



# What The Arc Does

**The Arc** strives to provide innovative programs, informative training opportunities, and valuable resources that help further its national mission of advocating for the rights of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD)—such as Autism, Down syndrome and Fragile X syndrome. The Arc provides individuals and their families with the support necessary to live a fully inclusive life.

*Achieve with us.®*

### The Arc's Autism Now® Center

The Arc's Autism Now Center is the central point of access to high-quality resources and information for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder, their families and professionals.

### The Arc's Center for Future Planning®

The Center for Future Planning supports adults with I/DD and their families in planning for the future. The Center provides reliable information and assistance in person-centered planning, decision-making, housing and financial planning.

### The Arc@School **COMING SOON!**

The Arc@School will support students with I/DD to graduate from high school and pursue post-secondary education and employment by improving the quality and availability of trained lay advocates to support the development and implementation of Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). The Arc@School was made possible by a contribution from AT&T.

### The Arc@Work®

The Arc@Work develops innovative workforce solutions for the government and private sector by connecting employers with talented employees with I/DD and supporting the recruitment, onboarding, and retention process.

### Diversity and Cultural Competency

The Cultural Diversity Initiative of The Arc is working to ensure the programs, supports, and services offered by chapters of The Arc nationwide are accessible to all people with I/DD and their families. The initiative will develop tools and resources to measure the cultural competence of our chapters and help them effectively support a diverse I/DD community.

### Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Prevention Project

The FASD Prevention Project seeks to increase provider knowledge of the risks alcohol poses to a fetus and the use of FASD prevention strategies, including the use of screening and assessment methods. This program is funded by a \$1.3 million Cooperative Agreement from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Resources and Services Administration.

## HealthMeet®

HealthMeet works to reduce health disparities and increase the longevity and quality of life for people with I/DD. The program deploys free community-based health screenings and individualized referrals for individuals with I/DD; provides training and education to individuals, their families, direct service professionals, medical providers, and medical students; and raises public awareness of health issues that impact people with I/DD across the country. HealthMeet is supported through a \$2.8 million cooperative agreement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

## National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability®

The National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability serves as a national clearinghouse for information, training, and public education on people with I/DD as victims, witnesses and suspects or offenders of crime. NCCJD partners with a broad spectrum of criminal justice professionals, including those in the law enforcement, legal, and disability fields at the national, state, and local levels to create safer lives for people with I/DD. This program is made possible by funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance.

## The Arc's Events

### Disability Policy Seminar

Each spring, The Arc, along with five other disability organizations, presents a three-day disability policy conference in Washington, DC with two days of high quality education about current public policy issues affecting people with I/DD. On the third day, participants visit and meet with their elected representatives.

### Summer Leadership Institute

The National Conference of Executives of The Arc Summer Leadership Institute is an annual event designed to foster a community of mentorship and networking amongst chapter executives and staff. The Institute is filled with innovative presentations on the hottest topics in the I/DD sector.

### National Convention

The Arc's annual convention is held in the fall of every year. The convention offers an invaluable learning and networking experience for board members and staff of state and local chapters of The Arc, as well as self-advocates, parents, siblings, and family members.

## National Council of Self-Advocates

The National Council of Self-Advocates is a group led **by** and **for** self-advocates from The Arc's chapter network, who inform all of The Arc's programs by providing the perspective of people with I/DD. NCSA plans the Self-Advocacy Symposium at the National Convention, and holds virtual and in-person meetings where self-advocates interact with one another, learn, and build skills that will give them greater independence in their own lives on their own terms.

## Public Policy and Legal Advocacy

The Arc's Public Policy and Legal Advocacy teams promote and protect the rights of people with I/DD by advocating on a broad range of issues that affect their lives. The work includes: (a) legislative advocacy in Congress, (b) executive and regulatory advocacy with the Administration and officials of federal agencies, and (c) legal advocacy through participation in federal court litigation.

## Tech Toolbox™

With nearly 500 apps and devices available, Tech Toolbox is a one-stop-shop, peer-reviewed directory of technology products that are useful and effective for people with I/DD. Tech Toolbox was piloted through a national partnership with the Comcast Foundation, and will grow through a grant from Google.org made through the Google Impact Challenge: Disabilities.

## Wings for Autism®/Wings for All®

Wings for Autism/Wings for All are an airport "rehearsals" specially designed to alleviate the stress that families who have a child with autism or I/DD experience when flying. It provides families the opportunity to practice entering the airport, obtaining boarding passes, going through security and boarding a plane. Airport, airline, Transportation Security Administration professionals, and other personnel also have the opportunity to observe, interact, and deliver their services in a structured learning environment.

### The Arc

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