

Bridges to Better Advocacy

A two-day conference for attorneys, paralegals and advocates who specialize in Assistive Technology (AT) Advocacy

Wednesday, April 2, 2008 (Optional)

Thursday, April 3, 2008

Friday, April 4, 2008

Hilton Garden Inn - Austin Downtown

500 North IH 35

Austin, Texas (In the heart of downtown Austin)

Optional Pre-Conference Session

Wednesday, April 2, 2008 – 9:00 to 5:00

Registration Fee of \$80 (includes lunch)

- ◆ **Introduction to Medicaid: Eligibility, Federal Mandates, Hearings, Litigation, Funding of Assistive Technology**
Presenters: Maureen O'Connell, Esq., Southern Disability Law Center, Austin, TX; James R. Sheldon, Jr., Esq., National AT Advocacy Project, Buffalo, NY; Steven Elliot, Esq., Advocacy, Inc., Austin, TX

Our Traditional, Two-day Conference

Thursday-Friday, April 3-4, 2008

(see registration fee schedule and registration form on back)

Confirmed Sessions and Speakers:

- ◆ **Medicaid and Managed Care: Our Clients Do Not Surrender Their Medicaid Rights at the Door of the HMO** - Jane Perkins, Esq., National Health Law Program, Chapel Hill, NC
- ◆ **Major Developments in Special Education: Recent Court Decisions, Legislative and Regulatory Developments** - Ronald M. Hager, Esq., National Disability Rights Network, Washington, D.C.
- ◆ **Making Research-Based Decisions for AT in Schools and Using Evidence-Based Data to Win Your Special Education Appeal** - Penny Reed, Ph.D, Independent AT Consultant and Former Director of the Wisconsin AT Initiative



A wealth of up-to-date information, presented by national experts in many of the key AT funding sources.

Co-sponsored by:

Advocacy, Inc., Austin, Texas

National Assistive Technology Advocacy Project,

A Project of Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc., Buffalo, NY

- ◆ **Practical Legal Ethics: When Can You Interview the Employees of Your Adversary** – Diana M. Straube, Esq. & James R. Sheldon, Jr., National AT Advocacy Project
- ◆ **What to Do When Medicaid Relies on Medicare Criteria to Deny Equipment Requests** – Lewis Golinker, Esq., AT Law Center, Ithaca, NY
- ◆ **A Year in Review: A Focus on Cutting Edge Issues** – Steven Mendelsohn, Esq., New York City & Jane Perkins, Esq., National Health Law Program
- ◆ **Legislative Update** – Tom Hlavacek, Public Policy Consultant, National Disability Rights Network
- ◆ **Reasonable Accommodations in Employment Settings: Obtaining AT Through the Americans with Disabilities Act** – Monica Murphy, Esq., Disability Rights Wisconsin; Brian East, Esq., Advocacy, Inc., Austin, TX; Ronald M. Hager, Esq., National Disability Rights Network, Washington, D.C.
- ◆ **Obtaining AT Through the Department of Veterans Affairs** - Diana Straube, Esq. & James R. Sheldon, Esq., National AT Advocacy Project, Buffalo, NY

Full descriptions and a schedule of individual sessions will appear on the National AT Advocacy Project's website at www.nls.org/natmain

Continuing Legal Education Credits will be Available

REGISTRATION FORM – “Bridges to Better Advocacy”
April 2-4, 2008 • Austin, Texas

Name: _____

Title: _____ Agency: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ Fax: () _____ Email: _____

Registration Fees Include: Conference Registration (one rate for Thursday-Friday, one rate for Wednesday pre-conference), Continental Breakfasts, Lunches, Thursday Dinner/Entertainment, and Handouts.

Hotel Rooms: Unlike past conferences, you must make your own hotel reservations and arrange for payment. A block of rooms with a negotiated single/double rate of \$139 (plus applicable taxes) has been reserved for the conference. That rate is available for up to two nights before or after the conference arrival/departure dates. When making reservations, please call Hilton Garden Inn Central Reservations, toll free, at 877-782-9444 and refer to the “NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES Bridges to Better Advocacy” conference room block (Call Natasha Millar, Group Reservations at 800-684-7250 if there are any questions). **Please make your hotel reservations by March 3, 2008.** After that date, rooms will be released for sale to the general public and rates cannot be guaranteed.

TO REGISTER, PLEASE FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE STEPS:

1 – Conference Registration, Fees for Attendance

<u>Registration for “2-day Conference” (April 3-4)</u>	Amount	
• Base registration fee	\$300	_____
<u>Registration deadlines</u> – add amount according to date you send in registration		
• Registration received by 2/12/2008	\$0	_____
• Registration received by 3/4/2008	\$30	_____
• Registration received by 3/18/2008	\$60	_____
• Registration received after 3/18/2008	\$90	_____
(If registering after 3/18/2008, Call To Confirm Availability)		
<u>Registration for “Optional Pre-Conference” (April 2)</u>	\$80	_____
2 – Total To Be Paid	Total	_____

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES, INC.

Please call for special payment arrangements with your agency. Sorry, no credit card payments accepted.

Reasonable Accommodation Requests (DEADLINE: March 4, 2008): (please state accommodation request below)

Please Include Payment with Registration and Mail to:

Juli Cushman • Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc. • 237 Main St. Ste. 400 • Buffalo NY 14203
 Phone: (716) 847-0655 ext. 271 • Fax: (716) 847-0227 • Email: jcushman@nls.org