



Background: Partners participants practice how to introduce themselves to legislators and connect with them on important issues, 2022.

Below: Partners class members use a hand drawn bus to depict access problems within the service system, 2019.

Below: Partners participants use props and costumes in an interactive skit to demonstrate effective communication, 2019.



Left: Tom Reed, Partners Graduate, 2018.

Center: Partners participants at the Minnesota State Capitol, 2017.

Above: The Boyer family enjoying the Partners graduation party.

Partners in Policymaking

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Created by the Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities 35 years ago, the life-changing Partners program has been offered nationally and internationally. Through informative and interactive sessions, the program teaches leadership skills and the process of developing positive partnerships with elected officials and other policymakers who make decisions about the services that people with developmental disabilities and their families use. Partners is accessible and empowering. Since its inception, more than 1,100 self-advocates and family members have graduated from Partners in Minnesota.