



## 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*)

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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SILO  
3253 Route 112, Bldg 10  
Medford, New York 11763  
(631) 880-7929      [www.siloinc.org](http://www.siloinc.org)

# 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**   
Suffolk Independent Living Organization  
education - advocacy - empowerment

# SPEAKERS

## 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 & CEO  
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.



## Workshop Descriptions and Presenters

10:00AM-10:45AM (Sapphire Room)

1. "Awareness & Advocacy for people with Developmental Disabilities" Presenter – **Russell Snath, 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 (Opal 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 (Emerald 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.

1:00PM-1:45PM (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.

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

1:00PM-1:45PM (Sapphire 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 (Opal 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.

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*Thank You!*