

### **What is a Youth Ambassador?**

Youth Ambassadors are the most important parts of the Center for Youth Voice, Youth Choice (CYVYC) Project!

CYVYC Youth Ambassadors are young people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). They are messengers to help people with IDD make more of their own decisions. They will help teach people about supported decision-making and ways to avoid guardianship.

### **What will a Youth Ambassador do?**

Youth Ambassadors will work with their state teams and mentors to make change happen. During Year 1, they will:

- 1. LEARN!**
- 2. ACT!**
- 3. THINK!**

#### **1. LEARN !**

First, Youth Ambassadors will get trained by Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) trainers.

- The training will be remote.
- The training will cover topics like leadership, self-advocacy, and ways to avoid guardianship.
- Youth Ambassadors will make action plans for advocating in their communities.

#### **2. ACT!**

Second, Youth Ambassadors will use their action plans to spread the word about alternatives to guardianship.

- Youth Ambassadors will work with their state teams to carry out their plans.
- Youth Ambassadors will share their stories to inspire others.
- Youth Ambassadors will check in with their mentors and SABE trainers to share their progress.

Youth Ambassadors will be trained by Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) trainers.



### 3. THINK!

Last, Youth Ambassadors will make a report about what they did and what they learned.

- Youth Ambassadors will work with SABE trainers to record their experiences.
- Youth Ambassadors will share their reports with their state teams.
- Youth Ambassadors will have the chance to share their experiences at a SABE conference.

#### **Do Youth Ambassadors get paid?**

Yes! Youth Ambassadors will receive a stipend of \$500 for their participation.

#### **How do I know if I am a good candidate to be a Youth Ambassador?**

- Are you between the ages of 14-26?
- Do you identify as a person with an intellectual or developmental disability?
- Do you want to learn more about ways people with IDD can avoid guardianship?
- Do you live in Georgia, Vermont, or Wisconsin?

If you answered “yes” to all of these questions, you are a good candidate!

#### **Who can I email at the CYVYC project for more information?**

- Juliana Huereña: [julianahuerena@sabeusa.org](mailto:julianahuerena@sabeusa.org)
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