



www.directcarealliance.org

March 30, 2009

Dear Friend:

You are invited to submit nominations for the 2nd Annual National Leadership Training of the Direct Care Alliance's Voices Institute.

This week-long workshop provides an intensive, in-person leadership development experience to a select group of direct care workers from worker associations and coalitions around the country, providing them with the skills and support they need to be effective leaders.

The 2009 National Leadership Training is being held from September 27 to October 3 at a retreat center in Racine Wisconsin, near the Milwaukee airport.

All travel, meal, and lodging expenses will be covered by the DCA. In addition, an \$80 daily stipend will be paid to all attendees who qualify. However, attendees will need to contribute a \$300 participation fee. We will help the people accepted into the program raise their participation fees.

Candidates must meet the following criteria:

1. Employed as a direct care worker (certified nurse aides (CNAs), home health aides, direct support professionals, personal care attendants, private duty aides, geriatric aides, and other frontline workers).
2. Recommended and/or nominated by their direct care worker association or workforce coalition. Preference will be given to workers in leadership positions.
3. Demonstrate commitment to active involvement in an advocacy campaign at the state or national level and coordination with DCA's National Advocacy Director.
4. Have access to computer and e-mail.

Prior leadership training is helpful, though not required.

Organizations are encouraged to nominate two members. Each candidate must fill out and return the application on the other side of this page.

Applications are due April 30, 2009. The Voices Institute advisory committee will review the nominations and announce the second class (30 participants) on May 18, 2009.

Thanks so much for your interest. Please feel free to contact me with questions.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bridget Siljander".

Bridget Siljander
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Direct Care Alliance
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2009 Voices Institute National Leadership Training Application

Racine Wisconsin, September 27–October 3, 2009

Application Due: **April 30, 2009**, Applicants will be notified: May 18, 2009

To apply online, go to www.directcarealliance.org/VI or e-mail bridgetsiljander@yahoo.com for a form you can send her via email. Otherwise, print out this form, complete it, and mail it to Bridget c/o the Direct Care Alliance, 4 West 43rd Street, Room 505, New York, NY 10036.

Sponsoring organization: _____

E-mail: _____

Applicant's full name: _____

Cell phone: _____

Address: (include apt. #) _____

Home phone: _____

City/State: _____

Zip code: _____

Work phone: _____

Why are you applying to the Institute?

What do you expect to gain from this experience?

What type of setting do you work in? (Examples: nursing home, group home, private residence, hospital, vocational site)

Please briefly explain how you meet the following criteria

1. Employed as a direct care worker (tell us your job title and where you work):

2. Recommended and/or nominated by a direct care worker association or a workforce coalition:
(Preference given to workers in leadership positions)

3. Demonstrated commitment to active involvement in an advocacy campaign at the state or national level and coordination with DCA's National Advocacy Director:

4. Access to computer and e-mail:

5. If you've had leadership training before, tell us about it (helpful but not required):

The 2nd annual Voices Institute National Leadership Training consists of

1. Orientation and Preparation. After selection, participants take part in a leadership survey/assessment and a series of one-hour introductory sessions by telephone conference and online. These preparatory sessions will total approximately 10 hours.

2. In-Person Training. Attend the intensive five-day leadership development training.

3. Follow-Up Support. Receive mentoring/coaching in the context of an ongoing advocacy/organizing campaign.

4. Recruiting and Involving Others. Help recruit and support state leaders to participate in state-level Voices Institute trainings.

I agree to participate in all four stages (mark with an "x")

Today's date _____