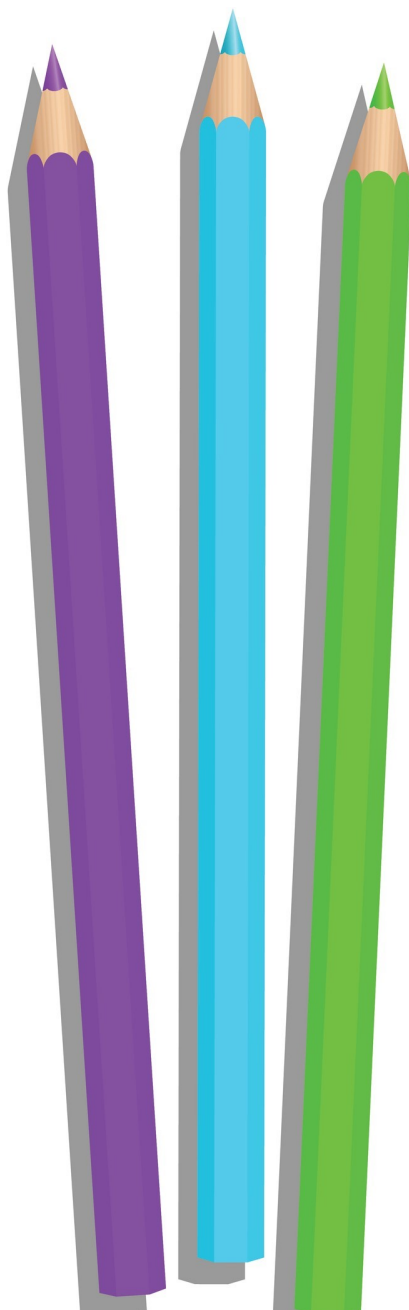




**February 2-4, 2018**  
**Florida Hotel & Conference Center / Orlando**



## Welcome to “My Voice Matters” 2018 FL SAND Annual Conference from the Board of Directors

Dear FL SAND Members,

It’s hard to believe this is our sixth conference and that FL SAND has been around for more than 10 years! Our collective voices have made quite an impact in our first decade but we have much more to say and do. Our best years are ahead!

We look forward to a productive time of refreshing, equipping, and planning for our future this weekend. And, as always, we’ll manage to have a great time in the process.

Please help me thank MaryJo Pirone, the planning committee, our advisors, and Organizational Management Solutions, for their hard work in putting the conference together. We must also extend a hearty shout-out to our sponsors — and slate of presenters and facilitators, the majority of whom are self-advocates!

If this is your first conference — Welcome! If it’s your sixth, thanks for your dedication to FL SAND. Regardless of how long you’ve been around, don’t ever lose sight of the fact that *our voices do matter* and, together, they are stronger than ever.

Regards,

*Amanda Baker, FL SAND President & the Board of Directors*

### *From your provider . . .*

On behalf of Organizational Management Solutions, we hope you enjoy the 2018 conference! We’re excited about the momentum FL SAND is building, thanks to the hard work of the board, local groups, and advisors, and are committed to supporting you in keeping the train moving in the direction of sustainability and long-term systems change. Your voices matter to us and must continue to be heard! It’s our desire that FL SAND become the best it can be in the coming years and continue to have a profound, lasting voice in Florida’s disability advocacy movement.

*Tina St.Clair & Kelli Munn*

# FL SAND Board of Directors



**Amanda Baker**  
President  
Elephant Herds



**Eddie Hall**  
Vice President  
Polk County Self-  
Advocates Alliance



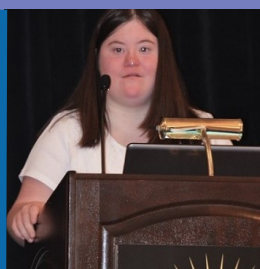
**Rachael Riccobene**  
Secretary  
Stand Up For  
Independence



**Mildretta Williams**  
Treasurer  
Self-Advocates of  
East Volusia



**Jimmy Fricke**  
Parliamentarian  
Village Voices



**Moira Rossi**  
Advocates  
Reaching the  
Community



**Natalie Horne**  
New Horizons  
Support Group



**Randy Hill**  
Voices Heard



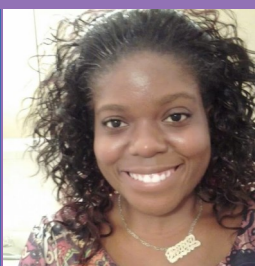
**Frank Shalett**  
People First of  
South Florida



**Joseph Slack**  
Santa Rosa  
Transformers



**Jaime Torres**  
Self-Advocacy for  
an Independent  
Life



**Indya Barnes**  
Abilities Venti

**TBD**  
Soaring with  
Advocacy

# Presenters



**Michael Daniels** is the executive director of the Florida Alliance of Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST). Michael has been working in the assistive technology field for over 20 years with a

focus on computer access and seating and mobility. He served as program director at FAAST for four years and was instrumental in the development of the statewide device loan program and the addition of two Regional Demonstration Centers.

## *Keynote Speaker*



**Yessenia Leyva** advocates for people with disabilities through speaking, entertainment, event-planning, building relationships, and raising awareness on a variety of topics. In 2011, she was named Ambassador of Change through the Broward Children's Center and the Leadership Broward Program for her work educating school children about disabilities and bullying. Her goals are to fight for inclusion and make people everywhere aware that persons with disabilities have ABILITIES.

**Michael Lincoln** is a member of FL SAND's Stand Up for Independence self-advocacy group. He is also a member of the Treasure Coast-Fort Pierce Guardian Angels. He is enrolled at Indian River State College and recently started a Best Buddies chapter in his community. Michael is passionate about advocating for individuals wanting to live independently and currently serves on the Supreme Court of Florida's WINGS (Working Interdisciplinary Networks of Guardianship Stakeholders) group.



**Paula Roberts** is the external affairs coordinator for Disability Rights Florida. Her role is to educate individuals with disabilities, their caregivers, and state agency representatives on how to access services from local, state, and federal agencies. Her trainings include "How to Become an Efficient Self-Advocate," information on transition services, systemic issues, and obtaining information and resources from Disability Rights Florida.

**Ashley Wolfe** is a research liaison at the Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. Her research is about ways for people with IDD to succeed at school, at work, and in their communities. She has presented research findings at conferences and mentored self-advocates in Florida. Ashley was awarded the first-ever Research in Action award by The Arc in 2011. In 2014, she received the Disability Law Center's Individual Leadership Award.



# Presenters



**Amanda Baker**, a self-advocate from Panama City, is president of FL SAND and vice-chair of the FDDC. She is a graduate of Partners in Policy-making and recipient of the 2015 Idelio Valdes Award. She founded the Elephant Herds self-advocacy group in Panama City. Amanda has significant experience in public policy and advocacy and is employed full time as a vocational rehab technician.



**John Finch** serves as the director of ABLE United at the Florida Prepaid College Board. Previously, John served at The Arc of Florida in various capacities, including director of dental services, which helps individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities receive much needed emergency dental care. With experience in both the financial sector and non-profit social services field, John strives to make a difference in people's lives.

**Katrina Washington** has worked for the Agency for Persons with Disabilities since 2009, currently in their state office as an operational review specialist where she provides technical assistance and training for employment liaisons and supported employment providers and businesses. She has a passion for supported employment and is eager to see people with disabilities obtain and maintain successful employment.



**Natalie Alden** has been working in the disability rights field for more than 30 years, the last 14 as a senior advocate-investigator with Disability Rights Florida where she focuses on Social Security, employment, and health insurance issues. She has worked hands on for systems change through working on pilot projects that have gone on to national implementation and organizing grassroots empowerment groups. She was awarded both the Ron Halsey Memorial Award and the Jack Gillrup Community Leadership Award.



We also wish to thank the many other self-advocates using their voices in sessions to introduce speakers and lead round-table discussions. A special thanks to People First of South Florida for facilitating our kick-off activity, Village Voices for making lunch fun, and Mildretta Williams for sharing her voice in song.

# Conference Schedule

## Friday, February 2, 2018

Time	Event	Location
3 — 8 PM	Conference Registration Exhibit Hall Open	Legacy Lobby Legacy South 2
4 — 5:15 PM	Board of Directors Strategic Planning Session	Symposium East
7 PM	Conference Kick-Off & Welcome ♦ Amanda Baker, FL SAND President, and Jimmy Fricke, FL SAND Parliamentarian ♦ John Finch, Executive Director ABLE United ♦ Kelli Munn & Tina St.Clair, Organizational Management Solutions	Legacy North
7:30—10 PM	♦ “What Would You Do?” Self-advocacy Activity & Mixer Hosted by People First of South Florida ♦ Fun & Games: See old friends and meet new ones	Legacy North
8:45 PM	Advisors Meeting	Symposium East

## Saturday, February 3, 2018 / Morning

Time	Event	Location
8:30 AM—5:30 PM	Exhibit Hall Open	Legacy South 2
9 — 9:30 AM	Morning Welcome ♦ Amanda Baker & Eddie Hall, FL SAND President & Vice President ♦ Singing of FL SAND Anthem ♦ Ann Smith, Florida Developmental Disabilities Council ♦ Scott Shelby, General Manager of Mobility Works	Legacy North
9:30 — 10:15 AM	Keynote Address: Inspiring Inclusion & Independence ♦ Emily DeLisle, Village Voices ♦ Yessenia Leyva, Speaker & Disability Advocate	Legacy North
	15 MINUTE BREAK	
10:30 — 11:30 AM	DD Day “Prep” Rally ♦ Moira Rossi, Advocates Reaching the Community ♦ Michael Daniels, FAAST	Legacy North
	15 MINUTE BREAK	
11:45AM — 12:45PM	Lunch ♦ Paula Roberts, Disability Rights Florida ♦ Natalie Jean, Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Legacy North

# Conference Schedule

Saturday, February 3, 2018 / Afternoon

Time	Event	Location
1:15 — 2:30 PM Break-out 1	<b>“Well, I Heard . . .” Bustin’ Myths &amp; Rumors About Employment, Benefits &amp; Financial Independence</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Erin Chilson, Stand Up for Independence</li> <li>♦ Natalie Alden, Disability Rights Florida</li> <li>♦ John Finch, ABLE United</li> <li>♦ Katrina Washington, Agency for Persons with Disabilities</li> <li>♦ Amanda Baker, FL SAND</li> </ul>	Legacy North
Break-out 2	<b><u>Self-Advocacy 101 Super Session</u></b> <b>How to Be an Efficient Self-Advocate</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Zachary Hubers, Self-Advocacy for an Independent Life</li> <li>♦ Paula Roberts, Disability Rights Florida</li> <li>♦ Michael Lincoln, Stand Up for Independence</li> </ul> <b>Explore Work Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Indya Barnes, Abilities Venti</li> <li>♦ Ashley Wolfe, Employment First Florida</li> </ul>	Legacy South 1
	15 MINUTE BREAK	
2:45 — 4 PM	<b>Regional Round Tables: Transportation &amp; Grassroots Advocacy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Groups &amp; locations to be assigned</li> </ul>	Legacy North Legacy South 1
	15 MINUTE BREAK	
4:15 — 5:30 PM	<b>Regional Round Tables: Member Recruitment &amp; Mentoring Emerging Leaders</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Groups &amp; locations to be assigned</li> </ul>	Legacy North Legacy South 1
6:15 PM	<b>Dinner Out</b>	Buca di Beppo
8 — 10 PM	<b>Dancing &amp; Fun with DJ Dan Booton</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Hosted by Frank Shalett, People First of South Florida</li> </ul>	Legacy North

Enjoy dinner together at Buca di Beppo in the Florida Mall.

(Pick up a map at the registration table).

Please arrive in time to be seated by 6:15 PM.

# Conference Schedule

Sunday, February 4, 2018

Time	Event	Location
9 — 9:15 AM	<b>Morning Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Amanda Baker, FL SAND President</li> <li>♦ Singing of FL SAND Anthem</li> <li>♦ Special Music, Mildretta Williams, FL SAND Treasurer</li> </ul>	Legacy North
9:15 — 11 AM	<b>Local Group Annual Reports</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Rachael Riccobene, FL SAND Secretary</li> </ul>	Legacy North
	15 MINUTE BREAK	
11:15 AM — 12:30 PM	<b>FL SAND General Meeting</b>	Legacy North

## FL SAND Anthem

*“My Voice Matters”*

by David Roth

Written by David Roth in  
collaboration with FL  
SAND members at the  
2014 Annual Conference.

My voice matters, my voice counts  
Get to know what I am all about  
No more labels, fears or doubts  
My voice matters, my voice counts

We’re all different, and we’re the same  
We all have challenges, and we all have dreams  
My dreams are important just like yours  
We can teach each other, we can teach the world

### CHORUS

My voice matters, my voice counts  
Get to know what I am all about  
No more labels, fears or doubts  
My voice matters, my voice counts

I am gifted, I am strong  
We are powerful, one and all  
We are determined to make a change  
All are equal, all the same

(Repeat CHORUS)

**Thank You!**



**Headliner**



**ABLE United**

Save for a better life experience



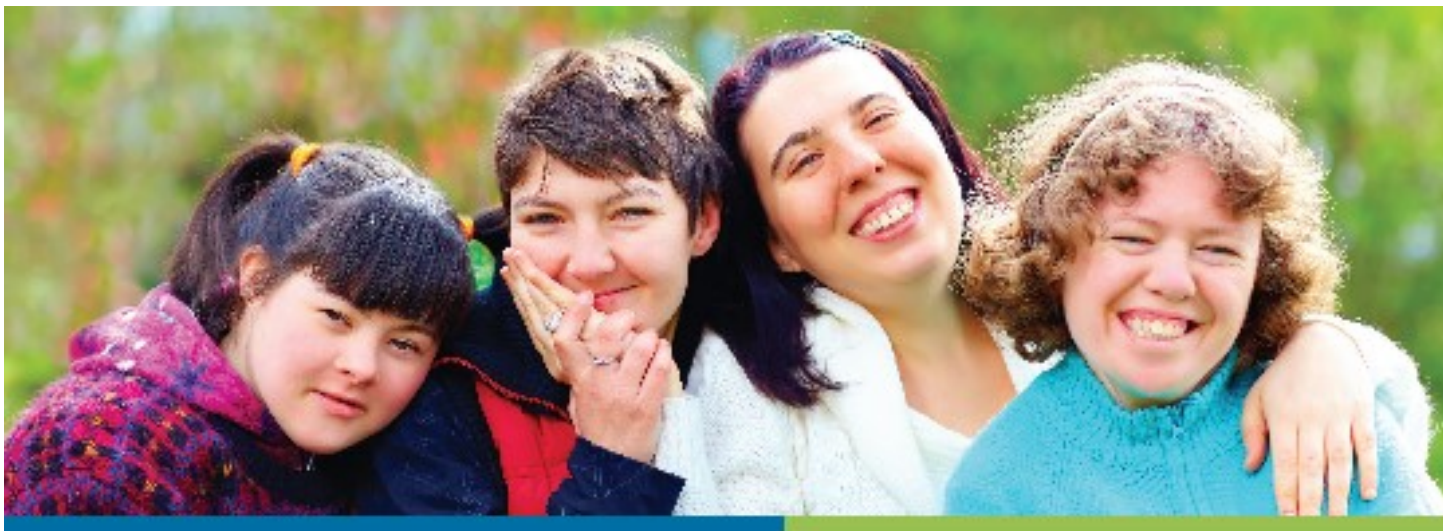
**Stand Up for Independence (SUF)**  
**Self-Advocacy Group**

**Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts, Boston**

**Supporter**



**Visit the Exhibit Hall in Legacy South 2**  
**Friday 3—8 PM &**  
**Saturday 8:30 AM—5:30 PM**



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**1-844-245-3405**

**[AbilitiesWorkHD@vr.fldoe.org](mailto:AbilitiesWorkHD@vr.fldoe.org)**



agency for persons with disabilities  
State of Florida



## Disability Rights FLORIDA

### Free and confidential services including:

Information and referral  
Advocacy, legal representation  
and negotiations  
Investigation and facility monitoring

### For more information:

**800-342-0823**

**TDD 800-346-4127**

**[www.DisabilityRightsFlorida.org](http://www.DisabilityRightsFlorida.org)**



# Connect With What Matters



## Being there makes a difference

It could be a simple trip to the mall, a ride to the movies or just a visit to a friend's home. The little things in life can make a big difference. It's why MobilityWorks has been helping people connect with who and what matters most since 1997. Our clients have unique needs so we treat each of them as individuals. First of all, we listen. Then, we work together to find the best solution.

MobilityWorks has more than 72 locations across the country with the largest selection of accessible vehicles and adaptive solutions:

- Converted minivans, full-size vans and SUV's — Chrysler, Dodge, Ford, Honda and Toyota
- Pre-owned accessible vehicles
- The latest in adaptive technology including transfer and turning seats, scooter lifts and hand controls
- Complete maintenance and service on adaptive driving equipment, lifts and conversions
- Daily, weekly and long term rental vans
- Financing options to fit your personal needs
- 24-hour roadside assistance with wheelchair transportation

MobilityWorks is committed to serving you. Contact us today so we can evaluate your needs and find a solution that best fits your lifestyle.



Lifts and stowage products



Turning Seats

### 11 Locations in Florida to Serve You

For more information, call toll free 1-888-608-1659  
or visit [www.mobilityworks.com](http://www.mobilityworks.com)



**We hope you enjoyed the  
conference!**



**FL SAND is sponsored by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.**



**FLSAND.ORG / CONTACTFLSAND@GMAIL.COM**