Public Comment- Steven Cohen

I just wanted to alert you to a **leadership academy opportunity for autistic college students!** Here is our webpage link:

http://autisticadvocacy.org/2017/01/aci-2017-applications-now-open/

It's a week long advocacy training that takes place during June, in Washington, D.C. ACI participants learn about making student groups, understanding disability policy, and talking to people in the government. ASAN pays for travel and rooms for all Academy students.

Applicants must be on the Autism Spectrum and be college students with at least one year left before graduating. Students in TPSID programs (Transition and Postsecondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities), 2-year community colleges, 4-year colleges, and graduate schools can apply.

We are looking for Autistic people from a variety of backgrounds. Specifically, the following groups of students are especially encouraged to apply:

-students of color

-LGBT students

-students who are low-income or on SSI

-students with intellectual disabilities

-students who are AAC users

We have a flyer for ACI here: <u>http://autisticadvocacy.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/ACI-2017-Flyer.docx</u>

and a video with past participants here: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iO7OfMQvLcw</u>

The deadline to apply is Sunday, February 19.

If you know of anyone who might be interested or just want to send out to your networks, please do!

For more information, you can contact ASAN's Leadership Programs Coordinator, Reid Caplan, at <u>rcaplan@autisticadvocacy.org</u>.