Self-Advocacy is exactly as it sounds: it is a Declaration of Independence for people with different abilities. We can sum up our mission in a single and simple statement:

**I KNOW WHAT IS BEST FOR ME.**

**YOU ARE A SELF-ADVOCATE IF...**

You have ever spoken up for what you believe in, especially if it is to someone who thinks they know what is best for you or someone who wants to have control over your life.

You have taken responsibility for your life in some way.

You have ever questioned people’s expectations of you.

You have ever joined a Self-Advocacy group and believe that the group’s work is going to make life better for people with different abilities.

Become a Self-Advocate today. Contact us for information.
716-631-5777 ext 318

**Autism Services, Inc.**
40 Hazelwood Drive
Amherst, NY 14228
716-631-5777
Toll Free 1-800-Autism 4

Artwork by Dan C.
WHAT WE DO:
The Self-Advocacy Meetings are held monthly at group homes and at ASI’s Herrtel location. A staff facilitator is always present to help participants conduct the meetings. Meetings last about one hour. Agendas include:
- Discussing rights & issues
- Discussing upcoming events
- Organizing fundraising events
- Planning social gatherings
- Enjoying snacks and socializing.

Self-Advocacy is speaking and acting on behalf of your own rights. The principle underlying ASI’s Self-Advocacy group is simple: No one knows the needs of a person better than the person him or herself. They are the experts when it comes to knowing their own needs. Our goal in creating this group is to provide our program participants with a valued role in setting the direction and operation of ASI, building self-confidence and pride, developing communication skills, changing false perceptions of people with autism and developing a stronger bond between the participants and ASI. To learn more about our group, call us at 631-5777 ext 318.