


# Northeast Region Coordinator

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Hello and Happy Spring from the Northeast! This past month we met on March 9th and brainstormed ideas for MEET UPS and our Annual Retreat. On March 22nd Paula shared a form to fill out in case of a medical stay and we made collages about who we are. Thanks to Joseph, Derek and Steven for sharing your collages with everyone. This is a creative way to show staff and others what is important to you! We had a moment of silence for the people of Ukraine and talked over ideas of how to help.

Looking ahead to April we will be meeting on April 6th at 4PM with Stop the Shock and the Marriage Penalty as our two major topics. We'll be connecting with legislators and allies on these issues this month. Please Save the Date for our next MEET UP on May 20th. We are planning A PAINT PARTY with a self-advocacy twist. For June we are planning an in-person Regional Retreat! Some NE members are making plans to attend the West Region Self Advocacy Conference on June 25th!




Please note, starting in April our ZOOM meetings will be once a month on the first Wednesday at 4PM.

Thanks to Joe for joining friends at the Northeast Independent Living Center to talk with legislators about housing. Thanks to Donna and Therese for their work on Self Direction with the MA21 coalition.

We'd love to hear from you (self-advocates of the the NE) about what you want us to work on, so please take a moment to fill out this regional survey and return to Bridget at bridget@wearemass.org : Regional Survey

SDM TASK FORCE Highlights

Thank you to Donna and Kim for your great helping others learn how to do Supported Decision Making as a Peer Guides! Speaking of shout-outs, thank you to our MASS GATOR Researcher, Kamisha, for sharing her work with the SDM Task Force at our March 9th meeting. The GATOR team findings on Transfer of Rights and Guardianship go right along with the work of the task force. Donna, Kim and Marie presented to the Mass Developmental Disabilities Council on March 16th to share highlights of our recent work. The next meeting will be on April 6th at 11:30. On April 14th Chester Finn will be sharing what he learned from our SDM Task Force on a national SARTAC ZOOM Meeting at 1PM. You can read his article here: Chester Finn Paper on SDM with MASS .