The National Resource Center for Supported Decision-Making (NRC-SDM) began in 2014 under a five-year grant from the U.S. Administration on Community Living. NRC-SDM is dedicated to advancing the “Right to Make Choices” of people with disabilities and older adults, through training, information-sharing, technical assistance, research, and promotion of promising practices in Supported Decision-Making (SDM). When people use SDM, they work with friends, family members, professionals, and others they trust to help them understand the situations and choices they face, so they can make their own decisions. SDM is a way people can stay in charge of their lives, while receiving any help they may need to do so.

As its fifth year draws to a close, NRC-SDM designed this Symposium with the following goals:

- To review the progress and achievements in implementing SDM as a primary decision-making support tool
- To share what has been learned about the impact of SDM in the lives of real people
- To examine the challenges of implementing SDM while also supporting health, safety, and well-being
- To define what more is needed to ensure that progress in advancing the use of SDM across the life span continues.

The Symposium’s presentations and facilitated discussions will address a wide range of SDM topics and reflect work done at the local, state, and national level. Participants will include national and local leaders, innovators, and practitioners, including people who use SDM and their families.

We invite you to be part of this exciting learning exchange, so that we can work together to ensure people with disabilities and older adults have access to the supports they want and need to shape and direct their own present and future.

Registration is open and required for attendance, given space limitations. Please RSVP to Morgan Whitlatch at mwhitlatch@dcqualitytrust.org.

Project partners include The Burton Blatt Institute of Syracuse University, The Kansas University Life Span Institute, The American Bar Association Commission on Law and Aging, The Autistic Self Advocacy Network, Family Voices, and Parent to Parent USA.