



WHAT  
**THE ARC**  
DOES



# HERE ARE A FEW WAYS THE ARC SERVES THE DISABILITY COMMUNITY

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## **PUBLIC POLICY AND LEGAL ADVOCACY**

The Arc advocates on a broad range of issues. The work includes legislative advocacy in Congress; executive and regulatory advocacy with the Administration and officials of federal agencies; and, legal advocacy through participation in federal and state litigation. This professional team works with cross-disability coalitions, civil rights coalitions, and bar associations to ensure that the rights of individuals with disabilities are considered in relevant litigation initiatives nationwide.

## **CENTER FOR FUTURE PLANNING®**

The Center supports adults with disabilities and their families as they plan for the future by providing reliable information and assistance on person-centered planning, decision-making, housing options, financial planning, and more. In addition to resources on these important topics, The Center also offers the free Build Your Plan™ tool to guide families to create an individualized plan for their son or daughter's future.

## **DIVERSITY INITIATIVES**

The Arc's vision is to be a diverse and culturally competent organization, capable of serving people with disabilities and their families in an increasingly diverse, multicultural society. With the development of our 5-year (2016-2020) Diversity Strategic Action Plan, The Arc is taking proactive steps to increase our diversity and cultural competence, and develop tools and resources to support our chapters as they seek to strengthen cultural competence within their own organizations.

## **THE NATIONAL CENTER ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND DISABILITY®**

NCCJD serves as a clearinghouse for information, training, and education on issues facing people with disabilities as victims, witnesses, suspects, defendants, and incarcerated persons. NCCJD advocates for appropriate accommodations for people with disabilities at all stages of the justice system. Acting as a bridge between the disability and criminal justice communities, NCCJD partners with a broad spectrum of criminal justice professionals, including attorneys, victim services providers, law enforcement, and disability advocates and professionals.

## **THE ARC@SCHOOL**

The Arc@School is a national center on special education advocacy that builds the capacity of our chapters to help students. The Arc@School helps students with disabilities graduate from high school and pursue post-secondary education by improving the quality and availability of individualized education programs (IEPs). The program also provides information about services available to students with disabilities under current federal legislation, and special education advocates in each state. The Arc@School was made possible by a contribution from the AT&T Foundation.

## **TECH PROGRAMS**

The Arc supports people with disabilities to live fuller lives through the successful adoption of technology. The Tech Toolbox website helps people with disabilities to find technology products that match their user needs and goals. Technology Coaching Centers around the country

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## About Us

For more than 65 years, The Arc promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and actively supports their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes. In our national network of nearly 700 chapters, The Arc carries out its mission through innovative programs, informative training opportunities, and valuable resources.

provide hands-on, individualized training. In addition, consultation with technology companies tests and validates concepts for new technology products for people with disabilities.

### **WINGS FOR AUTISM®/ WINGS FOR ALL®**

Wings for Autism/All is an airport rehearsal program designed to alleviate the stress that families can face when flying with a child with a disability. The Wings program provides families with the free opportunity to practice their trip—entering the airport, obtaining boarding passes, passing through security checkpoints, and boarding the plane. Additionally, the program gives airport personnel the opportunity to observe, interact, and deliver their services in a structured

learning environment. Made possible in part by The Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism, Inc.

### **THE ARC@WORK**

The Arc@Work develops innovative workforce solutions for the government and private sector by connecting employers with talented employees. The Arc@Work increases the diversity, productivity, and quality of a company's overall workforce. Moreover, this program supports the recruitment, onboarding, and retention process to enable the nearly 85% of unemployed people with disabilities to find appropriate jobs.



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# THE ARC'S EVENTS

## **Disability Policy Seminar**

Each spring, The Arc, along with five other disability organizations, presents a three-day legislative conference in Washington, D.C. The seminar includes two days of high-quality education about public policy issues affecting people with disabilities—preparing them to advocate locally in their communities as well as federally. On the third day, participants visit Capitol Hill and meet with their Members of Congress. Learn more at [disabilitypolicyseminar.org](http://disabilitypolicyseminar.org).

## **NCE Summer Leadership Institute**

Summer Leadership Institute is an annual professional development conference designed to unite executives and leaders from across the disability sector in pursuit of a shared mission. The Institute is filled with dozens of innovative presentations from over 40 engaging speakers, opportunities to develop skills, networking, and idea sharing. Learn more at [nce-sli.org](http://nce-sli.org).

## **National Convention**

The Arc's National Convention, our biggest event of the year, is held in the fall and travels around the country. Through dozens of substantive sessions and events, Convention offers an invaluable learning and networking experience for attendees—including self-advocates, family members, board members, chapter staff, and other disability organizations. *Learn more at [convention.thearc.org](http://convention.thearc.org).*