



# **Voices and Choices Conference**

**May 11 & 12 2026**

**DoubleTree by Hilton  
Burlington, Vermont**

**Hosted by  
Green Mountain Self-Advocates**

# Technology that Supports Choice, Voice, and Freedom

**Theme**



**People with disabilities using AI to make life easier and more accessible**

## CONFERENCE AGENDA

### Monday, May 11



Registration  
Check-in to hotel

3:00 - 6:00 pm



Art Projects, Storytelling  
Talent Show *and more...*

4:00 - 6:00 pm



Dinner, Awards  
& Cash Bar

6:30 - 8:00 pm



Music & Dancing

8:00 - 11:00 pm

### Tuesday, May 12



Registration  
for Day 2

8:30 - 9:30 am



Opening and Keynote

9:30 - 10:30 am



Workshop Session 1

10:45 - 12:00 pm



Lunch & Awards

12:00 - 1:30 pm



Workshop Session 2

1:45 - 3:00 pm



Closing

3:00 pm

*Times subject to change*

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

### LOCATION

Double Tree by Hilton  
870 Williston Rd  
Burlington, VT

### Our Technology Stories

Would you like to star in a video about how technology helps you do more on your own? Share your story about how using technology helps you speak up, make choices, and stay independent.

### GMSA Swag!

Don't forget to bring extra spending money so you can buy your conference T-shirts, sweatshirts, posters, bags & more!

### Entertainment

Dinner and dance party in the Emerald Ballroom.

## REGISTRATION FORM

This conference is for people with developmental disabilities and their supporters. Every person who attends (***including a support person***) must register and pay.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

To receive conference updates we need your email and/or cell number for texting.

Please write clearly! Thanks!

Your E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Number \_\_\_\_\_ Your group/agency/school: \_\_\_\_\_

**The only way to register is to complete this form and mail it in with a check.** We do not accept forms emailed, over the phone or on the day of the conference.

**LAST day to register is May 1, 2026 ~ unless we sell out!**

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Tell us what accommodations you need by 4/11/26

- Sign Language Interpreter   
  Large Print   
  Digital Version of Program  
 Vegetarian Meals   
  Sugar-free desserts   
  Gluten Free

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPTIONS: CIRCLE ONLY ONE!**

PLAN	DESCRIPTION	Early Registration	Late Registration
A	FULL CONFERENCE May 11 & 12 All events & meals on Monday & Tuesday (does not include hotel)	<b>\$160</b> <b>Extended to</b> <b>May 1st</b>	<b>\$200</b> <small>Last Day is May 1st but hotel rooms sell out early</small>
B	MAY 12 <sup>TH</sup> - TUESDAY ONLY TUESDAY events and meals.	<b>\$80</b> <b>Extended to</b> <b>May 1st</b>	<b>\$100</b> <small>Last day to sign up is May 1st</small>

**YOU CANNOT REGISTER FOR MONDAY ONLY**

CONFERENCE HOTLINE  
If you have questions  
call: (800) 564-9990  
or email  
conference@gmsavt.org



**Make checks payable to "GMSA"**  
and include payment with this form.  
**Mail to: GMSA**  
2 Prospect St #6, Montpelier, VT 05602

# Standard Hotel Room

## HOTEL REGISTRATION

The cost for a **standard** hotel room is \$140 for Monday night.  
 Rooms have 1 bed or 2 beds or 1 bed and sofa bed.  
 You must find your own roommates.

Plan	How many people will be in your room?	Who will be staying in the room?	You Pay
1	1 person in a room	Just me, I am staying alone Your name: _____	\$140
2	2 people in a room each person pays \$70	Your name: _____ Roommate: : _____	\$70
3	3 people in a room each person pays \$47	Your name: _____ Roommate 1: _____ Roommate 2:: _____	\$47
4	4 people in a room each person pays \$35	Your name: _____ Roommate 1: _____ Roommate 2: _____ Roommate 3:: _____	\$35

**Make checks payable to "GMSA" and include payment with this form.**

Send to: GMSA, 2 Prospect Street #6, Montpelier, VT 05602

- Need a room with 2 beds (only 100—once those are gone you will get a room with 1 queen and sofa bed )
- Need a wheelchair accessible room. (There only a few **and they only have 1 bed**)
- Need a room located **near** another guest (name of guest): \_\_\_\_\_

Cots are NOT an option. According to the hotel, putting a cot in a double room violates the fire code.

My conference fee is: (Plan A or B)                   \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My hotel fee is: (Plan 1, 2, 3, or 4)                   \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Due and Enclosed:**                   \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**LAST day to get a hotel room is May 1, 2026**  
**But we ALWAYS sell out so register early.**



## Monday Afternoon



ART

TALENT  
SHOW

MUSIC

This conference is for **ALL** people with developmental disabilities and their friends, families, teachers, providers and allies. We want to share our enthusiasm for encouraging youth and adults with disabilities to speak up for themselves. As always, we will have 20+ different workshops about our experiences with self-advocacy.

**Here's a partial list of workshops** under consideration. You do not need to sign up for workshops now. You will pick your workshops at the conference.



☀ Date Like A Pro ☀ Living a Healthy & Balanced Life ☀ Using Technology to Get a Job  
Staying Safe on the Internet ☀ Do the Things You Love, and Live Your Best Life! ☀  
Going To College ☀ Setting Up a Smart Home ☀ Artificial Intelligence and Chat GPT ☀

**This conference is hosted by Green Mountain Self-Advocates**

# Self-advocacy is...



- ▣ speaking up for yourself and others
- ▣ getting to know yourself, being proud and feeling good



- ▣ getting to know the people around you, making friends
- ▣ realizing you are not alone, that there are other people just like you



- ▣ learning new things, solving problems, making your case, negotiating for what you want
- ▣ making your own decisions and knowing your responsibilities



- ▣ thinking of all the other civil rights movements and preserving your rights
- ▣ being part of your community



## Self-advocacy is teamwork...



- ▣ listening to people's ideas and respecting their opinions
- ▣ NOT judging people because of the way they look or speak

- ▣ meeting politicians and telling them like it is
- ▣ spreading the word and getting others involved in self-advocacy, especially teens.



- ▣ helping others become leaders. Feel the Power!