

Building the Foundation for a Maine Chapter of the Sibling Leadership Network

LEND Community Fellow: Kate Quinn Finlay, MS, LSW
Faculty Liaison: Alan Kurtz, M.Ed., Ph.D. Candidate

Leadership

- Initiated collaborations with local and statewide potential partners.
- Planned for Maine-focused chapter recognizing rural communities and need for technology.
- Integrated information and data from other state chapters.
- Collaborated on a local, state and national level to help build the foundation for the Maine chapter.
- Drafted an implementation plan.
- Presented information to human services, community and civic agencies and organizations regarding important and relevant sibling issues.



*...supporting lives in balance...
one stepping stone at a time.*



SIBLING LEADERSHIP NETWORK

The Sibling Leadership Network (SLN) is comprised of 19 state chapters focused on providing information, guidance, support, tools and advocacy resources to promote issues of interest for adult siblings and their families who have brothers and sisters with disabilities.

Learning

- Reviewed literature related to the development of state and national networks.
- Interviewed professionals and family members regarding interest in participation in support group.
- Collaborated with organizations to develop contact lists.
- Participated in regional and nationwide phone conferences to research support network/group startup. Joined national sibling networks.
- Participated in Sibling Leadership Network meeting at the Disability Policy Seminar in Washington, DC in April.
- Followed up with contacts made on the state and national level to promote formation of Maine chapter.
- Will attend the 2015 National Sibling Leadership Network Conference in Louisville, Kentucky in May.

siblingleadership.org

Gratitude to Ms. Sandra Horne and the UMaine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies for mentor support and the opportunity to attend the SLN Conference in May.