

# Partners in Policymaking



Virginia Board for  
People with Disabilities



## Make a Difference in Your Community, Become a Partner in Policymaking

More than four hundred Virginia Partner in Policymaking (PIP) alumni, and thousands who have graduated from PIP programs across the country, have learned how to make a difference every day for themselves, their families, and communities.

Individuals participating in PIP attend advocacy training, resource development, and skill building workshops led by state and national experts. Topics covered include the history of the disability rights movement, self-advocacy, independent living, employment, building inclusive communities, natural supports, legislative advocacy, assistive technology, communication, team building, and much more.

Learn more about PIP and how you can become involved!

**PIP**  
Partners in  
Policymaking

# Become an Effective Advocate

## Highly Motivated Virginians Encouraged to Apply

Individuals who want to develop or strengthen their advocacy and leadership skills are encouraged to apply. Partners are chosen through a competitive application process administered statewide. If accepted, attendance is required in seven training sessions (September, 2017-April, 2018). There are no costs to participate in the program.

### Eligibility

People with developmental disabilities (DD) and/or parents of young children with DD are eligible to apply for PIP.

### Benefits

- Get connected, speak up, educate and communicate on inclusion, quality of education, accesible housing, and supported employment for people with DD.
- Build positive relationships with families, schools, employers, elected officials.
- Learn how to impact local, state, and national policies through advocacy and awareness.
- Improve the lives of people with DD in your local community and across Virginia.
- Understand the strategies used to support people with DD in their own homes across a life span.

### Apply

For information and details on how to apply, visit [www.vaboard.org](http://www.vaboard.org)

**Applications are due by March 31, 2017.**

Contact Kara White, Programs Assistant, at 804-786-3441 or [kara.white@vbpd.virginia.gov](mailto:kara.white@vbpd.virginia.gov) if you have any questions.

**“I still feel that it was one of the most powerful and emotional things I have ever done!”**

**- Deena Myers-Morris  
PIP Graduate**

