

People First Wisconsin Spring 2021 Newsletter

www.peoplefirstwisconsin.org
PeopleFirstWi@gmail.com
414-483-2546

Disability Advocacy Debrief



Instead of a Facebook live, we had a zoom meeting. At the zoom meeting we were briefed on the issues by Lisa Pugh—The Arc, did some cheers to get fired up, then people were able to call their legislators using the Phone2Action phone system.

People First had 19 members participate by utilizing the Phone2Action system

There were around 168 on zoom. About 184 registered but some people were in groups on the zoom call.

IF YOU ATTENDED DISABILITY ADVOCACY DAY- WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Tell us how was your Disability Advocacy Day experience was?

Please complete our survey to help us plan for next year. Here is the Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QJC3XZV>

You can still take action! Just go to [this link](#), choose the issue you want to take action on and click "Take Action"! Follow all the steps! <https://p2a.co/mjc21dh>

Want more ways to connect with people?

Try our Self-Advocate meet up on Tuesday afternoon and Thursday evening. Check out our website for more details!

<http://www.peoplefirstwisconsin.org/self-advocate-meet-ups.html>

People First Wisconsin : Introducing...

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Meet our new staff!

Felicia Clayborne

Felicia comes to People First with over 25 years of self-advocacy experience. She has visual-impairment with multiple disabilities. She is a busy woman. Felicia has her own travel tool business called Abilities travel club, President of a Christian resources center board, and has been a member of Vision Forward for 30 years. Naturally she loves to travel too. We found out in our interview that buses look really neat on the inside! Felicia lives in Milwaukee. In her spare time listens to audio books, goes to conferences—like the Self-Determination Conference and Circles of Life—and spend time with family and friends.



Stacy Ellingen

I'm Stacy E. and I live in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. I have a physical disability, but that doesn't stop me from leading a successful life. I've accomplished many things that people, including myself, didn't think was possible. I'm a strong advocate for all people with disabilities. That said, I don't let my disability define the person I am. I love hanging out with friends and family. I'm a new aunt, and I just love spending time with my little nephew. I also like to shop -what girl doesn't? I'm a huge sports fan. I love watching football and basketball. I'm a Chicago Bears fan-living in Wisconsin, that's not an easy thing, but I love it. One of my proudest accomplishments is graduating from UW Whitewater. (cont. on next page)



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Meet our Staff Continued

Stacy Ellingen

With significant physical limitations, not many people thought I would be able to actually do it. It was way more than the academics for me. I learned that I could live independently if given the right supports. I'm also proud that I'm a business owner and have two jobs. At the age of four, an insurance company deemed me "unemployable" without even meeting me. Of course, I don't remember it, but when my parents told me that, I knew I wanted to prove the insurance company wrong!

Nathaniel Lentz

As a person with a disability, I am passionate in advocating for people with Intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). I have been advocating for people with I/DD since I was 10 years old when the school physical education teacher asked me to talk to the other elementary students about living with a disability. When I was a senior in high school, I was recruited to speak at school districts around our area about how parents can help their children transition from high school to college or employment.



From 2007 to 2020, I have spoken at numerous state and national conferences about transitioning from high school, empowering self-advocates, and pushing for policy change. I served on the Governor's Board for People with Developmental Disabilities from 2011 to 2019. In the fall of 2019, I served as the Mentor for Students with Developmental Disabilities for Edgewood College in Madison, WI. Since the pandemic, I have been working for Living Well by calling their self-advocates to check that they are working on the tasks assigned to them that will keep them safe and involved. I also, been teaching the Cov-19 toolkit and gave presentations through our Living Well grant. I love to visit family and friends. My favorite books are about historical events, and I listen to jazz every evening. I am an avid film watcher, and I also like to watch baseball games.

Covid Updates: Vaccines



“I was very happy to get the vaccine so I can keep my friends and family safe. Also, I can give hugs to the people I care about.”

Cindy Bentley
Executive Director
People First Wisconsin

People First Wisconsin staff want to encourage all PFW members and advisors who are able to get vaccinated unless you have a medical reason. This is an important step to getting back to life before COVID. Do you know someone who needs help with getting an appointment? Are there members who do not have access to the internet and want to make an appointment? Is transportation a barrier in getting vaccinated? People First is here to help. Please contact us for more information Stacy Ellingen outreachpfw@gmail.com

Perhaps you know of someone in your Chapter that has already been vaccinated. Please share that information with us. **Chapter name, member name (First name and last initial).**

People First Wisconsin is urging each chapter to reach out to each member in your community and ask if they need help.

___ Yes, I want to make an appointment but need help

___ Yes, transportation is an issue for me, I need a ride

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Chapter Connections Zoom

When Monthly from 5pm to 6:15pm on the fourth Wednesday from Wed Apr 28 to Wed Dec 22 Central Time - Chicago

Where <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88455154422>
([map](#))

Joining info Join with Google Meet

meet.google.com/hsx-cczt-wrp

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88455154422>

Meeting ID: 884 5515 4422

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,88455154422# US
(Washington DC)

+13126266799,,88455154422# US
(Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 884 5515 4422

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88455154422>

People Quarterly Board meeting

Saturday, May 8, 2021

***Feel free to log in any time after**

8:45am

9:00am - Noon

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85833933>

[808](#)

Meeting ID: 858 3393 3808

One tap mobile

[+16465588656](#),,85833933808# US

(New York)

Dial by your location

[+1 312 626 6799](#) US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 858 3393 3808

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Get published in the People First Newsletter!



Want to tell your story? Does your chapter have something you're proud of? Or an event to publicize? If so, we'd love to hear from you! If you'd like to have something included in the next issue, **August 2021**, please send in writing or on tape to:

People First Wisconsin 5150 N Port
Washington Ave Glendale WI 53217. The
Deadline again is **August 2021**. Call Kate or
Erin at 414-483-2546 with any questions.



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