight weekend sessions, February to September. The sessions are from 12:00 – 9:00 p.m. on Friday, and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. We take a mid-afternoon break on Friday, and a mid-morning break on Saturday.

**Is there work to be done between monthly sessions?** There are monthly homework assignments that build upon the topic(s) addressed during that session. The assignments are to be turned in at the following session.

### Where are the weekend sessions held?

The April session takes place in Jefferson City, MO; all other sessions are in Columbia, MO.

### Are there any fees to attend?

There is no charge to attend. The program is funded through the Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council.

### Who pays for my overnight stay and travel expenses?

Overnight accommodations are provided as part of the program. You will be paired with a same gender classmate in a double occupancy room. Mileage reimbursement is also available.

### What about meals?

You are responsible for getting your own lunch on Friday before the session begins. Dinner on Friday, as well as breakfast and lunch on Saturday, are provided as part of the program, and at no cost to you. All meals provided will be on site.

### Is there financial assistance available to help pay for child care / respite, and / or personal care attendants?

No on site services are provided, but a reimbursement allowance is available for those who need it.

### What are the topics that will be covered during the eight sessions?

The topics included are as follows:

- History of disability, including the parent, self-advocacy, and independent living movements
- Education
- State and Federal Legislation
- Community Living and Employment
- Guardianship and Self-Determination
- Positioning, Positive Behavior Supports, Emergency Preparedness, and Futures Planning
- Sexuality
- Community Organizing