

SUPPORTED DECISION-MAKING TO BE FEATURED AT MAJOR AUTISM CONFERENCE

The New York City Council funds an annual Autism Conference that, for the past two years, and this year as well, is held virtually. It's attended by a large variety of stakeholders: people on the spectrum, families, professionals, educators, providers, etc., with more than 500 attendees expected. It's also free!

The topic this year is guardianship and alternatives, and we are thrilled that we have been invited to present, and also that the entire conference is "framed" with the idea (and legal principle) that while guardianship may be appropriate for some people, it is a last resort; the overarching goal should always be to enhance autonomy and self-determination, and to enable people on the spectrum (as well as other intellectual and developmental disabilities) to retain and exercise all their legal and civil rights.

In addition to the SDMNY presenters, Kris Glen and Joan Cornachio (with video appearances by members of our community including Decision-Makers, parents and supporters) all of the other presenters are big supporters of SDM. They include Professor Natalie Chin, who is a member of our Advisory Council, and Professors Sarah Lorr and Prianka Nair, whose students in the Brooklyn Law School Disability Rights Clinic have served as Guardians ad Litem (GALs) in Article 17-A guardianship proceedings where they recommended against guardianship and had the subjects of guardianship proceedings referred to SDMNY!

A flyer for the YAI New York City Autism Conference. The background is white with a blue geometric pattern at the bottom. The text is centered and reads: "YAI NEW YORK CITY AUTISM CONFERENCE" in a mix of black and orange fonts. Below this, the title "Deciding Your Path: Navigating Guardianship and Supported Decision-Making" is in bold black text. The date "Friday, April 29, 2022" and time "11:00 AM ET | Virtual Conference" are in orange text. At the bottom, it says "For more information and to register visit yai.org/autismconference".

— YAI —

NEW YORK CITY

AUTISM

CONFERENCE

**Deciding Your Path: Navigating Guardianship
and Supported Decision-Making**

Friday, April 29, 2022

11:00 AM ET | Virtual Conference

For more information and to register visit yai.org/autismconference

If you, or anyone you know would be interested, the link of the registration is on the flyer above. You can also [click here](#) to go to the conference registration page. We are excited at how far we have come, with SDM now so central to conversations in the Autism community.