

Another Decision-Maker Joins the SDMNY Advisory Council

As we've said before, one of SDMNY's greatest assets is its amazing Advisory Council (AC), made up of a large, prestigious and diverse group of stakeholders. From the beginning we've been honored to have self-advocates as critical members of the AC, and over the past year, we have invited several Decision-Makers who have signed, and are using their SDMAs, to join.



Our newest AC member is Bobby Terry, the very first Decision-Maker from SDMNY's Rochester/Western New York site. He's 37, and has lived on his own for the past 2 years with a team of supporters that he says "help me make choices so I can live the best life for myself." If you've watched our new videos, you may already know Bobby and his mom, Tracy, who open the video "Why SDM?"; Bobby does a great job there explaining what it has meant to him to be under guardianship, and why SDM is changing his life (you can see the clip of Bobby and Tracy by [clicking here](#)).

Our partners at Disability Rights New York (DRNY) are representing Bobby in the court case that we expect will end his guardianship (with Tracy's enthusiastic support) Here's what Bobby has to say:

It has taken me years to get to be as independent as I am today, when people said no to me I would say yes. Just ask my mom and some of my friends and family. I knew I could do it. Having my own SDMA is great and the making of my SDMA was fun. I am glad I went through the process.

We know that Bobby will continue to be a powerful advocate for the rights of people with I/DD to make their own decisions, and are so proud to have him as a member of the SDMNY Advisory Council!