**Introduction**

The Arc is proud to join forces with FASD prevention champions to reduce the incidence and disability caused by maternal consumption of alcohol during pregnancy. We are pleased to announce a new initiative, The Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Prevention project recently awarded to The Arc by Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) [Grant No. U1HMC26371-01-01]. The purpose of the project is to increase health care provider knowledge of the risks alcohol can pose to a fetus and encourage the use of FASD prevention strategies. This HRSA cooperative agreement began on September 2013 and runs through August 2016.

As part of this initiative The Arc will coordinate a grass-roots effort and support chapter advocates, volunteers and staff to personally meet with health care providers to bring them our message; no amount of alcohol is safe during pregnancy. Health care providers should be conveying a consistent message to their patients/clients that “Alcohol & Pregnancy: it’s just not worth the risk.”

To support this effort The Arc will make available a FASD Prevention Toolkit to all chapters and award competitive mini-grants (between $500 and $2,000 depending on the scope of the local effort and the population size of the community) to chapters that commit to implement an outreach plan to health care providers. Over the three year period The Arc will award up to $65,000 as follows:

* June 2014 – May 2015 (7-30 chapters). Applications due April 30, 2014
* September 2014 – August 2015 (12-50 chapters). Applications due: July 30, 2014
* September 2015 – August 2016 (12-50 chapters). Applications due: July 30, 2015

**Grant applications must be *received* at The Arc office by 5:00 pm (EST) on each due date.** Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals via email. Agencies can also use a delivery method that provides a form of delivery confirmation; such as FedEx, UPS, or the United States Postal Service’s “return receipt” option. Faxed applications will not be accepted.

Via Email Via FedEx, UPS, USPS

[FASDInfo@thearc.org](mailto:FASDInfo@thearc.org) The Arc of the United States

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Program Assistant

1825 K Street NW

Suite 1200

Washington, DC 20006

**More about the FASD Prevention Project**

Consuming alcohol during pregnancy can harm a developing fetus and cause Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, or FASD. FASD includes a range of lifelong effects on a child and family. FASD is entirely preventable if women do not drink alcohol while pregnant, but survey data shows that up to 25% of women continue to drink. Research indicates that many doctors continue to advise women that light to moderate consumption of alcohol, especially later in pregnancy, is safe. While evidence-based screening tools and intervention strategies have been shown to be effective, these are not widely used. The prevalence of FASD indicates that education on alcohol screening and intervention is needed.

The goal of the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Prevention Project is to increase provider knowledge of the risks alcohol can pose to a fetus and encourage the use of FASD prevention strategies. This will be accomplished by creating and disseminating educational materials for health care providers using the following strategies:

* Using the results of a needs assessment, determine the educational needs of health care providers, specifically family practitioners, internists, pediatricians, obstetrician/gynecologists, physician’s assistants, midwives, nurse practitioners, registered/licensed practical nurses, mental health therapists, and substance use therapists.
* Implement an educational plan for increasing provider knowledge of FASD prevention.
* Partner with national professional associations to create appropriate educational materials for providers.
* Disseminate materials through national organizations’ networks and other channels.
* Assess the impact of education on provider knowledge and practice.

The Arc is committed to the prevention of FASD shown by our history of supporting research, outreach, and targeted advocacy efforts. Since the definition and recognition of FASD as a birth defect in 1973, and the realization that pregnant women who drink alcohol while pregnant can have children born with this disability, many of The Arc’s chapters have contributed their resources, time and expertise to FASD prevention at state and local levels. This issue is of paramount importance to The Arc because FASD is the single most common cause of intellectual and developmental disabilities that is 100% preventable.

**FASD Prevention Project**

**Chapters of The Arc Application**

Chapters interested in joining the FASD Prevention project network are required to submit an application describing their outreach plan.

**Chapter Profile**

Chapter: Click here to enter text.

Contact Name: Click here to enter text.

Address: Click here to enter text.

Phone Number: Click here to enter text.

E-Mail: Click here to enter text.

1. Describe your service area’s (number, ethnicity) population (you can use this link to assist you <http://www.census.gov/popest/data/counties/asrh/2012/PEPSR6H.html>)

Click here to enter text.

2. Describe your reasons for joining The Arc’s FASD Prevention project and if you have experience in FASD Prevention (experience is not required):

Click here to enter text.

**Outreach Plan**

3. The project is interested in reaching family practitioners, internists, pediatricians, obstetrician/gynecologists, physician’s assistants, midwives, nurse practitioners, registered/licensed practical nurses, mental health therapists, substance use therapists, and community health representatives. Describe your relationship with each group.

Click here to enter text.

4. What steps will you take to reach out to and speak to health care providers?

Click here to enter text.

5. How many health care providers do you expect to reach in the 12-month period?

Click here to enter text.

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**Assurances**

Submitting this application signifies our agreement to these FASD mini-grant requirements. Our chapter will:

* Use the project logo and funder acknowledgement statement as provided by The Arc
* Submit reports and invoices and as scheduled
* Submit photographs, a blog or written story to showcase our efforts and outcomes
* Update The Arc via phone/Email communications as coordinated by The Arc (e.g. quarterly)

For Chapter For The Arc

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Name, title Peter V. Berns, Chief Executive Officer

Chapter The Arc

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_