

Northeast Region Coordinator
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Happy October from the Northeast Regional Self Advocates! Here's what's happening in the Northeast.

Advocacy

Tim and Paula shared their stories with us at our September 8th meeting and several people talked about how they got involved with Self-Advocacy. Paula said, "MASS is my home." We went over the SSI Restoration Act which would make many improvements to SSI including updating benefit amounts and REMOVING THE MARRIAGE PENALTY.

At our September 22nd ZOOM meeting we shared news, talked about Covid and the latest news, watched the MASS #StoptheShock video and talked about how everyone can help by sharing this info with friends and on social media. Donna attended the new MASS Legislative meeting on September 27th to work on the #StoptheShock petition.

Planning fun events

The Merrimack Self Advocates started up their meetings again this month and the Peer Support Group is meeting up for lunch at Michael's Harborside. The Regional Group is holding a MEET UP on September 29th at the Salem Willows. We are planning another ZOOM Halloween Dance for October 20th at 4PM. All are welcome to join us. Come in costume and ready to dance!

Thank yous and shout outs!

Thanks to Joe and Mindy for creating challenges for a Self-Advocacy Online Escape Room designed as a fun way to learn skills of self-advocacy!

Thanks also to Joe for attending the Human Rights Networking meeting this month to promote MASS and hear a special presentation on the SOUL FOOD Project (https://soulfoodproject.org/). This group is working with DDS to hold a memorial for all those who left us this year in the NE Region. Save the date to attend this event on November 5th.

Leaders working together

Tim and Donna are hard at work meeting regularly with leaders from across the State to plan a Leadership Summit. Several people created their leadership stories for this event including Tim, Seth,

Donna, Anne, Fran, Beth, and Cynthia. Thank you all for your ideas and time. Exciting plans are underway thanks to committee members Al, Cynthia, Anne, Kim, Fran, Donna, Tim, Seth, Beth along with support from regional coordinators Valerie, Sue, Bridget and Oscar.

YOU are Welcome!

We'd love you to share your voice and make a difference! You are always welcome. If you'd like to check out a meeting or start your own group, we are here for you.