



“I want this to be a better place, a place where people mean a lot to one another and where no one is invisible.”

*connecting people*

Tom Kohler, Citizen Advocacy Co-ordinator, Savannah Citizen Advocacy

## connecting people



...Andrew reaches out his hand, to shake James Kelly's but he doesn't know that I have put my hand in James's hand. Andrew's hand is just suspended in air in front of Mr Kelly. I fight the urge to jump in, to make a comment, to edge people closer, slowly, gently Mr Kelly reaches out his hand and it touches with Andrew, this is a very important moment, as my friend Donny Cogdill's Daddy once told me "you can tell a lot about a man from his handshake".

These two hands stayed together for a few moments more, then Andrew begins to let go, Mr Kelly gently holds on, with his arm following as Andrew softly tries to pull his hand back. I look at Andrew, a shy smile has come across his face, his other hand instinctively has gone to Mr Kelly's shoulder, it is grim the place that we are in, but Mr Kelly has spoken; he has gently, ever so gently, tugged at Andrew Stanley, and without using a word has said, "everyone matters".

"I believe that there is a crack in the world and that vulnerable people will fall into that crack. It is my job to do what it takes to keep that from happening."





connecting people

“If you want something  
different to happen  
then you must do  
something different.”

Sharon Di Santo

“When not used to  
people speaking  
out are  
heard by  
people not  
used to  
listening  
then real  
change can  
be made.”

John O'Brien, Georgia

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advocates are everyday people, just like you and me

Patricia Parker, President, Advocacy in Action



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We are a Citizen Advocacy organisation that supports people labelled as having a learning disability. We find advocates who stand alongside their advocacy partner helping them to be seen and included in everyday life by enabling them to speak up for themselves or speaking up on their behalf.