



Disability
Rights OHIO Presents:

CREATIVE CHANGEMAKERS

Artists and Advocates Respond to the Direct Care Workforce Crisis

Your experiences matter and your voice has power.

Art has the ability to inspire and inform, to represent reality in a way that data cannot, and to transform emotion into action.

Overview of event:

Join us for a 6-week workshop series where participants will tell their stories of the impact of the Direct Care Workforce Crisis through art! Lead by artist and advocate **Alicia Hopkins** and Disability Rights Ohio Community Engagement Coordinator **Alexia Kemerling**.



Apply to be a Creative Changemaker! Applications close June 24th.

THE DETAILS



Who can apply?

Any person with a disability who uses caregiver support. You do not need any prior experience with art or advocacy.

What is this workshop?

This is a 6-week workshop with one 90 minute virtual session per week. Participants will learn about grassroots and legislative advocacy, discuss experiences and ideas relating to the direct care workforce crisis, and create two art pieces - one that represents what their life looks and feels like when they have the care they need and one showing what it looks and feels like when they do not have the care or are struggling to maintain their support.

When is this workshop?

The workshop will take place the weeks of July 11–August 15. The time and weekday of the workshop will be chosen based on the availability of the participants.

How much does this workshop series cost?

This workshop is free! All materials will be provided and mailed to participants.

What if I can't create art?

Art looks different for everyone – there is no right or wrong way.

We will work with you on coming up with adaptive art tools or collaborating with peers to tell your story. Advocates are free to create a drawing, painting, poetry, collage, or any form of visual art. We will work with you to figure out the best medium for you to use.



MORE DETAILS



How will my work be used for further advocacy?

We will print your art on postcards and use those to write letters to policymakers encouraging them to take action on the direct care workforce crisis. We also hope to showcase the artwork produced in the workshop virtually and potentially at an in-person event. Participants in the workshop may work together to brainstorm additional uses.

Why should I apply?

Despite being a dire crisis, the voices and stories of people with disabilities who are struggling to find care and remain in their communities continue to go unrecognized by legislators, the media, and members of the public who are not directly affected by the crisis. This workshop is designed to empower and uplift the voices, experiences, and opinions of people with disabilities. Each advocate will be given the tools, resources, and platform to tell their story and the support to take the products of the workshop and use them for effective advocacy.

What if I have another question that isn't on this list?

Please reach out to Alexia Kemerling, akemerling@disabilityrightsohio.org, with any additional questions.

I'm in! How do I apply again?

Click on **[the following link](#)** and fill out the form before June 24th.