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2022 Disability Advocacy Day !!!

The South Carolina Partnership of Disability Organizations (SCPDO) is happy to announce plans to celebrate our 33rd Annual Disability Advocacy Day on **Wednesday, March 2, 2022 on the North Grounds of the South Carolina State House**. Disability Advocacy Day is focused on connecting advocates with their legislators to talk about policy issues and concerns that impact people with disabilities in our state. Our goal is to educate policymakers about how state government services and policies can be improved, expanded, or strengthened on behalf of people with disabilities.

There is no pre-registration, simply sign in at the event. The agenda will include presentations made by self-advocates and caregivers, a "march" around the state house grounds, and visits to legislative offices and more!

To participate in the South Carolina Disability Advocacy Day, please visit www.scpdo.org or contact Margie Williamson via email at margie@arcsc.org or by calling (803) 748-5020.



Holiday Marketplace

On Friday,
December 10th,

DDSN Central Office in Columbia held a Holiday Marketplace. This special event included many people with disabilities. They came from around the state to sell items they



made or to promote their business. People sold coffee, flower arrangements, jewelry, arts and crafts, and many other things. There was even an ice-cream truck! Shoppers crowded the hallways buying gifts for the holidays.

DDSN plans to host this event again next year. We'd love for you to come to be part of the fun. If you would like to be one of our sellers next year, please call Bill Simpson at DDSN at 803-898-9614.



Majority of COVID-19 Cases Among Those Who Are Not Fully Vaccinated

Case studies have shown that more than 90 percent of COVID-19 cases and deaths in June 2021 and 86 percent of hospitalizations were among individuals who were not fully vaccinated. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) has determined similar findings for the month of July 2021. An individual is considered fully vaccinated 14 days or more after completing their second dose of Pfizer or Moderna, or their single dose of Janssen vaccine. It is important to note that breakthrough cases are expected with any type of vaccine. While vaccines can prevent catching a virus, the main goal is preventing severe illness if the virus is contracted.

DHEC strongly encourages every eligible person to get their COVID-19 vaccination as soon as possible, including people who already had COVID-19. Studies have shown that vaccination provides a strong boost in protection in people who have recovered from COVID-19.

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

**INDEPENDENCE:
MY CHOICES, MY LIFE
STATE CONFERENCE**

MAY 26, 2022

Registration: 9:00AM-10:00AM

**Breakout Sessions:
10 AM-3 PM**

COOPERATIVE CONFERENCE
CENTER

169 LAURELHURST AVENUE
COLUMBIA, SC 29210

CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

SELF-ADVOCACY

EMPLOYMENT

DISABILITY RIGHTS



**IMPACT
Leadership
Training**

What does this training offer?

Build new friendships, Develop leadership skills

Learn about self-advocacy, Become familiar with their rights

Develop public speaking skills

Students interested in the training should:

Have a developmental or intellectual disability

Be committed to attending all classes
Motivated to fully participate in class activities

Driven to complete homework assignments

If you or someone you know is interested in participating,

contact Kristi Hartwell at

Kristi.hartwell@uscmcd.sc.edu

or 803-935-5947.