

# A DIFFERENT CELEBRATION FOR A DECISION-MAKER AND HIS FACILITATOR

Decision-Makers and their families often speak of their SDMA signing ceremonies as a kind of graduation, but for many of those Decision-Makers, there are other, more traditional graduations as well. A recent happy example is Decision-Maker Noah who graduated from the Manhattan School for Career Development last week.



*Proud graduate Noah (in front of a mural he helped create)*

Noah is a terrific young man who loves drumming and skiing, and who is spending his summer volunteering at Berkshire Hills Eisenberg Camp in upstate New York. His dream has been to go to college, like his brother Jake, and because of all his hard work and the support of his loving family, that dream will come true when he begins the two-year College Experience program at the College of St. Rose in Albany this Fall.



*Graduation celebration with facilitator Tom first person at the table on the right*

This graduation was special in another way— because, among those people close to Noah who he invited to share the day was his SDMNY facilitator Tom. Tom was thrilled by the invitation, and by seeing Noah taking advantage of the supports he has chosen. (He said “YOU gooooo Noah!!!!”)

Over the past several years we’ve seen that the SDMNY facilitation process not only empowers Decision-Makers, giving them the tools to make their own decisions with the support of trusted persons in their lives, it can also create warm and continuing relationships between Decision-Makers and their facilitators. Not a surprise with Tom, who joined SDMNY as a facilitator after his retirement from a long and successful career at YAI (where, we learned when we participated in the YAI conference this Spring [Good News, 4/15/22] he was a much beloved colleague) and to whom we, as well as Noah and his family, are so grateful.

## CONGRATULATIONS NOAH, AND THANKS AGAIN TOM!