

# ARC NEWS IN INDIANA

Empowering People. Inspiring Change.

The  
Arc

OF INDIANA

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www.arcind.org

Spring-Summer 2010

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## Building Pathways to Empowerment

### A CALL TO ACTION

In these difficult economic times, every program that people with disabilities count on is facing huge challenges, at a time when more people than ever before need help. At this critical time, it is important that we not simply react, but that we act. Through The Arc of Indiana's **Building Pathways to Empowerment** campaign we are taking a fresh look at Indiana's system of programs and services for people with developmental disabilities and their families. The goal is to redesign and *redefine* that system to one that provides what people want and need in the most sensible way possible.

We need *you* to be a part of the Building Pathways to Empowerment Campaign! You *can* make a difference. We hope that an excit-

ing new Pathways section of our web site will provide one place you can go not only to stay informed, but, more importantly, ways to be actively involved in this important effort. Just go to [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org) and click on the Building Pathways button!

**Innovation.** Help find, share and act on creative solutions. Out of the most challenging times have come the best ideas. We need you to share creative solutions, and to help carry out those solutions in your own life. Through our web site you can upload videos, photos and stories about innovative programs, services and ideas making a difference in your community and in your life.

**Message Boards.** Learn from each other. Through our new web site message boards you can talk with other families, self-advocates and providers to share ideas, concerns, solutions, or a kind word to support on another.

**Latest News—Be Informed.** Check out the latest news anytime and stay informed about the campaign by signing up for our E-Newsletter, joining us on Facebook or following us on Twitter! You can also stay informed by watching video updates from Executive Director John Dickerson and reading our blogs—all linked from the web site.

**Events/Calendar—Be Involved.** There will be many ways you can be involved in the Pathways cam-

paign in your community. Attend a legislative forum or town hall meeting and share your concerns and Pathways solutions with legislators and candidates for office. Attend local meetings of the state budget committee in your area this summer and fall.

Help build the Pathways Campaign by inviting us to come to your parent support group, Arc chapter, or your local Kiwanis, Rotary or Sertoma Club.

**Contact Us.** Alert us to critical issues and concerns. We need you to be our eyes and ears. Let us know how changes in policies and funding are impacting you and your loved one, or those you serve.

**Donate Now.** Support Building Pathways to Empowerment Right Now—Text TheArc to 20222. Using your cell phone, text 20222, enter the message *TheArc*,

and click send. Confirm the donation after you receive a confirmation message and \$10 has instantly been donated to the Building Pathways to Empowerment campaign! The donation will be billed through your cell phone carrier. It's that easy! You can also donate through our website, [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org), or by sending a check to: The Arc of Indiana, 107 N. Pennsylvania St., Suite 800, Indianapolis, IN 46204. However you choose to donate, we appreciate your support.

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The screenshot shows the website's navigation and content. At the top, there are social media links for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube, along with a search bar. Below this is a main navigation menu with categories: Innovation (Share Creative Solutions), Message Boards (Share Your Story), Latest News (Find Out Now), and Events/Calendar (Plan To Attend). A secondary menu includes Home, About The Arc, Public Policy Advocacy, Help for Families, Self-Advocates, The Arc Master Trust, and Media Gallery. The main content area features a 'Join the Campaign!' section with a photo of four people and text describing the initiative. Below this is a 'Help support Building Pathways to Empowerment today! Text TheArc to 20222.' section with instructions on how to donate via text message. On the left side, there are buttons for 'Contact Us', 'Donate Now', and 'Sign Up for Our E-Newsletter'. At the bottom, there are links for 'John's Latest Video Update' and 'Read Our Blog'. The footer contains the organization's address, phone numbers, and links to the site map and contact us page.

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The Arc of Indiana  
107 N. Pennsylvania St.  
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## Self-Advocates of Indiana Adopts Long Range Plan

Self-Advocates of Indiana (SAI) has adopted a new four-year long range plan that will guide the statewide organization through 2013. A grant from the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities will help support activities of the long range plan.

Four goals have been identified for the coming years:

- Self-Advocates of Indiana is a strong and effective organization with chapters statewide.
- Self-Advocates of Indiana supports and speaks for all self-advocates.
- Self-Advocates of Indiana is a strong voice in advocating for public policies to protect and support services for self-advocates.
- Self-Advocates of Indiana informs and educates Hoosiers about the rights and abilities of self-advocates.

### Spring meeting focused on federal public policy advocacy

Each goal includes several objectives and implementation activities. As an example, SAI will continue to plan statewide membership meetings and activities. The spring meeting focused on public policy advocacy at the federal level. The summer meeting will be the self advocate's annual picnic. The group is also looking forward to sending a delegation to the national self-advocacy conference in Kansas City, Missouri in September.

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## SAI, Noble of Indiana Co-Host Meeting on Transportation Needs

IndyConnect, Central Indiana's Transportation Initiative, held a public forum April 29 at Noble of Indiana, local chapter of The Arc in Marion and



**Ehren Bingaman, CIRT Executive Director and board member of The Arc of Indiana, meets with Self-Advocates.**

Hamilton counties, to get feedback on a draft regional transportation plan. Approximately 50 area residents, self-advocates and families provided input about the draft regional plan and Central Indiana's transportation needs.

Co-hosted by Self-Advocates of Indiana, the forum was specifically targeted for people with disabilities, self-advocates, families and service providers to ensure that the needs of people with disabilities are included in Central Indiana's transportation planning.

Ehren Bingaman, Executive Director of the Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority (CIRTA) led the meeting. Ehren also is a member of The Arc of Indiana Board of Directors and chairs The Arc's Development Committee. You can learn more about CIRTA and their transportation planning efforts by listening to "A View into Public Transportation & CIRTA," an audiocast from "A View from My Window," The Arc of Indiana's weekly audiocast hosted by Michelle Fischer. Go to: [www.arcind.org/index/News-and-Events/A-View-from-My-Window.asp](http://www.arcind.org/index/News-and-Events/A-View-from-My-Window.asp)

IndyConnect has held over 35 meetings throughout Central Indiana to gather input. To learn more, go to [www.indyconnect.org](http://www.indyconnect.org).

## Join in the Fun at the Self-Advocates of Indiana Annual Picnic

Self-Advocates of Indiana invites self-advocates throughout the state to join in a day of fun and fellowship at their Annual Picnic:

**Friday, July 16, 2010**

**10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.**

**Eagle's Crest on Eagle Creek Park  
7201 Fishback Road, Indianapolis**

10:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

Registration/Button Sales

11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. Dancing,  
Photos, Ring-Toss and more!

There will be ring-toss, dancing to the music of D.J. Shawn Fulton, a catered lunch, and photo portraits provided by The Arc of Indiana's Executive Director, John Dickerson.

Self-Advocates of Indiana will also sell buttons as a fundraiser in honor of their 20th Anniversary and the



**Self-Advocates from Stone Belt Arc, local chapter of The Arc in Monroe County, enjoyed the 2009 Self-Advocates of Indiana Annual Picnic.**

20th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

To guarantee lunch, please register and pay the \$7.00 registration fee before Friday, June 25, 2010. For complete registration information please visit our website, [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org), or call us at 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100.

## Executive Director's Column

### A time for new actions, new ideas, new results



John Dickerson

Many years ago I made a trip to speak at the Rush County Arc Annual Dinner. I must admit on that day I was weary, feeling the weight of the people who did not believe in what we were trying to do. As I talked with one of our founders, a woman who started organizing our movement in 1949, I found myself complaining about how difficult everything seemed to be. She gave me a stern look square in the eye and said, "John, when do you *ever* think it is easy?"

That message has stayed with me these many years. We certainly are in no easy times. Yet, I have a renewed sense of optimism and energy due to one of the most exciting things I have been involved with in my nearly 38 years with The Arc. Our Building Pathways to Empowerment campaign is a comprehensive effort we are undertaking to reshape what we do in Indiana—a campaign to design a system that works in new and better ways for people with disabilities, families, provid-

ers and government for the next decades. Forging ahead with this, with no specific idea of what the outcomes will be, is challenging for some people and energizing for others. But The Arc strongly believes the answers we need are there. We just need to engage our collective energy to uncover, discover and even *rediscover* creative solutions and ideas, embrace them and then implement them.

It is often said if you employ the same actions, you will get the same results. We need new actions, new ideas and new results. As I travel the state, and we are doing a lot of it and will do even more in the next seven months, people are eager for a new approach. Why are we spending so much money on administration? Why will we spend \$65 million over the next two years for federal mandates for HIPPA, the health privacy act, just to make computers more compliant to ever-changing federal regulations? Why can't we host gatherings of people to help find housemates? Why are we not asking the right questions about helping find new ways to support people?

Well, we are. With *your* help we are taking this message not only to members and leaders of The Arc, but also to self-advocates, families, business leaders, taxpayers, elected officials, candidates for public office and policy makers in communities throughout Indiana. This is a time to rethink *all* we do and find new solutions to these critical problems.

To do this, we need your help, support, ideas and input. Learn how by reading the "Building Pathways" article in this issue of the newsletter, visiting our web site, [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org), signing up for our E-Newsletter, and following us on Facebook and Twitter.

As that wise pioneer for The Arc reminds me, the path to a better life for people with developmental disabilities and their families has never been easy, but through the Building Pathways to Empowerment campaign, I truly believe we will move beyond these challenging times and build a new path that will set us in a positive direction for years to come.

## Federal Health Reform

### Long-Term Services and Supports

There are approximately 10 million Americans in need of long-term services and supports (LTSS), and that number is expected to increase to nearly 15 million by the year 2020. Since private long-term care insurance coverage is limited, many people pay out of pocket and rely on unpaid family and friends to help provide support. Those with the most significant needs sometimes have no other alternative but to "spend down" their assets to qualify for Medicaid and often remain impoverished for life to continue receiving support. With Medicaid already overburdened, this is simply not sustainable.

The federal/state Medicaid program continues to be the major funding source for coverage of long-term services and supports and continues to have an institutional bias. According to a study by Stephen Kaye published in a 2009 *Health Affairs* article, those states which invested in Medicaid home and community-based services (HCBS), over a relatively short period of time, were able to slow their rate of Medicaid spending on long-term services. While the developmental disabilities service system has effectively used the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver to shift funding toward the community, this effort varies considerably among states. In addition, there are extensive waiting lists within states for community-based services and supports.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act and the Health Care and Education

Reconciliation Act of 2010 include multiple provisions related to improving LTSS for people with disabilities of all ages. These provisions, described below, will not only increase independence, choice and the ability to receive services in the community, but they also have the potential to reduce Medicaid costs and save states money over time.

#### Community Living Assistance Services and Supports (CLASS) Act

The CLASS Act will create a new national long-term care insurance program to help adults who have or who develop functional impairments to remain independent, employed and engaged in their community. Financed by voluntary payroll deductions, enrollment in the CLASS program will be available to full and part-time working adults. It does not allow medical underwriting and exclusions based on pre-existing conditions (as found in private insurance plans). After a five-year vesting period and a determination of eligibility based on functional need for assistance in Activities of Daily Living (ADLs), a recipient will have access to a cash benefit averaging \$75/day with no lifetime limit (the actual cash benefit will depend on the person's level of impairment). Counseling services will also be available to every beneficiary. The program is not means-tested—there will be no limits on individual income or assets and, if possible, the individual could continue to work. The CLASS program seeks to

empower consumers: its flexible benefit could be utilized to meet an individual's particular needs, such as paying for personal assistance services or assistive devices or equipment.

The new law includes safeguards that ensure that no taxpayer dollars will be used and that the program will be solvent for at least 75 years, and includes language that allows the Secretary of HHS to provide additional safeguards as well. The Congressional Budget Office found that the CLASS program will also result in Medicaid savings over time. The CLASS program will assist people with disabilities and older Americans to maintain functional lives in their homes and communities.

#### Improvements to Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS)

There are additional provisions in the health reform law that will increase access to HCBS. These provisions are critically important elements of health care reform:

**Community First Choice Option:** The Community First Choice Option is a new Medicaid state plan option for comprehensive HCBS for people with disabilities who are eligible for an institutional level of care. States that choose to provide services under the option will be required to make home and community-based attendant

**Continued on Page 4**



# Health Care Reform

## What it means to people with disabilities

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Affordability Reconciliation Act will provide access to affordable health insurance for 32 million Americans who are currently uninsured. According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, the health care reform bill and reconciliation bill will reduce the federal deficit by \$130 billion over the first ten years and \$1.2 trillion over the second ten years. The law represents a sea change in expanding access to affordable, quality health care for persons with disabilities.

### Insurance Market Reforms

- Prohibits pre-existing condition exclusions, lifetime and annual caps, discrimination based on disability and health status, and rescission of coverage
- Requires guaranteed issue and renewal of insurance policies

### Expanding Access to Coverage

- Establishes a temporary high-risk pool to provide coverage to those who are currently uninsured. This high-risk pool will expire when the new Insurance Market Exchange becomes effective on January 1, 2014.
- Provides significant subsidies to assist low income individuals to purchase coverage in the Exchange
- Includes coverage of dental and vision care for children in the Exchange

- Includes coverage of critical disability-related services, such as mental health services, rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices, in the Exchange

### Medicaid

- Expands Medicaid eligibility to 133 percent of the federal poverty level with significant federal funding
- Increases Medicaid reimbursement for physicians and pediatricians to Medicare rates in 2013 and 2014 with full federal funding

### Medicare

- Improves care coordination for those who receive both Medicare and Medicaid benefits by creating a new Federal Coordinated Health Care Office within the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

### Data Collection and Disparities for Persons with Disabilities

Requires the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to:

- Locate where persons with disabilities access primary, acute and long-term care
- Determine the number of providers with accessible facilities and equipment to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities

- Determine the number of employees of health care providers trained in disability awareness and patient care of individuals with disabilities. The Secretary of HHS, through the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, will analyze the data for trends in health disparities and make reports available
- Requires any federally conducted or supported health care or public health program, activity or survey to collect and report to the extent practicable data on disability status, including disability subgroups (using oversampling if needed)

### Prevention

- Identifies meeting the needs of persons with disabilities as a specific activity of Community Transformation Grants, a new competitive grant program where communities will be awarded grants to promote individual and community wellness and reduce the incidence of chronic diseases associated with people who are obese or use tobacco

### Provider Training

- Increases opportunities for training of health care providers, including dentists, on the needs of persons with disabilities, including those with developmental disabilities

## Long-Term Services and Supports, from Page 3

services and supports available to eligible individuals to assist them with activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living, and health-related tasks through hands-on assistance, supervision or cueing. These states will be eligible for an additional 6 percent federal match rate for these services.

**Removal of Barriers to Providing HCBS in the States:** These reforms remove certain barriers to providing Medicaid HCBS, primarily by making it easier for states to use a flexible state plan amendment option that has been available under current law. Specific changes include:

- Income eligibility criteria are aligned with other HCBS programs by permitting waiver-eligible enrollees to qualify for the option with incomes up to 300% of the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) level.

- States will have greater flexibility to target certain populations in need, in part by waiving comparability requirements.
- Limitations on the type and scope of services available have been removed.

**Will not only increase independence, choice and the ability to receive services in the community, but also have the potential to reduce Medicaid costs**

**State Balancing Incentives Program:** This program will temporarily increase the federal Medicaid matching rate for HCBS for states that undertake structural reforms to increase diversion from institutions and expand the number of people

receiving HCBS. States which spend less than 50 percent of total LTSS funds on HCBS services will qualify for a 5 percent or 2 percent increase in federal match for HCBS services. Within 6 months a selected state will need to adopt: a single point of entry system, case management services, a standardized assessment instrument for determining eligibility, a system for monitoring capacity and a data collection infrastructure.

**Spousal Impoverishment Protections for HCBS Beneficiaries:** Medicaid permits nursing home residents' spouses to keep one-half of the couple's assets, up to a ceiling. The maximum monthly income allowance is about \$2,700, while asset allowances range from about \$22,000 to \$110,000. This provision will apply those same rules to spouses of individuals receiving HCBS, helping to avoid spousal bankruptcy, splitting families apart,

providing incentives for divorce, lawsuits and other serious conflicts.

### Additional Provisions:

- Authorizes funding over 3 years for new training for direct care workers providing long-term services and supports
- Creates a demonstration project to develop training and certification programs for personal or home care aids
- Extends the *Money Follows the Person Rebalancing Demonstration* through 2016
- Expands funding for Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs)
- Establishes a dedicated office to improve coordination of benefits for persons eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid (dual eligibles)

# Recognize Your Power, Telling Your Story

At The Arc of Indiana's April Forum on Early Childhood and Education, Barb Kleist, Arc Greater Twin Cities, St. Paul, Minnesota, presented, "Realize Your Power. Prepare, Practice and Participate in Your Child's Education. Telling Your Story." Families and self-advocates do have powerful stories to tell that can and do make a difference.

Following are key elements from Barb's presen-

tation that can help you and others tell *your* story to make a difference.

**Why tell your story? Your story makes others aware of the abilities and challenges of people with disabilities and their families.** It puts a human face to the issues that impact people with disabilities and their families. Your story breathes life into facts and figures. It is powerful in persuading others to take action, and creates a connection with others who identify with or share your experience.

story come alive. Share a "slice of a day in your life." Frame your message using the key elements. Emphasize successes, failures or obstacles you have overcome.

**Practice making your story clear. Your story does not have to be earth shattering to have impact, but it does need to be clear.** Polish your story. Limit the length to one page long or three minutes out loud. Include a photo. Make copies.

**Who to tell your story to. Your story can be a powerful way for you to connect with your policymakers**—Senators, Representatives, County Commissioners, City Council members, School Board Members, Administrators and Teachers.

**Participate, connect with changemakers. When telling your story to policymakers, help them understand how policy and services affect you.** Give them your contact information. Inform them how they can help specifically with your issue or concern. Ask for their support.

Before your visit, make an appointment by e-mail or phone. State the reason for your visit. During the visit be on time by arriving early. Introduce yourself. Make eye contact and remain focused. Be honest and talk from your heart—remember you are building a relationship.

Personalize your issue. Be positive and friendly. Provide a copy of your story and any supporting fact sheets. Allow time and be open to questions. Ask the public official to take specific action—what do you want him or her to do about your issue? How will he or she support your issue? After your visit, send a thank you. Follow up with additional meetings, phone calls or emails.

**Actions of a changemaker. They may see trends in your story with others in their district.** They may relay your concerns outlined in your story to leadership in their caucus or to the appropriate committee. They might be so compelled by your story that they will want to be a sponsor or co-sponsor on a bill relating to your story.

**Engaging your neighbors and friends. No one person can do this alone. It takes all of us.** Tell your story to your friends, neighbors and loved ones. Help them learn about your concerns and listen to their concerns as well.



Last October an important conversation began among self-advocates, family members and professionals at The Arc of Indiana's "Our Voice... Our Vision... Our Future" Conference. Throughout 2010 The Arc will host a series of forums to:

- Share and build on what was learned
- Gain new information and insights from national experts
- Generate discussion and fresh ideas among participants

These forums are part of The Arc of Indiana's "Building Pathways to Empowerment" campaign—an initiative to redesign and *redefine* Indiana's system of programs and services for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

We need *you* to be part of this effort, as we work to build a system that offers choice, fosters independence and allows people to have meaningful lives in communities throughout Indiana.

Our first forum in April focused on Early Childhood and Education. Please join us at our future Building Pathways to Empowerment Forums!

**Friday, June 18**

**Guardianship & Self-Advocacy  
Finding the Balance**

**Thursday, August 19**

**Health Care, Family Support,  
Cultural Competency**

**Wednesday, October 6**

**Post High School, Employment,  
Community Living**

**9:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.**

**American Red Cross of Greater Indianapolis  
441 E. 10th St., Indianapolis**

### **Registration**

\$15 Early Bird / \$25 One Week Prior to Forum

For complete forum and registration information visit "News & Events" at [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org).



**Barb Kleist, Arc Greater Twin Cities, St. Paul, Minnesota, shares her story of her brother, Monty, at the "Realize Your Power. Prepare, Practice and Participate in Your Child's Education. Telling Your Story" Forum.**

**What has impact in your story? Personal stories from the heart "hook" the listener so they want to hear more.**

Describe the circumstances and needs of your family and student with a disability. Who are you? Where do you and your family live, learn work and play? How old is your loved one?

Describe the supports and services your loved one receives, how they are funded, and how this makes a difference in your life and the life of your loved one. Or describe the supports and services that would help your loved one and your family if you *could* receive them.

Describe the consequences of losing services or funding. What impact has it had on your loved one and family? What will have to be given up if support and services are lost? Or, describe the impact of not having supports and services.

Remember, don't be afraid of the drama, humor and "blood, sweat and tears" which can make your



# Our Voice...Our Vision...Our Future

## Future Planning, Guardianship and Self-Advocacy

### Summary of Responses

The Arc of Indiana, in partnership with the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities, hosted a unique event, "Our Voice...Our Vision...Our Future," in October, 2009. This event allowed self-advocates, family members, leaders of organizations and other professionals to lend their voice and opinion on critical issues impacting people with developmental disabilities and their families. Each participant used a hand-held voting device to respond to a series of questions in several broad topic areas. Throughout 2010, we will share information gathered at the event.

In this issue, we focus on Future Planning, Guardianship and Self-Advocacy. The following summary includes the question that was asked, choices that participants could respond to, and the answer that received the highest percentage of responses by respondent. To view all the results visit our web site at: [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org), click on "Public Policy Advocacy," and then click on "Helpful Resources and Links."

#### What is the MOST important consideration when planning for the future of a person with a disability?

1. Education
2. Community living
3. Friends
4. Access to quality healthcare
5. Independence—Self-Advocate, 34%
6. Employment
7. Financial security—Family Member, 52%, Provider, 42%

#### What is the MOST important resource to help families plan for their child's future?

1. IPMG case manager—Self-Advocate, 23%
2. Service provider
3. Financial planner
4. Lawyer
5. Insurance agent
6. Bank
7. Special needs trust—Family Member, 31%
8. Advocacy group
9. Family—Provider, 29%

#### What is the GREATEST barrier to planning for the future of a person with a disability?



1. Lack of information
2. Lack of money—Self-Advocate, 32%, Provider, 34%
3. Stress of day-to-day care
4. Uncertainty of the future—Family Member, 27%
5. Just don't want to think about it

#### Parents are aware of the range of guardianship options they can make for their adult child with a disability.

1. Strongly agree—Self-Advocate, 37%
2. Somewhat agree
3. Somewhat disagree
4. Strongly disagree—Family Member, 52%  
Professional, 35%
5. Not sure

#### What is the GREATEST need for self-advocate training?

1. Speaking out appropriately—Self-Advocate, 24%
2. Making decisions
3. Self direction/determination—Family Member, 37%  
Professional, 38%
4. Running meetings
5. Working with helpers/staff
6. Rights
7. Independent living
8. Employment

#### The thing that could MOST help self-advocate groups to organize is:

1. Awareness and training—Family Member, 38%  
Professional, 43%
2. Financial assistance
3. Statewide leadership

4. Training for advisors on how to support the group—Self-Advocate, 42%

#### What is the GREATEST barrier for developing a stronger culture for self-advocacy and self-determination?

1. Families not letting go—Self-Advocate, 29%
2. Lack of knowledge—Family Member, 42%,  
Professional, 34%
3. Lack of self-confidence
4. Lack of provider support

#### What is the best way to learn about self-advocacy?

1. Internet/web based training
2. Books
3. Classes
4. Podcasts
5. Interactive learning
6. Self-advocacy group—Self-Advocate, 60%  
Family Member, 73%  
Professional, 53%
7. Family member
8. Provider
9. One-on-one learning



#### Self-advocacy training should begin at what age?

1. Under 10 years—Family Member, 56%  
Professional, 40%
2. 10-15 years
3. 15-22 years
4. 22+ years—Self-Advocate, 35%

## 2010 Legislative Wrap-Up

The 2010 session of the Indiana General Assembly ended on March 13th. Following is a summary of bills signed into law by Governor Daniels of interest to people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities, their families and their providers.

**SCR 005—FSSA Professional Development Programs**—Encourages FSSA to continue efforts to develop professional development and education for direct support professionals and to support efforts to obtain funding.

**SCR0004—Alliance for Full Participation**—A concurrent Resolution supporting the goals set forth by the Alliance for Full Participation's employment campaign.

**HB 1065—Firearms**—Prohibits employers from prohibiting an employee from legally possessing a firearm in a locked vehicle on the employer's property. There is an exemption for agencies providing services to people with developmental disabilities that allows agencies to adopt a policy prohibiting direct support professionals who transport clients from having a firearm in their personal vehicles while in the agency's parking lot.

**HB 1169—Volunteer Advocates Programs for Incapacitated Adults and Seniors**—Changes reporting requirements, duties, and appointment of volunteer advocates for incapacitated adults and seniors. Provides that probate courts may establish joint or multiple county volunteer advocates for seniors programs or volunteer advocates for incapacitated adults programs, and that the court may contract with an Indiana nonprofit corporation to provide these programs.

**SB 148—Developmental Disabilities Accreditation**—Requires the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services to ensure that an entity approved to provide adult day services, day habilitation, or vocational services is accredited.

**SB 356—Criminal History Checks** Allows a criminal history check for employees for home health agencies and personal services agencies to be provided through a private agency. Removes the July 1, 2010 expiration that allows limited criminal histories to be used for employees of home health agencies and personal services agencies.



# A View from My Window

Hosted by Michelle Fischer



**Michelle, Kim Dodson, Betty Williams and Melody Cooper—A View into The Arc US Disability Policy Seminar & Health Care Reform**

The Arc of Indiana welcomes you to listen to Michelle Fischer's audiocast, *A View from My Window*, on issues facing people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Michelle, who was born with cerebral palsy, works for First Steps of Mid North Indiana in Lafayette, Indiana. Her goal is to become a Television News Anchor. Michelle is moving toward achieving her dream by working with The Arc of Indiana to produce her show, *A View from My Window*.

Visit the Media Gallery on The Arc of Indiana's website, [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org), to listen to the latest edition and past broadcasts of *A View from My Window*.



**Michelle and Patti Seban—A View into Employment and the Alliance for Full Participation**

**A View into Building Pathways to Empowerment**

**A View into Employment and the Alliance for Full Participation**

**A View into The Arc's Family & Caregiver Training Services Program**

**A View into Public Transportation & the Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority (CIRTA)**

**A View into The Arc US Disability Policy Seminar & Health Care Reform**

**A View on Autism and Life from Drew Dietrick**

**A View from Providers**

**A View into the Indiana General Assembly**

**A View into Self-Advocacy**

**Introducing A View from My Window**



**Michelle and Ehren Bingaman—A View into Public Transportation & CIRTA**



THE ARC OF INDIANA  
**MASTER TRUST**

*Serving Hoosiers of all disabilities and their families since 1988*

## TRUST I

Helping families provide for the financial future of their loved ones



## TRUST II

Helping people with disabilities fund their own Trust



**A volunteer for Best Buddies, Mollie Noble was recently recognized as College Buddy Director of the Year. Mollie works at J.C. Penney and credits Noble of Indiana, local chapter of The Arc in Marion and Hamilton counties, with her success, "Noble helped me to be on my own. I have been making my own meals, I do my own grocery shopping and I make my own transportation with IndyGo. I love being independent because I can do more stuff and be creative." Mollie was recently named Inclusion and Diversity Associate of the Month at the JC Penney Store where she works, and was also nominated for J.C. Penney's national award. Mollie has served on Noble's Board of Directors since 2004.**

**WE'RE HERE TO HELP**

[www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org)

**317-977-2375 • 800-382-9100**



## Successful Third Annual Texas Hold'Em Poker Tournament

The Arc of Indiana thanks the players and sponsors who made this year's Texas Hold'Em Poker Tournament a great success. Players from around the state joined in to raise important funds to help people with developmental disabilities and their families through The Arc of Indiana.

This excellent event would not have been possible without the support of our amazing sponsors:



- Insights Consulting, Inc.
- Outside the Box
- St. Malachy Knights of Columbus
- T & T Sales & Promotions
- WPT APL-Indiana

Next year's event is planned for February 28, 2011. Watch for complete details in the fall.

## Steve Green's 21st Annual Golf Tournament & The Arc of Indiana's Golf Ball Bounce



Former Indiana Pacer and I.U. Basketball star Steve Green will host the 21st annual charity golf tournament to benefit The Arc of Indiana on June 25th, 2010.

The tournament will be held at The Legends of Indiana golf course in Franklin, Indiana. Registration opens at 10:00 a.m. with lunch at 11:00 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 12:00 noon. Prizes will be awarded after the round is completed, at approximately 5:00 p.m. Prize packages will be awarded to both advanced and recreational golfers.

**\$2000 does not just fall from the sky everyday**

At the start of Steve Green's 21st Annual Golf Tournament to Benefit The Arc of Indiana, on June 25th, 2010, 1,000 numbered golf balls will be dropped from approximately 100 feet onto The Legends of Indiana's driving range.

Everyone can participate. You do not have to be present to win.

The lucky person whose golf ball lands the closest to the marked hole will win \$1,000! The golf ball second closest to the hole will win \$500, and \$250 will be rewarded to the third closest numbered golf ball. In addition, the person whose numbered golf ball lands the farthest away will win \$250.

Tickets for the golf balls, numbered 1 to 1,000, are on sale *now* for only \$10 each. Whether you are a golfer or just want to try your luck and support The Arc of Indiana, everyone can participate, and you do not have to be present to win.

To register on-line for the golf tournament and/or purchase your chance in the golf ball bounce, please visit "News & Events" on our website, [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org). Or call us at 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100.

This is The Arc's primary fundraising event. All proceeds go toward enriching the lives of people with developmental disabilities. Your support helps make this important work possible and will positively impact the lives of many people.



## Our Programs and Services

**Public Policy Advocacy** Through volunteers and staff, The Arc has a full-time presence at the Indiana State House and, as an affiliate of The Arc of the United States, in the halls of Congress.

**The Arc Master Trust** The nation's premier special needs trust, The Arc Master Trust serves Hoosiers of all disabilities. Trust I, established in 1988, helps families provide

for the future of their loved ones. Trust II, established in 1995, allows people with disabilities to fund their own trust.

**The Arc Network** Our state-wide network of family advocates and self-advocates offers information, referral and advocacy to children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families at the local level.

**Family and Caregiver Training Services Program** Individuals who have a Developmental Disability, Autism or Support Services Medicaid Waiver can allocate up to \$2,000 per year for family members and non-paid caregivers to receive training and attend conferences. By utilizing The Arc's Family and Caregiver Training Services Program, families and non-paid caregivers do not have to pay for any out of pocket costs.

**COVOH Collaborative Work Lab** The COVOH Collaborative Work Lab is an innovative system that provides a streamlined meeting format designed to enhance the productivity of group meetings. The lab can be used for strategic planning, interagency collaboration, focus groups, project and grant devel-

opment, project evaluation, online surveys, board development and much more. By utilizing a structured, electronic meeting format, linked computers and an experienced facilitator, every member can participate and contribute their ideas.

**Self-Advocates of Indiana** The Arc of Indiana supports the work of Self-Advocates of Indiana, a state-wide organization run by and for people with developmental disabilities. Learn more about Self-Advocates of Indiana at [www.saind.org](http://www.saind.org).

**Membership** When you are a member of The Arc, you belong to and support a respected local, state and national association.

Whether you are a parent, sister, brother, grandparent, friend or a person with a disability, you can be involved in continuing The Arc's mission to inspire positive change. To learn more, or if you need information or assistance, contact us. We're Here to Help.

### The Arc of Indiana's Third Annual Golf Ball Bounce \$10 per chance (# of balls) x \$10 = \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed payable to The Arc of Indiana. Please return payment and this form to ~ The Arc of Indiana, 107 N. Pennsylvania St., Suite 800, Indianapolis, IN 46204 or Fax 317-977-2385

Or with Credit Card  Master Card  Visa

Cardholder Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CID# (# on back of card): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

You can also register on-line at [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org). Click on upcoming events.