



REGIONAL LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY CONFERENCE

For People with Disabilities

MAY 31-JUNE 2, 2019 • INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI

We're good at growing things here in America's Heartland.

This summer, join us as **we grow leadership and advocacy skills** at the SOAR Conference. Hundreds of self advocates from Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and Iowa will learn from fun and inspiring speakers and breakout presenters.

SPEAKERS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

Ollie Cantos - a Filipino-American who has been blind since birth. Ollie was bullied as a boy, leaving him with no self-confidence. He rose to become the highest-ranking person with a disability in the United States federal government.

Garrett Holeve - a 28-year old athlete with Down Syndrome who competes in Mixed Martial Arts, Pro Wrestling and Fitness Competitions. He's a Certified Coach for Adaptive Athletes and has been featured by ESPN, The Guardian, and CrossFit.

Michael Beers - a stand-up comedian with disabilities who travels the country to perform. He is the 2017 winner of the Montana Comedy Competition, the 2012 FunnyFest Calgary talent search, and several other awards.

Ed O'Malley - the founding President and CEO of the Kansas Leadership Center. Formed in 2007, the center now works with over 2000 Kansans each year in leadership development trainings, which include people with disabilities.

AND MUCH MORE...

Choose from 10 breakout sessions on topics that matter to you, let loose on the dance floor, compete in our paper airplane soaring contest, and more!

Early registration cost for self advocates and family members: \$100 - includes 3 meals, all events, t-shirt, and materials. Hotel stay not included.

[Find More Details and Register at HeartlandSelfAdvocacy.org](http://HeartlandSelfAdvocacy.org)

OLLIE CANTOS



GARRETT HOLEVE



MICHAEL BEERS



ED O'MALLEY



Brought to you by People First of Missouri, Self Advocate Coalition of Kansas, People First of Nebraska, and Iowa self advocates, partners in the Heartland Self-advocacy Resource Network (HSRN).

Find more information and **REGISTER ONLINE** at:
heartlandselfadvocacy.org/conference

TICKET INFORMATION

Self Advocates and Family

Early Bird - buy by April 30 - \$100

Includes all sessions, meals, materials, and a SOAR t-shirt

After April 30, before May 12 - \$110

Includes all sessions, meals, materials, and a SOAR t-shirt

Late registration after May 12 - \$118.33

Last chance ticket, no t-shirt

Professional Allies

Full access, materials, and t-shirt \$120

Direct Support Professionals/ Exhibit Staff

MEALS ONLY - for Exhibit staff and those who are providing direct support at the conference as part of their employment. Does not include t-shirt or materials - \$75

Ticket Sales End May 20, 2019

ORGANIZERS

This conference is brought to you by People First of Missouri, Self Advocate Coalition of Kansas, People First of Nebraska, and Iowa self advocates, partners in the Heartland Self advocacy Resource Network (HSRN).



HOTEL AND CONFERENCE LOCATION

Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center

Independence, Missouri (Kansas City area) – Visit hotel website

Hotel rooms must be reserved through the hotel by calling 816-908-9600. **Use Code: 68917** to get SOAR Conference room block pricing.

Cost: \$99 per night (About \$114/night, after taxes and city fees)

Hotel rooms are “first come-first served.” A limited number of wheelchair accessible rooms are available. Room choices include one King-sized bed, two Queen beds, or Expanded Queen rooms (2 Queens and a sleeper sofa).

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Friday, May 31

5 – 7 PM

Registration

7 – 10 PM

State Meetings, followed by

Outdoor Mixer and Airplane Contest

Saturday, June 1

7:30 – 9:15 AM

Registration open/Breakfast by Stoney Creek Hotel for Friday night guests

Morning

Welcome/Flag Ceremony

Keynote Speaker - Ed O'Malley

Afternoon

Lunch provided

Breakout Sessions

Featured Presentations

- Garrett Holeve and Ollie Cantos

Evening

Dinner Banquet with speaker/comedian

Michael Beers, followed by Dance

Sunday, June 2

9:30 AM – 12 PM

Brunch and Endnote Speaker

- Ollie Cantos, followed by Closing Ceremony and Door Prizes