

Celebrating Joan Cornachio



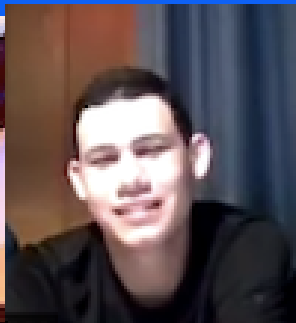
Joan has been with SDMNY since the beginning and she is, in many ways, our indispensable colleague. Her title is NYC Site Coordinator, but she is also a “Superfacilitator” (she’s facilitated 14 Decision-Makers in the past 4 years) and “Supermentor” (she’s mentored, or co-mentored over 30 of our volunteer facilitators). She brings a wealth of experience, skill, and understanding to the job—she has a Masters in Education and a Certificate in the Advanced Study of Disabilities from Syracuse University, that she got after years of teaching young people with I/DD— she is a talented pianist (that’s her playing the background music on our videos *SDM and Transition Age Youth* and *Why SDM?*) and she is the mother of Liv, a beautiful, fabulous, and independent adult daughter with I/DD.

THIS WEEK ALONE SHE WILL BE CELEBRATING SDMA SIGNINGS FOR THREE DECISION-MAKERS THAT SHE HAS FACILITATED

BERNADETTE



JOSHUA



JAMES



Joan says “It has been an extraordinary experience working with Decision-Makers and their Supporters as they create their SDMA. The beauty of this process is witnessing the shift in relationships that happens as the Decision-Maker grows in autonomy and confidence, and Supporters learn to appreciate the dignity of risk in allowing their loved one to learn from their decisions. I also want to thank all of the wonderful Facilitators that I’ve had the opportunity to learn and share experiences with as part of SDMNY.”

We say: **THANKS JOAN, YOU’RE THE BEST!**