Saying Ciao to Naomi
(so much better than goodbye)

In March 2020 we were looking for an "Education Campaign Coordinator," a position funded by a one-year grant from the New York Community Trust. We were fortunate to meet Naomi Miller, who had recently returned to her beloved Hudson Valley after directing an arts project in Chicago. It seemed like a perfect match, as Naomi developed her cultural and arts consulting work in Newburgh, while sharing her extraordinary talents with us in a half time position. And then came Covid, with its many, many challenges.

Naomi was great, spending the summer organizing the remote, Zoom videoing of the three SDMNY videos that have been so important to our messaging, building our new beautiful and informative outward facing website, and so much more. When March 2021 rolled around, and we had raised funds for a "bridge year," we persuaded Naomi to stay longer, and she did, continuing to apply her wonderful aesthetic to making more important videos, for funders, judicial education, parents and the court system. And, to top it off, she has been a superb facilitator to a Decision-Maker who will soon be signing her SDMA.

Screenshots from *Supported Decision-Making & Transition Aged Youth, Supported Decision-Making Is For Everyone, and Why Supported Decision-Making?* videos

Sadly for us, though later than we could have hoped, as of next week Naomi will be returning to her art and cultural practice full time. Fortunately, she has generously mentored our Media Specialist Simge (you know her from Good News) who will be taking over many of her duties. And because Naomi will always remain part of the SDMNY family, we aren't saying "goodbye," but rather "ciao,"which means both hello and goodbye, and in the case of the latter, "see you soon." So please join us in wishing Naomi

SUCCESS IN ALL YOUR FUTURE ENDEAVORS, AND THANKS FOR ALL THE GREAT WORK YOU'VE DONE HELPING US SHOW HOW PEOPLE WITH I/DD HAVE THE RIGHT AND THE ABILITY TO MAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS, REGARDLESS OF DISABILITY

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