Guy Caruso served as Board President of L'Arche Syracuse for 12 years, an international community for people with and without disabilities. Guy has worked in a number of human service settings over the years - institutional, hospital, residential, recreational, vocational, educational, and counseling. In addition, he worked in private rehabilitation helping injured workers to find suitable employment.

He has worked in Pennsylvania on a number of statewide initiatives providing values related training, technical assistance to counties moving from program to person directed services, self-determination, leadership development, and facilitating personal futures plans. He is the Western Coordinator for the Institute on Disabilities at Temple University. In this position he helped create and now provides technical assistance to a statewide Pennsylvania independent consumer monitoring program that interviews over 6000 individuals with intellectual disabilities yearly, as well as 2500 families. Guy speaks at Partners in Policy Making leadership events in ten states on a variety of topics. In addition, he has been involved in statewide planning in both Pennsylvania and Louisiana. Fee: $2000

COMPETENCIES

☑ Participants will be able to describe the history of services for, and perceptions of, people with developmental disabilities.

☑ Participants will be able to describe significant contributions of the Parent Movement.

☑ Participants will be able to describe the history of the Self-Advocacy and Independent Living Movements.
SESSION 2: INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AND BEYOND

Session 2: Inclusive Education Nuts and Bolts, Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and Assistive Technology

Brief Presentations from Florida Inclusion Network, Early Steps and Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology

Kathie Snow, is an author, public speaker, trainer, and consultant. Her interest in disability issues was born in 1987 with the birth of her son, Benjamin, who was diagnosed with cerebral palsy at four months. Kathie is the author of Disability is Natural: Revolutionary Common Sense for Raising Successful Children with Disabilities. Several universities are using Disability is Natural as a textbook, and articles from her “Revolutionary Common Sense” web page and her free E-Newsletter are frequently reprinted in other publications and websites. She created the Bowl of Apples logo (featured on many of her products) as a way to illustrate a new way of thinking: just as apples are natural, disability—like gender, ethnicity, and other characteristics—is a natural part of life. (This paradigm shift is included in the Federal Developmental Disabilities Act.) Kathie is also the author of the widely-disseminated “People First Language” article. In addition, Kathie is a graduate of the first class of Texas Partners in Policymaking in 1991. She now presents at Partners programs in many states. $1550

Session 2: Negotiation skills, Legal rights, IEP Strategies/Role Playing

Mark Kamleiter, Esquire one of the few special education attorneys in the state of Florida, serves as the President for Statewide Advocacy Network on Disabilities, Inc. (STAND) and is on the administrative board of the Council of Parent Advocates and attorneys (COPAA). A frequent national speaker and presenter on issues related to the education of children with disabilities, Mark represents children with disabilities, in due process and Federal Court, in an effort to obtain for them an appropriate education in the public school systems. Mark has taught regular education (History, Geography, Government) at the middle and high school level as well as Law and Politics at the University of South Florida. He also taught in the Pinellas County School District for five years, teaching children with profound disabilities and autism, as well as serving as a behavior specialist. Mark's dedication to children and families in the state of Florida has led to a number of significant victories for students' rights which has paved the way for those students who have yet to travel that path. Fee: $1500

COMPETENCIES

✔ Participants will be able to describe the benefits and values supporting a quality, inclusive education for all students.

✔ Participants will be able to outline specific strategies to achieve inclusion; a quality inclusive education for all students.
SESSION 3: EMPLOYMENT PREPARATION, EMPLOYMENT FOR ALL

Dale Dileo is the director of the Training Resource Network, a publishing and consulting firm specializing in management, education, training, rehabilitation, and supported employment. A widely sought-after speaker and consultant, and well known advocate for people with disabilities, Dale Dileo has provided training throughout the US and in Canada and Europe on community inclusion for persons with disabilities. Dale has trained over 75,000 participants over the past 30 years, serving as the keynote for the European Union of Supported Employment in Oslo, Norway and presenting again in Barcelona, Spain. He has consulted with state and private agencies, universities, professional associations, and corporations. He is the Past President of the Board of the Association for Persons in Supported Employment (APSE), and is the lead author of that organization's highly respected Ethical Guidelines in Supported Employment. His latest book, Raymond's Room, focuses on ending the shameful segregation of people with disabilities in community life. Fee: $1500

Karen Flippo, BA/MRA, has 30+ years of experience in disability services including direct service, program, project and organizational management, program evaluation, state and federal government service, and education and training. She has conducted training and technical assistance nationally and internationally. Several of her previous positions include: Training Associate, University of San Francisco and Virginia Commonwealth University; Vice President, Brain Injury Association of America, and Chief Executive Officer, National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities. She is currently the Immediate Past President of CQL, Council on Quality and Leadership and is the State Teams Liaison for the Alliance for Full Participation. Fee: $1000

Ven and Sarah Sequenzia, Making Your Case presentation. Ven is the President of the Autism Society of Florida and Sarah is a Parent Liaison for Orange County Public Schools. Together they present on how to make your case before legislators and policy makers in order to accomplish systems change. Fee: $250.

COMPETENCIES

✓ Participants will be able to describe the importance of supported, competitive, and customized employment opportunities.
Partners in Policymaking®
Proposed Speakers

SESSION 4: SELF DETERMINATION, SELF ADVOCACY AND COMMUNITY LIVING

Derrick Dufresne is President of Community Resource Associates, Inc. (CRA) and has provided training and consultation over the past twenty plus years in more than forty-eight states and has addressed over twenty-five thousand individuals. He has conducted seminars; provided consultation; presented at training events, conferences and keynote speeches on a variety of topics. From 2003-2009, Derrick served as President and CEO of the Institute on Public Policy for People with Disabilities in Illinois. The Institute is a membership organization that focuses on promoting best practice and quality community supports for people with disabilities throughout Illinois. Mr. Dufresne and CRA’s mission focuses on the provision of consultation, support, and housing development that fosters the full citizenship of individuals with disabilities into the mainstream of community living. Fee: $1500

Laura Buckner, M.Ed., LPC, has 29 years of experience in the disability field. A Licensed Professional Counselor and former special educator, Laura has invested the last 20 years in providing training on the local, state and national levels. She works with the Texas Center for Disabilities at The University of Texas in Austin and is a founding partner of the Institute for Person Centered Practices. Laura also coordinated the Texas Partners in Policymaking program for 8 years. Laura is a Certified Mentor Trainer in Person Centered Practices through The Learning Community for Person Centered Practices and currently serves on their Board of Directors. She has considerable experience facilitating Person-Centered Plans using the materials of The Learning Community, and in training plan facilitators. Her 26-year-old son has been both impetus and inspiration to Laura's work to create inclusive communities...and the plans that enable people to live lives of choice successfully, with the right supports, in those communities. Fee: $1600

John Collins, Disability Advocate, will speak on becoming a proud, contributing, and respected member of society. John served on The Self Advocacy Leadership Taskforce, the Family Care Council Area 1 as Vice Chair, the Delmarva Quality Care Council, and President for the Project Empower Coalition of Northwest Florida. Fee: $300.

COMPETENCIES

✔ Participants will be able to describe the importance of whole life planning (person centered planning) and self-determination for people with developmental disabilities.

✔ Participants will understand the principles of choice and control of resources in whole life planning.

✔ Participants will understand that a flexible, responsive system of supports for the families of children with disabilities is the cornerstone for a true system of community supports for people with developmental disabilities.

✔ Participants will understand the need for all individuals to experience changes in lifestyle across the lifespan.

✔ Participants will know/understand the importance of home ownership/control as one of the defining characteristics of adult life in our culture.

✔ Participants will understand the basic principles and strategies being used to support people with developmental disabilities in their own homes across the lifespan.
SESSION 5: The Evolution of Federal Public Policy and Its Impact on the Lives of Children and Adults with Disabilities in 2016: “Suit the Actions to the Words” LEGISLATIVE PROCESS, CREATING SYSTEMS CHANGE AND COMMUNICATING WITH POLICYMAKERS

Allan I. Bergman is the president & CEO of HIGH IMPACT, a national consulting and training firm he established in 2010. He is an accomplished non-profit community agency and association executive and nationally recognized thought leader in influencing the development of federal and state policy reflecting “best practice” community supports and services for persons with disabilities and their families. Allan also is a national expert in Medicaid policy and practice in primary care and long term services and supports (long term care) for children and adults with disabilities and their families and he has extensive knowledge of the Affordable Care Act. Bergman’s career includes over 40 years of significant leadership positions within local, state and national non-profit agencies and associations and 27 years of continuous family and self-advocate leadership training in Partners in Policymaking programs across the country.

Bergman has been under contract since 2012 as a Subject Matter Expert in Employment First policy and community provider transformation on two projects for the Office of Disability Employment Policy within the U.S. Department of Labor; Employment First State Leadership Mentoring and the Employment Rebalancing Research Initiative to study state policies, practices and financing to rebalance systems from segregated day and employment supports into the “most integrated setting”, consistent with Title II of the ADA. He provided the keynote address for the 25th Anniversary Conference of the Association of Professionals Supporting Employment First (APSE) in June 2013: “The Employment First Imperative”. Allan was retained in the fall of 2013 as a Subject Matter Expert to the State of Minnesota to develop an interagency Olmstead plan for ADA compliance. Fee: $2000

COMPETENCIES

✓ Participants will understand how a bill becomes a law at the state and federal levels.
✓ Participants will be able to identify critical federal issues and the process by which they can personally address their concerns.
✓ Participants will be able to demonstrate successful techniques for advocating for services to meet the needs of unserved and underserved individuals.
✓ Participants will draft and deliver testimony for legislative hearings.
✓ Participants will learn how to meet a public official and express concerns.
SESSION 6: COMMUNITY ORGANIZING AND GRADUATION

**Al Condeluci** is CEO of Community Living and Support Services (CLASS), a community based support system for individuals with all types of disabilities in Pittsburgh, PA. He holds an MSW and PhD from the University of Pittsburgh, where he is on faculty in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences and the School of Social Work. He has authored 7 books, including the acclaimed, Interdependence: The Route to Community (1991) and the newly released, The Macro Change Handbook (2015). Al has been an advocate, a catalyst for building community capacities, and leader in understanding social culture since 1970. CLASS has created a family of corporations and is dedicated to its mission - working toward a community where each belongs. CLASS, under Al’s leadership, has grown to become the third largest disability specific agency in Southwestern PA. Fee: $1600

**Karen Kaiser Clark** is an engaging speaker who has been a source of inspiration, humor, hope and healing for audiences for more than 25 years. Karen has spoken to such diverse groups as Fortune 500 companies, medical centers and educational, civic and government organizations. She is known for her ability to entertain and empower her listeners. She is a warm, likable presenter. Her message is as positive and uplifting as it is memorable and meaningful. Recognized as a dynamic speaker, Karen customizes each and every presentation to her audience. Blending researched materials, personal anecdotes and a healthy dose of humor, she specializes in helping organizations and groups turn change into growth, overcome loss, and recognize the opportunity in every crisis. Fee: $2500

OR

**Lex Frieden** is Professor of Biomedical Informatics and Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, and he is Adjunct Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Baylor College of Medicine. Frieden also directs the ILRU - Independent Living Research Utilization Program at TIRR Memorial Hermann Hospital in Houston, Texas. ILRU is a research, training and technical assistance program on independent living for people with disabilities and seniors. Frieden was appointed by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on July 26, 2002, as Chairperson of the National Council on Disability, an independent federal agency located in Washington D.C. The Council is charged with making recommendations on disability policy issues to the President and Congress. His term ended in August, 2006. Mr. Frieden also completed an eight year term as a member of the United Nations Panel of Experts on the Standard Rules for Disability. He is immediate past President of Rehabilitation International, a federation of 200 national and international organizations and agencies in 90 countries working for the equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities and their families within society, and for the rehabilitation of people with disabilities. $1000

**Kevin Cate**, has been called a “Multimedia Wiz” by the Miami Herald, is a media consultant for some of the largest corporations, associations, and campaigns in the country. Prior to opening his own public relations firm in 2010, Cate was named one of Florida’s rising political stars by the News Services of Florida, having already managed press for the 2008 Obama campaign in Florida, multiple campaigns and state agencies, and Florida’s statewide elected Chief Financial Officer. He is an Emmy, Pollie, and Silver Anvil Award winner. He graduated from FSU with Masters in Applied American Politics and Policy, where he serves as an adjunct instructor teaching Earned Media. Fee: $800
COMPETENCIES

✓ Participants will create a vision for the year 2020 (and beyond) for people with disabilities.
✓ Participants will be able to identify strategies for beginning and sustaining grassroots level organizing.
✓ Participants will understand the role of when and how to use the media to effectively promote their issues.
✓ Participants will be able to demonstrate proper procedures for conducting a meeting.