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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

THE NJCDD ANNOUNCES DELEGATION OF NEW JERSEY DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY ADVOCATES ATTENDING THE 2014 NATIONAL S.A.B.E CONFERENCE

STATEWIDE – After holding an open lottery for all New Jersey residents with developmental disabilities to attend the 2014 national conference of S.A.B.E (Self Advocates Becoming Empowered), the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities (NJCDD) has selected a delegation of five advocates to send to the event. This year's conference will be held in Oklahoma City, OK from Wednesday, October 8 to Sunday, October 12. The NJCDD will be covering all costs associated with sending this delegation of advocates to the event.

The advocates selected by the NJCDD to attend this event are:

Marcella Truppa; Cranford, NJ

Robert Nester; Princeton, NJ

Denis Ballance; Port Reading, NJ

Mark Bloom; Cranford, NJ

Adelaide Daskim; Elizabeth, NJ

Throughout the month of July, the NJCDD held an open lottery for all advocates with developmental disabilities living in the state of New Jersey to submit their names for a chance to be attend the S.A.B.E. national conference. The Council accepted names for this lottery until July 30, 2014. The five advocates chosen were selected at random from all those who submitted their names for this lottery.

Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) is the self-advocacy organization of the United States. Founded in 1990, the organization has dedicated its mission to full community inclusion for people with developmental disabilities, both nationally and internationally. The advocacy organization is run by a board of self advocates representing nine regions of the country.

Each year, SABE invites individuals with developmental disabilities from across the US and beyond to come together for their annual conference. This year's conference theme, "*The Sooner We're Equal the Better,*" describes the efforts of self advocates across America and the globe to enjoy the same rights as any citizen in any community while striving to live independent and fulfilling lives.

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