What has SABE done in the past 4 years? Many inspiring events have happened for SABE these past years I have served as President.

We were awarded a Project of National Significant (PNS) grant from the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD). The name of the Project is Self Advocacy Technical Assistance Center otherwise known as SARTAC. We have created a website that has all kinds of resources for people with disabilities and self advocacy groups. Check it out www.selfadvocacyinfo.org

We have meet with the Executive Directors and staff from the DD Network to see how they can support the self advocacy movement. Ask yourself this, “How can the DD Network help?”

When tragedies and disasters occurred Nationally, SABE was happy and proud to support and donate money to states in need. We dedicated money to help self advocacy groups keep in touch and to aid self advocates in their state.

We have continuously educated legislators when the opportunity strikes, especially on Medicaid issues, and it has been many times lately. People still need to share their stories about why services are important to them and why they should not be cut. Self Advocates and Allies from TASH and SABE have participated in rallies and even spent the night on the capitol lawn to fight for our rights.
SABE Executive Committee
Tia Nelis, President
Illinois, Region 5
Cathy Enfield, Vice President
Missouri, Region 4
Chaqueta Stuckey, Secretary
South Carolina, Region 6
Ryan Duncanwood, Treasurer
California, Region 2
Darren Morris, Sergeant At Arms
Alabama, Region 6

SABE Board Members
Region 1
Jason Billehus, Montana
Region 2
John Britton, Arizona
Region 3
Vicki Wray, Colorado
Region 4
Joan Schiele, North Dakota
Region 5
Carrie Varner, Minnesota
Region 7
Gary Rubin, New Jersey
Region 8
Anne Fracht (MA) & Eric McVay (ME)
Region 9
Dee Banta, Oklahoma

2018 SABE Conference
LET’S MAKE IT HAPPEN!
DISABILITY RIGHTS ARE CIVIL RIGHTS

SABE 2018 Conference
Registration Has Been Extended!
June 7-9, 2018
Birmingham, Alabama

Early Bird Register by
Tuesday, June 5th, 2018
For more info and to register visit
sabeconference.org

For more information about the SABE Conference
http://sabeconference.org/
Exciting NEWS!
My Technology Handbook 2 Update!

Both books answer questions that most of us who are new or just learning about technology. They provide answers to many questions by using step by step direction and how to videos to learn these skills. To view the current videos go to: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLHe4SX3HJvyvIsmeJ0u_jsTrcVwpbh20M

My Technology Handbook 2 topics include:

- **Access to Technology**—The chapter will talk about how to access technology and how to use it.

- **Internet Safety**—This chapter will talk about how to protect yourself on the internet and how to search for information on-line.

- **How to use Technology in your home**—This chapter will talk about how to manage your home using technology.

- **Using social media**—This chapter will talk about how to use social media to talk about your self advocacy group.

The SABE My Technology Handbook 2 is made possible through a grant by the Coleman Institute.

How long have you been a self advocate?
I've been a self advocate my whole life! I gave my mom and sisters a hard time. I always asked for what I wanted. That was my job! But seriously, I got involved with People First of Illinois in the mid-1990s.

What is the biggest issue for self advocates?
The issues are Medicaid and transportation for self advocates in our People First of Arizona group.

Where do you see SABE in 5 years?
I see more people getting involved and joining the Self Advocacy movement. By getting more people involved, we can get more things done.

What advice can you give to those new to the self advocacy movement?
Be patient. It take time when you are learning new things like:
- How to be a good leader
- How to be part of a group
- How to get involved where you live
- How systems work
- And my favorite, how to vote

Where do you see yourself as a self advocate in 5 years?
Even though my term is about to end, I will still volunteer with SABE projects. I will keep working on the employment project and on the SABE GoVoter Project.

When you're not doing self advocacy work, what do you like to do?
I like to go on a roll about town and take my fiancé on a dinner date. Tell people about my job at Target. I have worked there for over 18 years.
What is the mission of SARTAC?
It has been SABE’s vision to be recognized as the national “GO TO” resource for self advocacy. SARTAC is the first step of our vision. The mission of SARTAC is to strengthen the self advocacy movement by supporting self advocacy organizations to grow in diversity and leadership.

What are the activities of the Center?
~Create and manage a website where self advocates can learn about the best ways to organize and support the self advocacy community
~Use social media like Facebook and Twitter to communicate with the self advocacy community
~Share best practice tools created by the Regional Self Advocacy Technical Assistance Centers and by self advocacy organizations and allies from across the nation
~Work with a 12 person Advisory Committee to review and create self advocacy information and a Think Tank
~Share the history of the self advocacy movement
~Share the self advocacy and civil rights leaders about the same or differences about our struggles for our rights
~Share success stories in self advocacy through webinars and video blogs
~Provide training and assistance to local, self advocacy organizations and partners
~Provide a planning grant for the state organization who hosts the 2018 and 2020 SABE conference
~Provide 24 self advocates with policy and leadership fellow opportunities

How is SARTAC managed?
The Center’s Management Team is lead by SABE and includes partnerships with: ASAN, GSMA, SWI, TASH, and UMKC.
For more information about the project, contact Teresa Moore, Director 602-725-3117 or Vicki Hicks-Turnage sa-be.SARTACinfo@gmail.com

Also Like us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/SelfAdvocacyResourceandTechnicalAssistanceCenterSARTAC/
Meet the 2018 SARTAC Fellows

The Self Advocacy Resource and Technical Assistance Center (SARTAC) is a project of SABE and is excited to announce the 2018 Policy and Leadership Fellows. SARTAC and the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities is pleased to provide this leadership opportunity for self advocates. Meet the 6 fellow and their host organization. Learn about how they will help the self advocacy movement.

Meet Fellow: Samuel Capozzi from California
His Host Organization: Autism and Communication Center At California Lutheran University

Meet Fellow: Thomas Caswell from Vermont
His Host Organization: Champlain Community Services
The Project: “I know who I am and I feel welcome!” Learn from self advocates who are LGBTQ and autistic how our self advocacy groups can be more welcoming. Does your group have goals to increase membership? Does your membership plan include being culturally diverse?

Meet Fellow: Kelsey Cowley from Indiana
Her Host Organization: Self-Advocates of Indiana
The Project: Developing a peer-to-peer training model to provide education on healthy relationships, sexuality, and sexual violence prevention. Do you like share your experiences and training to help other advocates stop abuse?
Meet the 2018 SARTAC Fellows

Meet Fellow: Kevin Greenstein from New York
His Host Organization: Self Advocacy Association of New York State (SANYS)
The Project: Invisible No More - Using Strong Relationships to Improve Policy. The project will write a Handbook that will teach self advocates on how to work on issues with elected officials that help their community. Does your group use role play to get ready for important meetings?

Meet Fellow: Sorretie Jaro from Washington
Her Host Organization: Washington State Office of Developmental Disabilities Ombuds
The Project: Empowering Legislative Advocates Through Video. The project will teach self advocates how to research bills on important issues. One of the activities will be to create a guild on how to make a video to send to legislators. Would you like to tell your legislators how you feel about issues?

Meet Fellow: Nicole LeBlanc from Maryland
Her Host Organization: National Disability Rights Network
The Project: A Toolkit for self-advocates on the importance of competitive employment laws. The project will also create fact sheets for legislators about employment for people with disabilities. Have you heard of Employment First in your state? Tell people why you want a real job. Are there rules getting in your way?

Do you have a great idea? At the end of 2018, we will announce the next fellowship opportunity for 2019. If you have questions, get in touch with Teresa Moore at mooreadvocacy@hotmail.com
The Importance of Completing the SABE Voter Experience Survey

Self advocacy groups have been telling us they are worried about their services being cut.

They ask SABE, “What can we do?” We know the way Americans get their voices heard is by voting. That is why the SABE GoVoter Project works so hard to learn about YOUR voting experience. By completing the survey, we can share your comments with election officials.

A successful voting experience is a shared one. If everyone does their part, our right to an independent and private vote will result.

- **Voters** must be prepared
- **Local** and **State Election Officials** must make voting accessible and safe
- **Law makers** must pass legislation and guidelines that protect our right

What makes the SABE survey different is that it collects first-hand feedback directly from you, the **voter with disabilities**. The SABE GoVoter Project works with state P&As and Self Advocacy groups to collect Voters with Disabilities Experience Surveys.

We cannot expect legislators to know what are needs and problems unless we tell them. When you complete this survey, you are telling them what they need to know about the voting process for person with a disability.

The more completed surveys we collect, the **better** the Report will be, and the more that election official will **listen** to us and **take action**.

Because it **DOES**!
And the Winners Are!

The SABE GoVoter Project recognizes self advocates from the states of Florida, Illinois and North Carolina. They collected the most Voters with Disabilities Experience Surveys for the 2016 Election. This was done by state and local self advocacy groups working with their state Protection and Advocacy organizations.

These individuals earned free registration to the 2018 SABE National Conference for their hard work and commitment to making sure voters with disabilities have a good voting experience. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to voting. And, thank you to self advocates across the nation who completed the survey.

David Taylor, Jr.
North Carolina

Arizona Jenkins, III
Florida

Derrick Morris
Illinois
SABE GoVoter Project

This year, Arkansas, California, and Indiana self advocacy groups and P&A are working together. They participated in the SABE GoVoter SABE Voter Project “How to Get the Best Out of Your Voter Project Training!” webinar series. In the next newsletter we will share the activities they did with voters with disabilities in their state.

You may have done the vote training with SABE in the past. SABE now offers it online with updated materials. If you have more than one P&A office in your state, we would like for you to have you apply next year. Interested? Email Teresa Moore at mooreadvocacy@hotmail.com.

Theses are the states that have completed the SABE GoVoter Distance training:

Would you would to help SABE collect surveys in your state?

Contact
Essie Pederson at essiepederson@gmail.com

Are you registered to Vote?

Remember to Vote on November 6, 2018!

Complete the 2018 Voters with Disabilities Experience Surveys after the November 6, 2018 Election to make sure your experience is included in the SABE Report.
Members from SABE, Jason Billehus, John Britton, and Max Barrow with supports from Juliana Huereña and Karen Topper meet monthly.

**The Truth Comes from Us.** Employment professionals play a powerful role in the pursuit of true inclusion. This paper by self-advocates outlines key steps on how allies can move people with developmental disabilities out of poverty and into the heart of our communities. As employment professionals receive more education, they will be in a better position to empower the people they support to pursue their dream careers.

**APSE EMPLOYMENT FIRST STATEMENT**, Adapted by Green Mountain Self Advocates and Self Advocates Becoming Empowered. All people with disabilities should have opportunities to work. Public dollars should be used to pay for supports for people to work in the community. Copy the link to view statement.

**A Purpose in Life: Why Employment First Matters to Self Advocates**, This paper talks about the Employment First movement and what it really means to people with disabilities. People with disabilities told us that they want to work in real jobs for real pay.

You can read these white papers on the RRTC Employment Project page at [www.sabeusa.org](http://www.sabeusa.org)
SABE members in Alabama talking about the 2018 SABE Conference.
Early bird Register has been Extended to June 5, 2018
SABE works hard to save you money.
We have not raised our conference registration since 2006.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
SABE Nomination Form 2018 Roland Johnson Award

Roland Johnson was an outspoken person and leader in our national self advocacy movement. He was one of the founding members of SABE. SABE gives the Roland Johnson Award to honor a self advocate for his or her hard work in the self advocacy movement.

Fill out the form on the conference website and send it in before April 30, 2018
We need the name of the self advocate to get the award and the name, phone number, and email address of the person making the nomination. Tell us what they have done in self advocacy. Tell us what groups or organizations they have been involved with. Include the persons’ contact information. (Use more pages, if needed.)

Parade of States
A tradition at the National Self Advocacy Conference is the parade of states. The conference committee would like every state to make their own Banner that represents rights important to your members of your organization.
The banners need to be limited in size to no larger than 3x5. If your state already has a banner, you may use it. Please contact Julie Petty at japetty@uark.edu with the name of your state and the name of the person who will carry the banner.

For more information and to register, and list of program sessions and other exciting events visit our website:
www.sabeconference.org
Tips for running for Region Representatives or Alternates
Remember that a state cannot have two people who are elected representatives and or alternates, unless no one from the other states run.
Prepare your 3 minute speech on why you want to serve on the SABE board

Tips for running for an Executive Officer position
You must have served on the SABE Board for one year and be elected as a region representative. Officer candidates can bring: flyers, pictures of themselves, or other items.

In order to run for region representative or alternate, you will have to bring with you to your region meeting (lunch on Friday):

_____ A letter from your self advocacy group or organization telling us about your leadership and experiences.
_____ A letter of support to pay your way to the board meetings from your self advocacy group or another organization or a state agency. This is about $16,000 for a 4 year term.
_____ After you win, sign the SABE Agreement Form

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<tr>
<th>Your First and Last Name</th>
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<td>SABE Region</td>
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<td>Your Mailing address</td>
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<td>Your Email address</td>
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<td>Are you running for:</td>
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<td>_____ Region Representative</td>
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<td>_____ Region Alternate</td>
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Your support contact information

<p>| First and Last Name |  |
| Phone number       |  |
| Email address      |  |</p>
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<th><strong>SABE Activities</strong></th>
<th>If You agree to do the activity, initial</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Be an active member</strong> of a local or statewide self advocacy group for at least 2 years. Continue that participation as a SABE representative.**</td>
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<td><strong>Support and follow all SABE policy statement</strong></td>
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<td>Read the policy statements on the SABE website <a href="http://www.sabeusa.org/meeting-minutes/policy-statements/">http://www.sabeusa.org/meeting-minutes/policy-statements/</a></td>
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<td><strong>Participate and attend SABE meetings and SABE activities.</strong></td>
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<td>I will arrange and or participate in quarterly in person, teleconferencing, on-line, and e-mail discussions on SABE activities. Alternates should be prepared to fill in when needed. <strong>They may attend meetings and vote when the representative is not present as long as they have their own funding.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>I have computer access</strong> and I can respond to e-mails and telephone calls within 2 days or sooner.**</td>
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<td><strong>I will connect with my region states to improve communication with self advocacy groups in my region.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Find out what self advocacy groups are doing</strong> in their states by phone or emails. This information will be shared in the SABE Region Reports, the state self advocacy group contact list, and the SABENation Newsletter.**</td>
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<td><strong>Work together with other region representatives and alternates</strong> to tell them about SABE activities.**</td>
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<td><strong>I will arrange and or participate</strong> in phone calls and e-mail discussions on SABE activities with my region. Possible activities may include host meetings, tours, events, a region conference, webinars, and sharing video blogs.**</td>
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<td><strong>Host SABE board meetings and some local activity.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>I will arrange and or participate in phone and e-mail discussions on SABE activities when I invite SABE to “come to my state” (hotel, ground transportation, meals, local events).</td>
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<td><strong>Share information within your region include the State DD Networks (State Developmental Disability Councils, Protection and Advocacy, and UCEDDs - University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service). I will contact by phone, e-mail and meet with representatives in my region to communicate SABE activities. I will also discuss issues to the self advocacy community and look for opportunities to develop local, state and national partnerships.</strong></td>
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Your signature ____________________________ Date ________________

**First Board Meeting is in September or October, 2018**
Improving Cultural Diversity in Your Self Advocacy group

SABE is in partnership with the Georgetown University Leadership Institute for Cultural Diversity and cultural and Linguistic Competence… a catalyst for change in networks supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities project.

Teresa Coleman currently serving on the SABE Board of Directors and is part of the Grassroots Committee. She is also part of People First of Georgia.

I attended the 2017 Leadership Academy in Santa Fe, New Mexico. At the Academy, I learned how to be a better advocate for my rights and why diversity is so important. Diversity is about culture, language, respect, and celebrating who I am.

As a person with a disability, I want to be treated as equal. I'm working hard to express my thoughts. In the community we need to have better transportation, housing, and work environments. For example, better accessible hotels with automatic doors, curb cuts, and sidewalks. I believe that we are unique. People must come together and fight for fairness. I also believe we should be able to sustain and accomplish more out of our lives. Sure, I am going to need help from others who care about me. But it all starts with me speaking up for myself.