



Advancing Supported Decision-Making In the United States

Learning Exchange hosted by Mobilization for Justice
June 11, 2026



Center for Public Representation

- A leading **national legal advocacy center for people with disabilities** in the United States for 50 years
- Work on **Supported Decision-Making (SDM)** extends to demonstration projects, training, technical assistance, resource development and other collaborations
- <https://www.centerforpublicrep.org>



- Launched the nation's first externally evaluated [SDM demonstration project](#) with Nonotuck Resources Associates (2014)
 - Represented the [first Massachusetts resident](#) to have his guardianship terminated in favor of SDM (2015)
 - Partnered on 5 more SDM demonstration projects in [Massachusetts](#) and 1 in [Georgia](#)



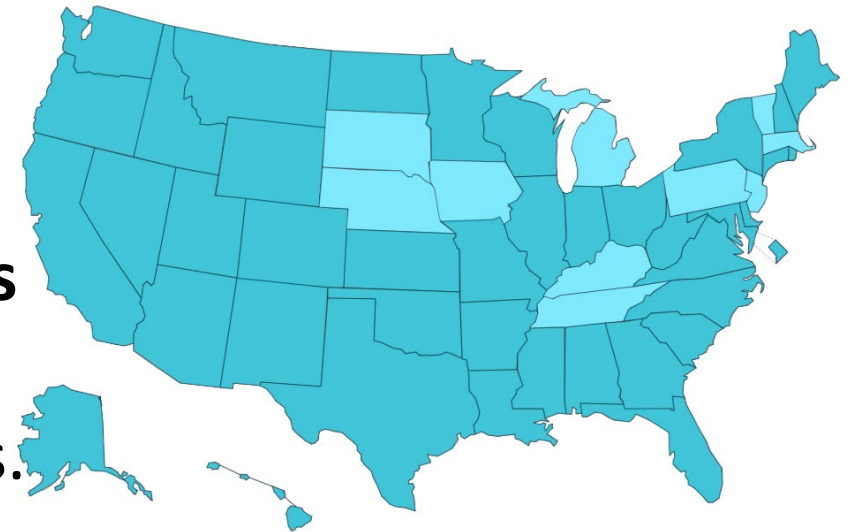
- Promotes recognition of **SDM as a reasonable accommodation or modification** for people with disabilities under federal law and court rules
 - [Federal complaints](#) about hospital visitor bans for people with disabilities requiring in-person supporters (2020)
 - Fourth National Guardianship Summit [Recommendation 2.4](#) (2021)
 - [Federal regulations](#) governing nondiscrimination based on disability in health and human service programs/activities receiving federal financial assistance (2024)
 - American Bar Association Model Rules of Professional Conduct, Revised [Rule 1.14](#) (2026)



- Develops **innovative litigation strategies** for advancing decision-making rights for people with disabilities under federal law
 - e.g., [Marsters v. Healy](#) (D. Mass 2022) (June 2024 class-action settlement)
- Develops **national and state-wide educational, outreach, and reform initiatives** to improve access to SDM
 - e.g., CPR's [SDM Universal Access](#) initiative
- Serves as a **SDM subject matter expert** for national networks, protection and advocacy system (P&A) organizations, and a state legal aid network
- Spearheaded **technical assistance** to 11 state teams as part of the [Center on Youth Voice, Youth Choice](#)



- Co-chairs the Rights Task Force of the **Consortium for Constituents with Disabilities**, including a working group on [federal strategies](#) to advance SDM and reform guardianship.
- Created an [on-line SDM library](#), with **key resources** for people with disabilities, family members, lawyers and other professionals, and policymakers.
 - e.g., [interactive map](#) of trends on state SDM laws.
- Files **amici (“friend of the court”) briefs** on issues related to SDM and guardianship
 - e.g., in [Missouri](#) and in [Massachusetts](#)



- Authors [law review articles](#) and other **publications** on Supported Decision-Making
- Presents on [promising SDM practices](#) and U.S. trends at scores of **national and statewide learning forums** for people with disabilities, family members, attorneys, and other professionals
- Contributes to [national press coverage](#) of issues involving guardianship and alternatives, including Supported Decision-Making.
- Contributes to [international learning exchanges](#) on ways to advance SDM.





Contact Information

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