# The Lower Hudson Special Education Task Force is pleased to present a Zoom webinar on

# **Supported Decision Making**

## What is Supported Decision-Making (SDM)?

Supported decision-making is a process in which people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) build their own decision-making skills and develop a structure of support of trusted persons in their lives while retaining all their legal and civil rights. SDM has increasingly become recognized as a preferable and less restrictive alternative to guardianship.

## Why is SDM important?

In the spring of 2022, Governor Kathy Hochul signed New York's Supported Decision-Making Agreement Act. This legislation recognizes SDM as an alternative to guardianship and prohibits discrimination against decisions made by people with IDD with an agreement developed through a facilitation process that aligns with the principles developed by SDMNY. New York Courts are increasingly deciding that SDM can be used as a less restrictive alternative to avoid guardianship in the first place or as a means to restore the rights to persons already under guardianship.

#### What will attendees learn about SDM?

Attendees will receive an overview of SDM including the facilitation process, and how to access services through the SDMNY's statewide network of partners, among other points of interest.

#### Panelists:

Naomi Brickel, M.S.Ed, Project Director, SDMNY, Hunter/CUNY Janine Belfast, Transition Specialist, WIHD Community Support Network Karen Rosenthal, Mentor, SDMNY, Hunter/CUNY

> DATE: April 24, 2023 TIME: 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

> > RSVP HERE

If you have difficulty registering, please email <u>jbaumann@putnamils.org</u>
Or call (845) 228-7457, ext. 1108

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The Lower Hudson Valley Special
Education Task Force

