

# People First Wisconsin Winter 2023 Newsletter

[www.peoplefirstwisconsin.org](http://www.peoplefirstwisconsin.org)  
PeopleFirstWi@gmail.com  
414-483-2546

## A Word from Cindy

I would like to wish all of my members a Happy New Year! I hope that you also had a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy Kwanzaa! People First had a very prosperous year. We got a lot of things done in 2022. I could not have done this without my dedicated team. I want to thank the chapters and the advisors as well.

We plan to offer more training opportunities for the advisors and chapters in 2023. We want to make them stronger and get them up and running. I plan to visit chapters in 2023. Please reach out to me by email with possible dates and Nancy will help us schedule visits. We are willing to travel. We want to see you in person. We have been too isolated and it is time to get back in the swing of things. For the advisors, please reach out any time. We are here to support you. As I have said in my letters, please let us know if you need something or are struggling. Please keep checking the website for helpful information.

If chapters are in need of new advisors, please let us know so we can help.

We work hard at People First of Wisconsin. We try our best to make sure people get the support they need from our team. Please be patient as sometimes our days are unpredictable and there is much going on. We will get back to you as soon as we can.

Save the date for the annual in-person board meeting and training on March 22, 2023 and for Disability Advocacy Day on March 23, 2023. More information about hotel accommodations and the training will be available in the new year.

# People First Wisconsin Winter 2023 Newsletter

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

## Diehard Awards

The Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (WBPDD) Diehard Awards at the annual Self-Determination Conference are very exciting. During the award presentations, it is a secret as to who is being described. In the videos, friends, family, and co-workers are careful not to say the person's name. Congratulations to People First Wisconsin's Living Well Advocate Leader, Emily Savage, and PFW Executive Board Member-at-Large, Ramsey Lee, who won awards. Click on this link to view the award videos:

<https://spaces.hightail.com/space/uVckFfNv3v>



Ramsey Lee accepts his award. Pictured are Ramsey's father, Dennis Lee, Ramsey, and BPDD's Fil Clissa and Beth Swedeen.



Julie Blasky tries to hold back tears as she watches the video that she and others appear in describing why "this person" should win. As Ramsey watched the video, he realized that they were talking about him.

Emily Savage receives her diehard award from BPDD's Fil Clissa and Beth Swedeen.



# People First Wisconsin Winter 2023 Newsletter

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

## Come to our Speaker Series

The Speaker Series is held every Tuesday from 11:00am to noon and it allows members to hear from speakers from organizations about various topics. It was a great year of learning. Many thanks to all of our awesome speakers and attentive guests. If you would like to see recordings of previous speakers, click on this link:

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLE9ty-GyrTpBKa5\\_qqNeFp\\_esxBjhZo2B](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLE9ty-GyrTpBKa5_qqNeFp_esxBjhZo2B)

A big thank you to those who attend regularly, and we would love to see newcomers smiling faces! If you have suggestions for speakers or topics in 2023, please contact Outreach Advocate: Sydney Badeau at [empoweringadvocatepfw@gmail.com](mailto:empoweringadvocatepfw@gmail.com)

Here is a **NEW Zoom Link** to the speaker series. You can use this link throughout 2023. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81673075371>

Here are some upcoming speakers in January:

- January 3<sup>rd</sup> The Arc WI, Deb Sybell
- January 10<sup>th</sup> To be determined
- January 17<sup>th</sup> Promote Local's Katie Corbett regarding Keeping New Year's Resolutions
- January 24<sup>th</sup> Disability Vote Coalition, Barbara Beckert
- January 31<sup>st</sup> Promote Local Dylan Contois regarding Google Calendars

**This Newsletter was produced using federal funds given to the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities under PL 106-402 from a grant by the US Department of Health and Human Services and the Administration on Developmental Disabilities.**

**\*Please see the attached document of important dates and Zoom codes for People First Wisconsin activities in 2023.**



## People First WI 2023 Quarterly Board Meetings

**March 22nd** There will be an in person (in Madison) and virtual option for the board meeting with the time to be determined. More information to follow.

**June 10th** 10am-12:30pm

**September 9th** 10:00am-12:30pm

**December 9th-** 10:00am-12:30pm

**The Zoom code is always the same for this event.**

**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9087143392>

---



## Chapter Connections Meetings

**5:00pm-6:00pm on the following Wednesdays in 2023:**

See you on January 25th, February 22nd, April 26th, May 31st, June 28th, August 30th, September 27th, October 25th, & November 29th.

**The Zoom code is always the same for this event.**

**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9087143392>

**Meeting ID:** 908 714 3392 **Dial by phone:** 1 312 626 6799

---



**Monday Advocate Meetup: What's happening this week at People First? 4:30-5:30pm weekly on Mondays.**

(Please note that in 2023 there will be **no** Monday Meetup on January 2nd or 16th, March 20th, May 29th, September 4th, October 16th, and December 25th.)

**The Zoom code is always the same for this event.**

**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88519997543>

**Meeting ID:** 885 1999 7543 **Dial by phone:** 1 312 626 6799



**Speaker Series: 11:00am-12:00pm Tuesday each week.** Please note that there will be **no** speaker series on March 21st, July 4th, October 17th, and December 26th.

**The Zoom code is always the same for this event.**

**Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81673075371>**

**Meeting ID: 816 7307 5371 Dial by phone: 1 312 626 6799**

---



**Advocate Meetup: 6:00pm-7:00pm each week on Thursdays.** Please note that there will be **no** Meetup on March 23rd, October 19th, and November 23rd.

**The Zoom code is always the same for this event.**

**Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86245994772>**

**Meeting ID: 862 4599 4772 Dial by phone: 1 312 626 6799**

---



**Movie Nights: 6:00pm-8:00pm on the second Tuesday of every month.** Please note that there will be **no** movie night in December.

**The Zoom code is always the same for this event.**

**Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87663589857>**

**Meeting ID: 876 6358 9857 Dial by phone: 1 312 626 6799**