Discovering a Treasure in The Arc Chapter Network



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The Arc.

Learning Objectives

- 1. Importance of serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families
- 2. Who The Arc is and How The Arc's chapter network serves people with I/DD and their families around the country
- 3. The Arc of the United States's information and referral process
- 4. Top requests received from people with I/DD and families
- 5. Common referrals made by The Arc of the United States



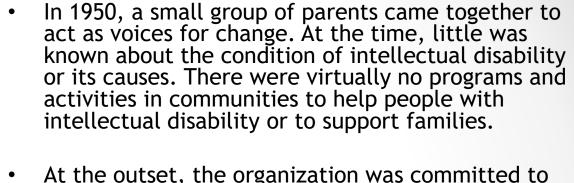


Importance of Serving People with I/DD & Families

- There are 4.98 million people with I/DD in the US
 - o Only 25% receive any public services or are connected with the "formal" service system
 - The rest receive support through their families and "informal" or "natural" supports
- 71% of people with I/DD (3.5 million+) live with their family caregiver; proportion living with aging caregivers likely to grow
 - 860k+ caregivers over the age of 60
 - 1.2 million+ are aged 41-59
 - 1.4 million+ are younger than 40
- People with I/DD living longer today needs for and length of time needed for support services have changed as well



What is The Arc?



- At the outset, the organization was committed to altering perceptions of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities and to educate parents and others regarding the potential of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Over the last 67 years, The Arc has advocated for the passage of state and federal legislation on behalf of people with disabilities and established a broad network of chapters that range from small volunteer groups to large, professional organizations.



What is The Arc?

Today, The Arc is the largest national community-based organization advocating for and serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

Our network includes over 174,000 employees and volunteers that support 1 million people with IDD and family members at 650+ chapters nationwide

Find a chapter:

http://www.thearc.org/finda-chapter





About The Arc

Programs at Chapters of The Arc provide services to individuals with I/DD, their families, and the wider community. Services include:

- Public Awareness
- Parent Support
- Recreational Services
- Day Habilitation Services
- Early Childcare Services
 - Respite
- Education/Transition Services

- Sibling Support
- Grandparent Support
 - Future Planning
- Employment Services
- Transportation Training
 - Professional Training
 - Therapeutic Services



About The Arc

Chapters of The Arc also advocate for system change as well as for individual rights. Common advocacy issues include:

- Health Care Policy and Access to Health Care/Treatment
- Home/Community Based Services
 - Employment Policy and Discrimination
 - Transportation
 - Criminal Justice

- Civil Rights/ADA
- Housing Policy and Discrimination
 - Funding, appropriations
- Public Benefits Policy/Access
 - Education Policy/IEP
 - Direct Service Workforce
- Individual Accommodations



Inquirers contact The Arc or its resource centers

- Contact us at 1-800-433-5255 or at info@thearc.org
- Contact our Center for Future Planning at <u>futureplanning@thearc.org</u> or 202-617-3268
- Contact Autism NOW at 1-855-828-8476 or info@autismnow.org
- Use online forms to request assistance through our website

Staff dedicated to answering inquiries

- Staff monitor inquiries and respond to inquirers
- Staff research issue and provide customized response and referral by phone/email



Topic Areas:

Other

First Name *	Last Name *	Navigating WebsiteServices	
E-Mail Address City State * I am looking for something related to * I am Please describe your inquiry *	Phone Number Zip Code I prefer to be contacted by * E-Mail Phone	 Self-Advocacy Medicaid Housing Federal Policy State/Local Agencies Getting Involved with The Arc Physical Donations Monetary Donations Research Requests Other 	
✓ Yes, I would like to receive email from The Arc.		 I am a Areas: Self-Advocate Sibling Parent Professional 	

☑ I am interested in more information about becoming a member of The Arc.

About our Inquiries:

- We receive over 10,000 inquiries a year; 6,000 via email and online form
- Callers are often family members of people with I/DD - often parents and siblings - and professionals
- We get calls from people with I/DD but less frequently - usually a call from a supporter



- Questions range from diagnosis/birth to end of life planning. This includes crises scenarios (e.g., homeless, death of caregiver).
- Top Requests for Assistance:
 - Connection to a local service provider
 - Need assistance with transportation or housing
 - Questions about benefits/services
 - Autism-specific services
 - Future planning assistance
 - Help with the criminal justice system



Knowing Common Resources

Our most frequent referral is to a Chapter of The Arc:

http://www.thearc.org/find-a-chapter

Chapters of The Arc are experts in providing or identifying services in the communities they serve.



In urgent cases:

http://www.nasddds.org/stateagencies/

Every state has different ways of providing services, and the state I/DD agency will identify short and long-term options for the person with I/DD



When rights may be being violated:

http://www.ndrn.org/en/ndrn-memberagencies.html

Protection and Advocacy agencies provide legal representation and other advocacy services to all people with disabilities.



Other common referrals:

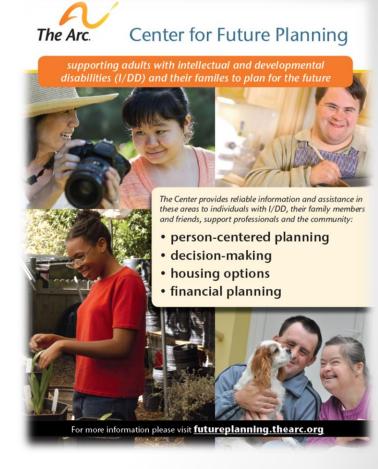
- Developmental Disabilities (DD) Councils http://nacdd.org/councils/
- Self-Advocacy Organizations
 - Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (http://www.sabeusa.org/)
 - Autistic Self Advocacy Network (http://autisticadvocacy.org/)
- Parent Training and Information Centers and Community Resource Centers - http://www.parentcenterhub.org/find-your-center/
- Parent to Parent Organizations http://www.p2pusa.org/p2pusa/SitePages/p2p-support.aspx
- University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDDs)
 - https://www.aucd.org/directory/directory.cfm?program=UCEDD
- Centers for Independent Living http://www.ilru.org/projects/cil-net/cil-center-and-association-directory



National Center on Criminal
Justice & Disability®

We also refer to experts on content areas in our national office around criminal justice, special education advocacy, and future planning.







Want to Know More?



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Or, contact:

The Arc of the United States

info@thearc.org 202-534-3700

