**SILO's Self-Advocacy Conference 2023**
Self-Advocacy starts with you!
Friday, October 13th 2023
8:00am-2:30pm

Holiday Inn Long Island
1730 N. Ocean Ave.
Holtsville, NY 11742
[www.siloinc.org/selfadvocacyconference](http://www.siloinc.org/selfadvocacyconference)

**SILO’s 2023 Self-Advocacy Conference Agenda**

8:00am-8:45am- Registration & Breakfast

9:00am–9:15am- Introduction (Sapphire Room)

9:15am–9:45am- Opening Keynote – Kim Hill, Chief Disability Officer

\*presenting virtually\* (Sapphire Room)

10:00am–10:45am- Workshop Session I

1. Awareness & Advocacy for people with Developmental Disabilities (Sapphire Room)

2. Digital Accessibility (Opal Room)

3. Voting Machine Demonstration (Emerald Room)

11:00am–11:45am- Break/Networking

11:50am–12:50pm- Lunch (Sapphire Room)

1:00pm–1:45pm- Workshop Session II

4. Traveling with a Disability (Emerald Room)

5. Crafting Financial Security: Supplemental Needs Trusts & Planning for Disabilities (Sapphire Room)

6. Mental Health Workshop (Opal Room)

2:00pm-2:30pm- Closing Keynote - Dr. Chris Rosa (Sapphire Room)

**Workshop Descriptions and Presenters**

Presenting Virtually: Kimberly Hill, Chief Disability Officer- Office of Governor Kathy Hochul
Kim was appointed by Governor Kathy Hochul to serve as New York State's first-ever Chief Disability Officer (CDO) on 2/14/22 - the same day that New York's Office of the Chief Disability Officer was created in law within the Executive Chamber, making it one of the first states in the country to establish such an office. Kim has been charged with advising the Governor and executive staff on policy and budgetary issues as they pertain to disability issues, serving as the state's ADA Coordinator and chairing New York's Most Integrated Services Coordinating Council, which is responsible for the state's Olmstead compliance.

Dr. Chris Rosa- President and CEO of the Viscardi Center
Dr. Chris Rosa became President & CEO of The Viscardi Center, a network of non-profits that educate, employ and empower children and adults with disabilities. He is a staunch advocate for equity and economic justice for people with disabilities, being a wheelchair-user since age 12 with Limb-Girdle Muscular Dystrophy. A published disability studies scholar, he serves in national leadership roles for organizations that promote access and wellness for Americans with disabilities. He is also a sought-after orator on a variety of topics including disability as a key dimension of diversity, equity, & inclusion and American disability culture.

1. "Awareness & Advocacy for people with Developmental Disabilities” Presenter – Russell Snaith, Founder, NYADD will educate on the key issues that families and individuals affected by disabilities are advocating for and how to effectively achieve positive change. 10:00AM-10:45AM (Sapphire Room)

2. “Digital Accessibility” Michael Caprara, CIO, Viscardi Center- The Viscardi Center‘s Digital Accessibility Services social enterprise provides a comprehensive suite of services that ensure customer websites, documents, and video content are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 508, and Web Content Accessibility. 10:00AM-10:45AM (Opal Room)

3. “Voting Machine Demonstration" - Board of Elections/Election Systems & Software.- The Board of Elections and Election Systems & Software will demonstrate the voting process on the Dominion Voting System and talk about the importance of voting. 10:00AM-10:45AM (Emerald Room)

4. “Traveling with a Disability" Presenter – Michael Ring- Traveling with a disability can be difficult. Michael Ring will share his experiences traveling. Michael acquired his disability in 2014. He will discuss the differences between traveling as a person with a disability and as a person who was not yet disabled. 1:00PM-1:45PM (Emerald Room)

5. “Crafting Financial Security: Supplemental Needs Trusts & Planning for Disabilities”- Presenters- Cheryl L. Fratello, Esq. and Carrie A. Arias, Esq.- This seminar delves into the intricacies of special needs trusts and planning strategies that safeguard well-being and quality of life. Led by professionals in the fields of law and disability advocacy, this workshop will guide you through the essential steps of creating a tailored plan that addresses your unique needs. 1:00PM-1:45PM (Sapphire Room)

6. “Mental Health Workshop/Q&A” Presenters- Ann Morrison-Pacella, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention will discuss the scope of the problem of suicide, key research findings including risk factors and warning signs for suicide, along with recommendations for the role we can all play in suicide prevention. 1:00PM-1:45PM (Opal Room)

There is to be no soliciting unless you are a paid vendor!

**Conference Sponsors:**
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Thank you!

SILO has been providing programs and services to people with disabilities in Suffolk County since 1985. SILO is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, consumer controlled, non-residential, civil rights, mentoring and educational organization. SILO's philosophy is tied to the nationwide Independent Living Movement which asserts that people with disabilities have the same rights and responsibilities, needs and desires, as their non-disabled peers.

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