

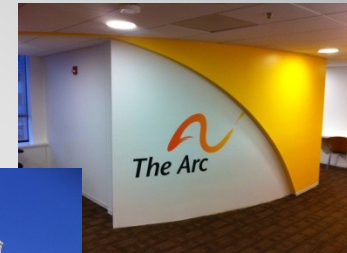


Andy is an artist in Oregon. He has an intellectual disability. He receives various services and supports which assist him with his education, transportation, housing and medical care. He has never been to Washington, D.C.





DON'T CUT OUR  
LIFELINE



But, nearly every part of Andy's life is connected to the work The Arc does on a national level, from the **education** he receives to **where he lives** to his **employment opportunities** **transportation** he takes to his art studio.





## HOW?

The Arc advocates to the White House, Congress and the Courts for funding and support of major Federal programs which provide Andy with:

- Long Term Services and Supports (Medicaid)
- Healthcare (Medicaid)
- Income Support (SSI, SSDI)
- Housing Support (HUD, Section 811)
- Employment and Transportation Support (Medicaid)





## The Arc was instrumental in the passage of the Affordable Care Act – also known as Health Care Reform - in 2010

- Andy can't be denied insurance because he was born with an intellectual disability (no exclusions for pre-existing conditions).
- Since Andy is still a young man, his parents will be able to provide for him on their health insurance plans until he is 26.
- Andy won't be kicked out of a health insurance plan if the cost of his care reaches an arbitrary lifetime limit.
- Andy may not have to pay exorbitant premiums because of his diagnoses.
- Health professionals will receive improved training on treating people like Andy.
- States may be allowed to offer Andy additional services under waivers options.



*Just a few examples of changes in the law brought about by advocacy efforts at the Federal level.....*





## What We Accomplished – The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Is Just Another Example

### Created

- Identified cases of discrimination
- Mobilized grassroots
- Helped draft the law
- Secured Congressional supporters

### Monitored

- Worked with federal agencies charged with implementing the law:
  - Dept of Justice
  - Dept of Labor
  - Dept of Education
  - Dept of Housing & urban Development
  - Amtrak

### Improved

- Responded to proposed regulations on:
  - Buildings & facilities
  - Medical equipment
  - Telecommunications
  - Public accommodations
- Helped secure passage of the ADA Amendments Act that expanded the definition of disability

### Protected

- Fought efforts to weaken the law:
  - prohibiting use of funds to enforce regulations
  - requiring advance notification to violators of the law



## Successful Advocacy Involves:

- Identifying and researching issues
- Involving stakeholders & activating grassroots networks
- Offering guidance and advice to legislators
- Proving testimony to Congress and committees
- Maintaining relationships with the Executive Office
- Advocating in Federal court





## How The Arc Furthers Its Federal Advocacy Agenda...

- develops a legislative agenda for each Congress and lobbies for our positions
- drafts position statements, fact sheets and press releases and op-ed columns
- creates newsletters, advocacy action alerts and other communications and presents at conferences and hosts educational webinars and seminars
- serves as media sources and spokespeople for our community
- conducts and distributes original research
- maintains a web site with resources and information
- maintains a social media community connecting individuals in our community
- sponsors a national advocacy event and annual convention





But just getting laws passed isn't good enough. We also have to work to advocate for full funding and proper implementation. This sometimes happens through the courts.

But it frequently happens by creating a groundswell of support and rallying the troops to put pressure on their legislators at both the Federal and local level.





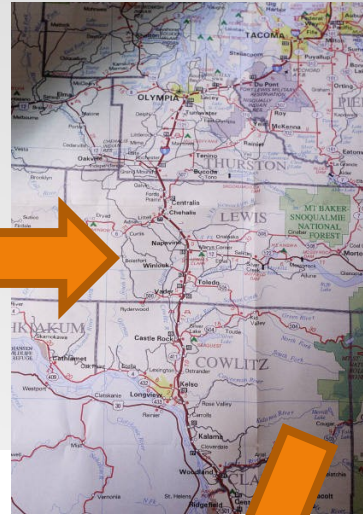
## When it all works.....



Federal  
programs  
like Medicaid  
and SSI



Reimbursements  
and grants to  
the states



Direct  
benefits  
provided to  
individuals



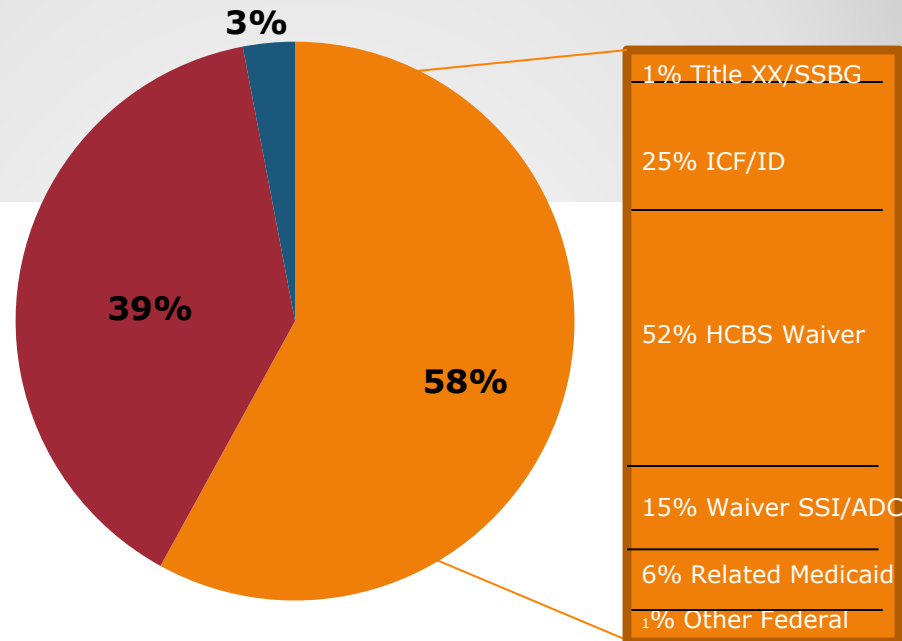


## United States: FY 2009

### Public I/DD Spending by Revenue Source

Not including direct payments to individuals, special education formula funding, and other major areas

■ Federal \$30.6 billion ■ State \$20.9 billion ■ Local \$1.7 billion



Source: *The State of the States in Developmental Disabilities* 2011, David Braddock, Richard Hemp, March C. Rizzolo, Laura Haffer, Emily Shea Tanis, Jiang Wu, Department of Psychiatry and Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities University of Colorado.



## Successes: We Know It's Working

- Affordable Care Act (*health care reform*)
- Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act
- Rosa's Law
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
- Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act
- National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act
- Mental Health Parity & Addiction Equity Act
- Autism Through Research, Screening, Intervention, and Education Act
- Higher Education Opportunity Act
- Improving Long-Term Care Choices Act
- Lifespan Respite Care Act
- Money Follows the Person Act
- National Institutes of Health Reform Act
- Safe, Accountable, Flexible Transportation Equity Act
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act
- Assistive Technology Act

*Just to name a few.....*

*Now, tell me again  
how this  
impacts Andy.....*





## Because of the Efforts of The Arc Nationally and Support from People Like You Andy Can.....

- Expect to receive the same free, public education to which his peers are entitled
- Not be discriminated against when he looks for a job or a place to live
- Have access to affordable and appropriate housing options
- Live in his community –not in an institution – and not have to live in poverty because of the cost of care or his ability to earn money
- Demand the respect of others and fight back against hate crimes and bullying
- Access transportation and public places
- Access communications and technology through accessibility modifications
- Access affordable health care
- Access local, state and federal support and services to ensure that he can exercise self-determination and fully participate in his community, enjoying the same rights of citizenship as his neighbors



***Andy's local community simply could not provide these supports, services and protections to people with I/DD without Federal resources and laws secured by the hard work of The Arc on a national level.***

