

Partners in Policymaking

Partners in Policymaking is an exciting advocacy training programme designed for:

- Parents of children with disabilities aged from 12 to 23 years of age, and
- Adults with disabilities.

Partners in Policymaking is a training programme which seeks to find motivated individuals who are concerned with the challenges of the disability community and to give them the necessary knowledge and tools to effectively bring about change. Partners in Policymaking (Partners) creatively trains its members to influence and work with elected officials, employers, education officials, health professionals and other policy makers who make decisions about the services that are available to young people and adults with disabilities.

The Partners will take place during five two day sessions once a month for five months. This year's sessions will take place near Sandymount in Dublin. It is planned that the sessions will start in September 2009.

24 people will be selected to take part in the course. One night's accommodation per session, meals and course materials will be provided to each participant over the course. All participants are required to commit to attending all five sessions.

Partners is **FREE** to those applicants selected to participate

Application deadline July 23rd 2009

Interested people should complete the attached form and return to

**Geraldine Graydon,
Rehab Group, Roslyn Park, Sandymount, Dublin 4.**

*As places are limited participants
will be selected from all applications received*

Partners in Policymaking Application Form (also available in easy read)

If at any time you have a question, need more information or need help filling out this application form please contact

Geraldine Graydon
Family Support Coordinator,
Rehab Group @ 01 2057214
or
email partners@rehab.ie

1. Personal Details

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town/ City: _____

County: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Home Telephone: _____

Mobile Telephone _____

Are you: **Male** **Female**

Please tick the relevant age bracket:

18 – 25 **25 – 35** **35 – 45** **45 – 55** **55 – 65** **65 +**

Do you have internet and e-mail access? **Yes** **No**

What is your educational background (mark all that applies)?

Primary Secondary

Third Level Vocational Training

Other, please describe

2. Participant profile

Partners in Policymaking is a training programme designed for both people with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities.

Please tick the box which is most relevant to you

I am a person with a disability

Please tick here if you have a personal assistant and if they will be accompanying you.

While personal assistants are, of course welcome to attend with you, Partners is not in a position to fund PA supports.

I am the parent of a child / young adult with a disability (aged 12-23)

Please list any special supports or accommodations you would need to participate in the course (for example: wheelchair accessibility).

Partners in Policymaking will endeavour to accommodate everyone's needs but unfortunately does not have funding for transport costs or personal assistant services. If you have any questions, please call Geraldine, 01-2057214.

3. Can you tell us why you are interested in Partners in Policymaking Course? For example

- *Tell us about areas of concern, or challenges that encourage you to apply for Partners?*

- *Tell us about organisations or similar activities that you have been involved in the past (Support Groups, Disability Organisations etc,)*

4. Can you describe any advocacy work which you have been involved either for yourself or others with disabilities? For example, talking with public officials, talking with teachers or service providers etc.

5. Course Opportunities and Commitment

This course will give you the opportunity to:

- Meet and hear from national speakers, policy makers, and service experts to learn from and interact with.
- Develop a Complete understanding of services and policy toward people with Disabilities.
- Build your knowledge and confidence to bring change for yourself and the society around you.

Costs covered include: hotel accommodations, meals, course fee and course materials. Unfortunately, Partners is not in a position to cover transport costs.

As each session of a Partners in Policymaking course contributes towards a building block we ask participants to commit to:

- Attend all five sessions (session starts on Friday 9.30am, an overnight stay at the provided hotel and ends on Saturday afternoon 4pm. *(The dates for each month are shown at the below)*

Will you be happy to do this?

Yes No

- Complete 2-4 hours of home assignments each month - will you happy to complete the assignments?

Yes **No**

Signature _____

Date _____

Session Dates 2009/2010

Session one	Friday 18th & Saturday 19th	September 2009
Session two	Friday 23rd & Saturday 24th	October 2009
Session three	Friday 6th & Saturday 7th	November 2009
Session four	Friday 11th & Saturday 12th	December 2009
Session five	Friday 29th & Saturday 30th	January 2010

Course sessions are held from:

10.00am on Friday until 4.00pm on Saturday

Application deadline July 23rd 2009

If at any time you have a question, need more information or need help filling out this application please contact Geraldine @ 01 2057214 or email: partners@rehab.ie

Please return completed application form to:

**Geraldine Graydon
Partners in Policymaking
Rehab Group
Roslyn Park
Sandymount
Dublin 4.**