

# A HOLIDAY FOR GIVING THANKS, AND WE DO!

Tomorrow is a day in which we are reminded to be thankful, and it gives us an opportunity to publicly express our gratitude for the many blessings we have received.

## **WE AT SDMNY ARE ENORMOUSLY THANKFUL FOR:**

The opportunity to do work that advances the human right of everyone to make their own decisions, and to have those decisions legally recognized, regardless of disability;

The international network of advocates for the human right of legal capacity who gave us a base on which to build, and from whom we continue to learn and be inspired;

Self-advocates everywhere;

The amazing members of our ever-growing community: Decision-Makers, their families and supporters and our volunteer facilitators;

Members of our Advisory Council and their continuing contributions to our work;

President Jennifer Raab and Hunter College for giving us a home and supporting us at every turn;

DDPC and OPWDD for funding our project, for the faith they have placed in us, and the trust that allowed us to make mistakes and learn from them;

The Governor and legislature who passed and signed the groundbreaking SDMA legislation that will end discrimination against people with I/DD;

Our partners over the past 6 years, including the New York Alliance for Inclusion and Innovation, Disability Rights New York, AIM Services; the Westchester Institute for Human Development, and those who are joining us in our new journey;

The private funders who gave us the “bridge year” that kept us alive, and so made the SDMA legislation and the OPWDD grant possible: The Ford Foundation, The FAR Fund, The Taft Foundation, the S. Peter Hogue Foundation; and the New York Community Trust that believed in the transformative nature of SDM and has been with us from the beginning; and, always

The stalwart, dedicated, creative, brilliant and committed team at SDMNY

## **WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY THANKSGIVING AND A YEAR OF GRATITUDE TO COME!**