

## Key Partners in Place for The Arc Training Institute and Teaching Hotel

### Capital Campaign Continues

The Arc strives every day to empower people and inspire change in many ways – including expanding employment opportunities for people with disabilities. We not only advocate for change – we are working to be part of that change by developing a hospitality training institute and teaching hotel in Muncie, Indiana.

It was an exciting day on March 4, as Governor Mike Pence and Muncie Mayor Dennis Tyler joined The Arc in Muncie, Indiana to announce that the teaching hotel being developed by The Arc's for-profit corporation, Arc Innovations, in conjunction with a hospitality training institute, will be a Courtyard by Marriott.

This first of its kind project in the



Architect's photo rendering of the Training Institute and Teaching Hotel

nation will provide postsecondary education opportunities for people with disabilities in the hospitality and food service industries, train human resource professionals in hiring people with disabilities, employ people with disabilities at the Courtyard by Marriott and offer the opportunity for people with disabilities to own their own business in the hotel.

"Every Hoosier deserves the opportunity to develop skills for employment, and Indiana is looking to foster innovative ways to make this a reality," said Governor Pence. "The state's partnership with The Arc of Indiana unveiled today will help Hoosiers acquire the training and skills necessary to return to their communities, earn positions in the hospitality and food service industries and build a better future."

"The initiation of this project was made possible thanks to a \$5 million grant from the state of Indiana, acting through the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. Thanks to the state of Indiana's support, a key piece of the puzzle was put into place that allows The Arc to move forward with our dream, and ongoing capital campaign, to establish the nation's first statewide hospitality training institute for people with disabilities," said Kim Dodson, associate executive director of The Arc and chief execu-

tive officer of Arc Innovations. "We are proud to be in a state where economic development opportunities include people with disabilities and greatly appreciate Governor Pence's commitment to assuring all Hoosiers have opportunities to develop job skills that will lead to employment."



Governor Mike Pence speaking at the training institute and teaching hotel announcement.

"As we looked at hotel brands, Courtyard by Marriott was our first choice. Not only does this brand bring so much to the venture, their training program is exceptional and their participation in our training institute will be tremendous. With the Courtyard by Marriott in place, we can now move forward with all of our key partners to build this truly unique training institute and teaching hotel," Dodson said.

Ground breaking is planned for 2014. Anticipated opening is slated for late summer 2015.

**Be part of this exciting initiative. Help make the dream of having a career a reality for thousands of people with disabilities**

#### Donate Online

Visit [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org) and click on "Donate now." Please designate your on-line donation to "The Arc of Indiana Foundation."

#### To Provide a Unique Gift

Contact Jill Vaught, 317-977-2384, or [jvaught@arcind.org](mailto:jvaught@arcind.org), to learn about unique gift opportunities.

#### To Mail Your Donation

Please make donations payable to "The Arc of Indiana Foundation" and mail to: The Arc of Indiana Foundation, 107 N. Pennsylvania St., Suite 800, Indianapolis, IN 46204

News and information about the project can be found by visiting: [www.arcind.org/training-institute](http://www.arcind.org/training-institute). Follow the Training Institute and Teaching Hotel on Twitter @ArcTeachHotel.

### Training Institute and Teaching Hotel Partners

The State of Indiana  
The City of Muncie  
Horizon Convention Center  
Muncie-Delaware County  
Economic Development Alliance  
Courtyard by Marriott  
General Hotels Corporation  
Schmidt Associates  
A Pots and Pans Production / Thr3e Wise Men

### Training Institute and Teaching Hotel Goals

- Provide postsecondary education opportunities that will train people with disabilities for jobs in the hospitality industry
- Employ individuals with disabilities throughout the hotel in various capacities including management
- Include businesses owned by people with disabilities in the teaching hotel lobby
- Serve as a resource center for people in the human resources field by offering training on employing people with disabilities

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## Self-Advocates of Indiana President's Corner

**Melody Cooper, President  
Self-Advocates of Indiana**

Self-Advocates of Indiana had a great winter, but we are more than ready to welcome spring! Our biggest winter event was Valentine's Day at the State House on February 13.



Melody Cooper

Self-advocates from around the state hand delivered valentines to their legislators, and we held our first quarter statewide meeting during the event. Special thanks to Repre-

sentative Ed Clere who served as our guest speaker.

### New Speakers Bureau

SAI is in the process of launching a Speakers Bureau. We have hired six self-advocates to make presentations about self-advocacy, employment and disability awareness. The goals of the Speakers Bureau are to raise public awareness about issues that are important in our lives, educate groups about people with disabilities, connect to our communities around Indiana and reach out to others who don't know us.

### SAI Does DC

Follow us April 5-9 as we learn about important federal public policy issues and meet with Indiana's congressional delegation in Washington, DC during the National Disability Policy Seminar. You can follow our advocacy journey on SAI's Facebook page, Self-Advocates of Indiana (official), or on Twitter at @SelfAdvocatesIN. We will be using the hashtag #SAIdoesDC.

## Works of Arc

Works of Arc, [www.worksofarc.com](http://www.worksofarc.com), is an online art gallery and store featuring the work of Indiana artists with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Visit Works of Arc to purchase a set of 6 of these unique, fired clay garden markers or a beautiful platter crafted by the artists at Arc Artisans, an entrepreneurial program of emerging artists at The Arc of Greater Boone County.

See the full range of Arc Artisans' handcrafted items currently available for purchase at [www.arcartisans.org](http://www.arcartisans.org).

Interested in selling your art on Works of Arc?

Contact Jill Vaught at [jvaught@arcind.org](mailto:jvaught@arcind.org) or 317-977-2375. Artists must be a member of The Arc, receive services from one of The Arc's chapters or have a Trust Account with The Arc of Indiana Master Trust.

Works of Arc is a project of The Arc Development Group, LLC. The

mission of The Arc Development Group is to provide unique avenues and training opportunities that lead to employment and greater self-sufficiency for people with disabilities.



## A View from My Window

**Hosted by Michelle Fischer**

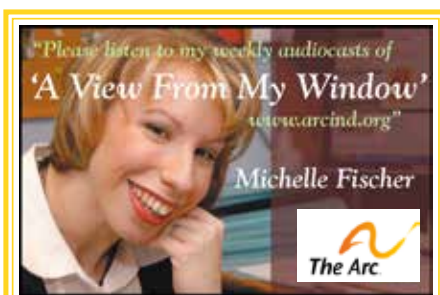
The Arc of Indiana welcomes you to listen in to A View from My Window, our podcast hosted by Michelle Fischer.

Visit [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org) to listen to past broadcasts and the latest edition of A View from My Window.

Like "A View from my Window with Michelle Fischer" on Facebook

Follow Michelle's Blog – My Life and Stories Behind the Mic

Join Michelle on Twitter @MFView



### Save the Date! Self-Advocates of Indiana Annual Picnic

Celebrate another year of great self-advocacy with food, games, pictures, music and more!

**Friday, July 18  
10:00 am – 3:00 pm**

Eagle Crest Picnic Area  
(located in Eagle Creek Park)  
7201 Fishback Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46278

\$15 for SAI members  
\$20 non-members

Watch for registration information at [www.saind.org](http://www.saind.org) and [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org) or contact us at 317-977-2375 or [lcummings@arcind.org](mailto:lcummings@arcind.org).







John Dickerson

## Executive Director's Column

### Pass it On

With this issue of *The Arc News in Indiana* we are reaching over 20,000 Hoosier households. From Gary to Lawrenceburg and from Evansville to Fort Wayne, more people than ever before are getting news and information they can use to help themselves, their son or daughter, grandson or granddaughter. It may be the article on page four on how to work with your employer if you have a child with special needs and need time off, or learning on page eight about important changes coming to Medicaid, or news that will be in our fall back-to-school issue. Every issue has information that we pull together for families, self-advocates and professionals.

Yet there are so many people who don't have access to this information.

Every week we get calls from individuals who are not connected to anyone informed about such matters. By the time they reach us, they are often at "the end of their rope." Over 180,000 Hoosiers have an intellectual or other developmental disability; so even with 20,000 members, we are reaching just over 10%.

### *Help us double our distribution by sharing this newsletter.*

What are we doing about that? With the support of a grant from the Family and Social Services Administration, we now have family educators who are reaching out to schools, local chapters of The Arc and service providers to make presentations to families throughout the state. We have piloted an endeavor to reach out to families through paid

advertising on WTHR, COZI, and Me-TV which we will evaluate and possibly bring to other parts of the state. And we have expanded and improved our website and electronic newsletter that goes out every Sunday to over 2,000 people.

### We need your help

When you are done reading this issue, please *Pass it On!* There is a family in your community, school, church or neighborhood that is not part of The Arc. They don't know about the good things happening at your chapter of The Arc, The Arc of Indiana or The Arc of the US. They don't realize that they are not alone. They feel lost in a system that can be disconnected and fragmented at times.

We would like you to help us double our distribution by just sharing this newsletter with someone you know. It may be a family member,

it could be the human resources director at a business, it could be your doctor's nurse or your child's teacher. There are so many people who are your resources, or whom you touch every day. Please *Pass it On!*

If we can double the distribution of *The Arc News in Indiana* with your help (without spending a single dime), we will have found a way to give more people information, hope and a step toward realizing their dreams. And that is an amazing gift.

So when you have finished reading this issue, we charge you with a simple task. Find someone you can share it with, and know you will be making a difference.

Thank you so much for all you have done, and what you will continue to do, for Hoosiers across this state and people across this great country of ours.

## Blueprint for Change

# Celebrating Those Who are Making it Work

The following stories, featured in our 2014 calendar, exemplify the good work that is happening throughout the state thanks to our local chapters of The Arc. Through their efforts, people with developmental disabilities are building career pathways, using their unique gifts and leading full and meaningful lives in their communities – all key goals of The Arc's Blueprint for Change.

Learn more about the Blueprint by visiting [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org).



Jodi Francis

### Easter Seals Arc of Northeast Indiana

Jodi Francis and her family moved from St. Lucia to Fort Wayne, Indiana in 2003. In 2008 Jodi embraced another family, Easter Seals Arc of Northeast Indiana, through her participation in their services. Jodi

brought along her love of movement and music, and has become an integral part of Easter Seals Arc's annual "Dancing with the Arc Stars" event.

Jodi had been attending the local Y for exercise, but decided she wanted something more. Her caseworker suggested the faster, dance-oriented Zumba classes and Jodi was hooked. After realizing that a specialized class would be beneficial, the Y developed a class modified for individuals with physical and/or developmental disabilities, but where everyone is welcome.

Thanks to Jodi, Zumba is now reaching more people in the Fort Wayne community, giving people of all abilities the opportunity to have fun and be creative while exercising.

### The Arc of Evansville

Nathan Breeden first got involved with The Arc of Evansville when he was in high school - working at Arc Industries and participating in The Arc of Evansville's Successful Transitions program, which helps students with disabilities transition from high school to adult life. After graduation, Nathan received assis-



Nathan Breeden and Deidra Conner

tance from The Arc of Evansville's Community Job Link program in securing employment at Walmart, where he continues to work today.

Nathan's participation in The Arc of Evansville's Connections For Life program, which helps him connect with volunteer opportunities and community activities, brought out his natural skills as a leader and public speaker. These skills led The Arc of Evansville's President Deidra Conner to invite Nathan to join the Board of Directors and to represent the organization as a spokesperson.

One of Nathan's goals is to become a full-time motivational speaker. Nathan believes, "People need to know that a person's disability does not define their way of life. Everyone can become the person they want to be if they really put their mind to it."

### Hillcroft Services

Hillcroft Services, the local chapter of The Arc in Delaware County, believes in its mission statement, "To provide innovative services and supports for people with disabilities and their families, resulting in extraordinary differences in people's lives."

Thanks to the assistance she received from Hillcroft in securing employment, Sandy Thomas has provided janitorial services for the City Hall building in Muncie, Indiana for over five years.

Sandy is always upbeat and positive and takes great pride in her job every day. Mayor Dennis Tyler appreciates Sandy's attitude and efforts. "Everyone knows and loves Sandy, she is part of the family," Mayor Tyler said. When asked about working at City Hall, Sandy said, "It's a pleasure working at City Hall with my buddy the Mayor and his staff."



Mayor Dennis Tyler and Sandy Thomas



# Employment Protections for Caregivers

Melissa Keyes, M.S., J.D. Legal Director, Indiana Protection and Advocacy



Parents of a child with special needs understand the difficulty in having to care for their child and work full or part time outside the home. However, there are protections to ensure that you are not discriminated against in your employment because of your caregiving responsibilities.

## Discrimination against Caregivers

The ADA covers private employers with 15 or more employees and state and local government employees. The EEOC enforces disability discrimination in the workplace.

*The ADA covers private employers with 15 or more employees and state and local government employees.*

In addition to prohibiting discrimination against people with disabilities, the ADA also protects those who are associated with a person with a disability. Under this "association" provision, an employer may not treat a worker less favorably based on assumptions about the worker's ability to perform job duties while also providing care to

a person with a disability.

While reasonable accommodations are not available to employees only associated with someone with a disability, the employer is prohibited from discriminating against that person. For example, the employer is not required to modify its leave policy for an employee who needs time off to care for a child with a disability. However, an employer must avoid treating an employee differently from other employees because of his or her association with a person with a disability.

## FMLA for Caregivers of a Person with a Disability

FMLA entitles an eligible employee to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave during a 12-month period to care for a child with a serious health condition. The 12 weeks need not be consecutive and may happen anytime throughout the 12-month period. An eligible employee requesting FMLA leave to care for a child under 18 years of age must only show a need to care for the child due to a serious health condition. However, there are different regulations regarding FMLA leave to care for adult children with disabilities.

The Department of Labor recently issued guidance about the availability of FMLA for an employee to care for an adult child with a disability. To be eligible for FMLA, the adult child must:

- Have a disability as defined by the ADA
- Be incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability
- Have a serious health condition for which they are in need of care (the health condition does not have to be related to the disability)

The caregiver must also meet other eligibility requirements for FMLA. FMLA applies to private



employers with 50 or more employees and state and local government employees. To be eligible for FMLA, the employee must: (1) have been employed for at least 12 months; and (2) have had at least 1,250 hours of service during the 12-month period immediately before the leave started.

Understanding your rights as a caregiver is important. However, you should also be open and honest with your employer about your needs. Employers are often willing to work with employees to address special concerns (such as needing to leave early to attend therapy appointments). Keeping an open dialogue with your employer can go a long way toward improving the work-life balance required when caring for a person with special needs.

### Dept. of Labor Guidelines

[http://www.dol.gov/whd/opinion/adminIntrprtn/FMLA/2013/FMLAAI2013\\_1.pdf](http://www.dol.gov/whd/opinion/adminIntrprtn/FMLA/2013/FMLAAI2013_1.pdf)

### To report discrimination, please contact EEOC

[www.eeoc.gov](http://www.eeoc.gov)

### To report possible FMLA violation, please contact DOL

<http://www.dol.gov/dol/topic/workhours/fmla.htm>



Melissa Keyes is the Legal Director at Indiana Protection and Advocacy, [www.ipas.in.gov](http://www.ipas.in.gov). Nothing in this article should be construed as legal advice. Information in this article is not intended and cannot replace consultation with an attorney specializing in special needs issues.



# 2014 Legislative Session Wrap-Up

The 2014 session of the Indiana General Assembly ended March 3 – one day short of the statutory deadline. Following is a brief overview of legislation The Arc of Indiana monitored and pursued. Unless otherwise noted, the legislation listed passed the House and Senate and went on to the Governor for his signature.

**HB 1258**—Telehealth Pilot Program. Requires the medical licensing board to establish a pilot project to provide telehealth services to patients in Indiana and report outcomes of the pilot to the general assembly.

**HB 1351**—Drug Testing. This legislation was amended several times over the course of the legislative session. In its various forms it would have required the state to administer a drug testing program for individuals receiving welfare assistance. This bill was defeated in the Senate on a 50-50 vote.

**HB 1358**—Autism/Birth Problems Registry. Requires a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder at any age to be reported to the birth problems registry. (Current law provides for the reporting of an autism diagnosis made before a child's fifth birthday). Allows not more than 50% of the monies in the spinal cord and brain injury fund to be used to develop a statewide trauma system. Requires the state department of health to adopt rules concerning the regulation of facilities for treatment of traumatic brain injuries.

**HB 1391**—Community Living Pilot Program. Beginning Jan. 1, 2015, establishes the community living pilot program until June 30, 2017. Requires the division on aging to designate four area agencies on aging to participate in the program. Repeals language concerning a pilot project for certain Medicaid populations and requiring participation in Medicaid risk-based managed care. The pilot project being discussed for risk based managed care does not include people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**SB 59**—Guardian Filing for Dissolution of Marriage, Legal Separation, or Annulment. Allows a guardian, including a volunteer advocate for senior program or a volunteer advocate for incapacitated adults program, to request permission to file a petition for dissolution of marriage, legal separation, or annulment of marriage on behalf of an incapacitated person.

**SB 80**—Interim Study Committees. Establishes 17 interim study committees with authority to study legislative topics. While this bill eliminated the Developmental Disabilities and Autism Commissions, the issues studied by those commissions will be incorporated into a newly created Public Health, Behavioral Health, and Human Services Committee.

**SB 139**—Attendant Care Services. Amends the definition of attendant care services to include providing assistance for the taking of medications that include controlled substances and prescription drugs. Extends the office of minority health until July 1, 2016.

**SB 176**—Central Indiana Transit. Provides for the establishment or expansion of public transportation services, other than light rail, in an eligible county through local public questions placed on the ballot under ordinances adopted by the fiscal body of the eligible county. Eligible counties include Delaware, Hamilton, Hancock, Johnson, Madison, and Marion. Access to public transportation is critical to people with disabilities. The Arc appreciates the hard work of many organizations who came together to pass this important legislation.

**SB 248**—Psychiatric Crisis Intervention Services Study. Requires FSSA to study certain issues concerning psychiatric crisis intervention services.

**SB397**—Medicaid Reimbursement for Wheelchairs for Children. Requires the office of Medicaid policy and planning to provide reimbursement in a specified manner for a specialized or nonstandard wheelchair for a child who resides in a nursing facility.



Thanks to all who joined in our annual Valentine's Day at the State House event on February 13. Over 300 people from local chapters of The Arc and self-advocate groups delivered valentine's to legislators and state officials, including Lt. Governor Ellspermann (pictured), State Auditor Crouch and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Ritz. Special thanks to Representative Ed Clere who met with Self-Advocates of Indiana (SAI) at a lunch meeting the day of the event.

## The Arc Honors Secretary of State Connie Lawson, State Senator Randy Head



John Dickerson, The Arc of Indiana Executive Director, Secretary of State Connie Lawson, State Senator Randy Head

The Arc of Indiana honored Secretary of State Connie Lawson with our 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award, and State Senator Randy Head with our 2014 Public Policy Award at our annual Legislative Breakfast on February 27.

**Secretary of State Connie Lawson** serves as Indiana's 61st Secretary of State. Prior to serving as Secretary of State, Lawson served in the Indiana Senate for sixteen years and as Clerk of the Hendricks County Circuit Court for eight years.

During her tenure in the Indiana Senate, she quickly earned the respect from colleagues on both sides of the aisle and earned the admiration of her colleagues when she made history in 2006 by being selected as the first woman to serve as Majority Floor Leader in the State Senate.

During her term as a state senator, she authored legislation designed to have a lasting, positive impact on Indiana. She committed her time and energy to improve the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities as well as those with

mental illness or addictions. Secretary Lawson was also recognized in 2012, along with Mental Health America, with Indiana's Lifetime Achievement Award and the Indiana Association of Rehabilitation Facilities' Career Recognition Award.

Secretary Lawson joins a distinguished group of individuals who have received The Arc's Lifetime Achievement Award. Past recipients include: Representative William Crawford, Senator Robert Gar-ton, Congresswoman Julia Carson, Senator Marvin Riegsecker, Representative Sheila Klinker, Senator Robert Meeks, and Senator Vi Simpson.

**State Senator Randy Head** was first elected to the Indiana Senate in 2008. In the Senate, Head is the chair of the Local Government Committee and also serves on the Elections, Civil Law and Judiciary Committees.

As a member, and past chairman, of the Autism Commission, Senator Head quickly became a champion of issues important to people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. Hearing stories of students being strapped to chairs and locked in storage cabinets, Senator Head became outraged and dedicated himself to protecting students from these horrible practices. In 2013 his tireless dedication and perseverance led to the passing of legislation which would significantly reduce or eliminate the use of seclusion and restraints in schools for all children. Senator Head remains committed to advancing important public policy to improve the lives of people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.

Thanks to our sponsors, Duke Energy, Krieg Devault, and Indiana Energy Association for their support of the event; and special thanks to our 2014 Legislative Breakfast chairwomen, Lisa Kobe of Duke Energy and Amy Levander of Krieg DeVault.

For 58 years The Arc of Indiana has stood as beacon of hope for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. We were able to touch countless lives in 2013 because of the incredible generosity of our donors. Thank you for helping us help others.

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Blend Bar & Cigar  
Fathers & Families  
GE Foundation  
Huser SpecialCare  
Indiana Coalition for Human Services  
Indiana Conference of Executives of The Arc (ICEArc)  
Schmidt Associates  
The Arc of Greater Boone County  
The National Bank of Indianapolis  
The Selective Insurance Group Foundation  
Trustpointe, Inc.  
Women's Contract Bridge Club

Donors

Honorariums

In 2013, The Arc of Indiana received donations in honor of the following individuals.

Michael Collins  
Chrissy Clawson  
John Dickerson  
Chris Doerr  
Wm. Curtis Ewbank II  
Brad Fleck  
Nancy Cynthia Frank  
Vicki French  
Jane Kipling  
Tony Kleinschmidt  
Sheila Klinker  
Randy & Rodie Kriebel  
Tiffany R. McCrary  
Christopher Patchner  
Eddie Payne  
David Spade  
Cindy Wagner

Memorials

During 2013, The Arc of Indiana received memorial donations for the following individuals. While nothing will ease the loss suffered by family and friends, these memorial gifts serve as a tribute to these very special people.

Christopher Barr  
Sally Burnside  
Alan Clyne  
Victoria Collins  
Deborah Christine Cooper Downs  
Carol Corwin  
William Covington  
Lloyd Crowe  
Allen Duffey  
Susan Green  
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Passages, Inc.  
Rest Assured  
Stone Belt Arc



# of 2013

The Arc of Evansville  
The Arc of Greater Boone County  
The Arc of LaGrange County  
Wabash Center

## Steve Green's 24th Annual Golf Tournament

### Title Sponsor

The Arc of Indiana Master Trust

### Event Sponsors

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of Indiana

**Prize Sponsor** – IPMG

**Lunch Sponsor** – The National  
Bank of Indianapolis

**Golf Ball Drop Sponsor** – Horizon  
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### Food Trucks

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Rollin Wit Da Roux  
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Sweet Jeanius  
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Ryan Barrett, Indianapolis Indians  
Liz Berg, The Skinny Chick Can  
Bake Blogger  
Ehren Bingaman, HNTB

Marsha Brooks, Best Pie in  
America by Good Morning  
America  
Donald Davidson, Indianapolis  
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Andy Dietrick, Indiana Farm  
Bureau  
Dennis Frick, Indiana Legal  
Services, Inc.  
Mike Furnish, Special Olympics  
Dan Gaafar, Bradley Associates  
Harry Gonso, Ice Miller, LLP  
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Julia Huffman, Noble  
Dan Kahl, Opportunities for  
Positive Growth  
Chris Katsaropoulos, Author of  
*Antiphony* and *Fragile*  
Jolene Ketzenberger,  
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Marlene Lu, Indiana State  
University  
Tina & Louis Mahern, Mahern  
Events  
Kate Marvel, Food Blogger  
Mickey Maurer, The National  
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Blogger  
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Hollyhock Hill  
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Indiana Ice  
Indiana Repertory Theatre  
Indianapolis Colts  
Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra  
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Kroger  
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Mallow Run Winery  
Mayberry Café  
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Rick's Café Boatyard  
Shedd Aquarium  
The Benjamin Harrison  
Presidential Site  
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The Children's Museum  
The Gibson Foundation  
The Melting Pot  
Walt Disney World

## Lifetime Achievement Award Breakfast

**Event Sponsor**  
Duke Energy  
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**Silver Sponsor**  
Schmidt Associates

# Changes Coming to Medicaid Disability Eligibility

Effective June 1, 2014, Indiana is changing the way Hoosiers who are aged, blind or disabled obtain and maintain eligibility for Medicaid.

Currently, when an individual applies for disability coverage, he or she is subjected to additional, more restrictive criteria by the state than the Social Security Administration (SSA) requires for its Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) programs.

After June 1, if you are found to be eligible for SSI you will automatically be eligible for Medicaid Disability. This will eliminate the need for applicants to complete a second application and go through a second medical review process to be determined eligible for Indiana Medicaid with disability coverage.

Also effective June 1, Indiana’s “spend down” provision will be eliminated, which currently allows individuals to *spend down* (to pay medical bills) income in excess of Medicaid financial requirements in order to maintain Medicaid eligibility.

Effective June 1, if your income is less than \$973 per month for a single individual and \$1,311 for a married couple, you will be able to maintain financial eligibility for Medicaid. If your income is over this level, and you do not live in a nursing home or receive Home and Community Based Services under a Medicaid Waiver, you will no longer be eligible to spend down to receive full Medicaid. However, FSSA has stated that while spend down is going away, there will be other Medicaid or non-Medicaid options available.

*After June 1, if you are found to be eligible for SSI you will automatically be eligible for Medicaid Disability.*

Individuals residing in nursing homes or who are receiving Home and Community Based Services under a Medicaid Waiver may have income up to \$2,163 per month. Individuals with income that exceeds this can establish a trust, known as a Miller

trust, to maintain Medicaid eligibility. A Miller trust is a special legal arrangement for holding some of your income in order to remain eligible for Medicaid even if your income is greater than \$2,163 per month.

Another significant change is that Indiana will increase the allowable resources (assets) an individual receiving Medicaid can have from \$1,500 to \$2,000 for a single individual and from \$2,250 to \$3,000 for a married couple.

It is important to remember that an individual can establish a special needs trust, like The Arc Master Trust II, in order to protect assets he or she may have above the allowable amount. This sometimes occurs if someone receives a small inheritance or back payment from SSI. To learn more, visit The Arc Master Trust at [www.thearctrust.org](http://www.thearctrust.org) or call us at 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100.

If you have questions about the changes being made to Medicaid eligibility, contact The Arc at 317-977-2375, 800-382-9100 or [thearc@arcind.org](mailto:thearc@arcind.org) and ask to speak with a Family Advocate.

# Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services “Point of Entry” to Apply for Home and Community Based Services

The Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services’ (DDRS) Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services (BDDS) is the “system point of entry” to apply for the Family Supports (FS) Medicaid Waiver, Community Integration and Habilitation (CIH) Medicaid Waiver and Care-giver Support Services.

The FS and CIH Waivers allow Medicaid to fund supports and services for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) in their family homes or communities instead of institutions.

Caregiver Support Services can provide a short-term relief period (respite care) for primary caregivers of individuals with I/DD either in the primary caregiver’s and individual’s home, or in non-private residential setting, i.e., a “respite home.”

If you have questions about services for children and adults with I/DD, or need help in applying for services, contact The Arc of Indiana at 317-977-2375, 800-382-9100, or [thearc@arcind.org](mailto:thearc@arcind.org) and ask to speak with a Family Advocate.

If you would like a presentation made at your school or a local meeting of families with children with disabilities, contact us to schedule a presentation by one of our Family Educators.

## BDDS District Offices

- District 1**

110 W. Ridge Road  
Gary, IN 46408-2709  
Phone: 219-981-5313  
Toll Free: 1-877-218-3053  
Toll Free Fax: 1-855-455-4265
- District 2**

100 W. South Street, Suite 100  
South Bend, IN 46601-2435  
Phone: 574-232-1412  
Toll Free: 1-877-218-3059  
Toll Free Fax: 1-855-455-4266
- District 3**

201 E. Rudisill, Suite 300  
Fort Wayne, IN 46806  
Phone: 260-423-2571  
Toll Free: 1-877-218-3061  
Toll Free Fax: 1-855-525-9370
- District 4**

30 N. 8th Street, P.O. Box 10217  
Terre Haute, IN 47802-0217  
Phone: 812-232-3603  
Toll Free: 1-877-218-3096  
Toll Free Fax: 1-855-525-9374
- District 5**

7155 Shadeland Station, Suite 160  
Indianapolis, IN 46256-3961  
Phone: 317-845-1646  
Toll Free: 1-877-218-3530  
Toll Free Fax: 1-855-525-9373
- District 6**

201 E. Charles Street, Suite 130  
Muncie, IN 47305-2434  
Phone: 765-288-6516  
Toll Free: 1-877-218-3531  
Toll Free Fax: 1-855-525-9372
- District 7**

700 E. Walnut Street  
Evansville, IN 47713-2561  
Phone: 812-423-8449  
Toll Free: 1-877-218-3528  
Toll Free Fax: 1-855-525-9375
- District 8**

1452 Vaxter Street  
Clarksville, IN 47129-7721  
Phone: 812-283-1040  
Toll Free: 1-877-218-3529  
Toll Free Fax: 1-855-525-9376



## The Arc to Establish National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability

The Arc of the United States has received funding from the U.S. Department of Justice to create The Arc's National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability (NCCJD). This is the first national effort of its kind to bring together both victim and suspect/offender issues involving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (or I/DD) under one roof.

NCCJD will serve as a national clearinghouse

for information and training on the topic of people with I/DD as victims, witnesses and suspects or offenders of crime. The Arc will partner 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 who become involved in the criminal justice system. The NCCJD's products and services include:

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Training and technical assistance (including web-based and on-site training)</b></li> <li>• <b>On-line resource library (including fact sheets, current research, state-by-state database of resources and relevant laws)</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>and legislation and directory of expert attorneys, witnesses, forensic interviewers and victim advocates</b></li> <li>• <b>White papers, literature reviews and reports to promote identification and evaluation</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>support of promising practices</b></li> <li>• <b>Public awareness via a robust web site housing a national resource library and issue-specific marketing/communication strategies</b></li> </ul> |
|--|---|--|

NCCJD's goal is to build the capacity of the criminal justice system to respond to gaps in existing services for people with disabilities, focusing on people with I/DD who remain a hidden population within the criminal justice system with little or no access to advocacy supports or services.

NCCJD's mission is to become the national focal point for the collection and dissemination of

resources and serve as a bridge between justice and I/DD professionals. The NCCJD will pursue and promote safety, fairness and justice for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities as suspects, offenders, victims or witnesses.

For more information, email [NCCJDinfo@thearc.org](mailto:NCCJDinfo@thearc.org).

## Adult Guardianship Office Leads New Statewide Efforts

In 2013, thanks in part to the advocacy efforts of The Arc, the state legislature established the Adult Guardianship Office (AGO) under the Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration. Staffed by a full-time attorney and part-time administrative assistant, AGO serves as a resource on adult guardianship to courts and the public. AGO also provides matching grant funds to volunteer-based programs that serve seniors and incapacitated adults in need of guardianship services.

### *Serving seniors and incapacitated adults in need of guardianship services*

In 2013 more than \$300,000 in grants distributed through the Adult Guardianship Office provided funding to nine volunteer-based guardianship programs serving 15 counties:

- ADEC, Inc. Corporate Guardianship Program – Elkhart County
- REAL Services, Inc. Adult Guardianship Services – Elkhart, Marshall, and St. Joseph Counties
- Volunteer Advocates for Seniors (VAS) Program – Lake County
- Northwest Indiana Adult Guardianship Services, Inc. (NIAGS) – Lake, LaPorte, Porter, and Starke Counties
- Lawrence County Guardianship Program – Lawrence, Orange, and Washington Counties
- Center for At-Risk Elders (CARE) Volunteer Advocates Program – Marion County
- Tippecanoe County Adult Guardianship Services (TAGS) – Tippecanoe County
- Guardianship Services of Southwestern Indiana, Inc. – Vanderburgh County
- Achieva Resources Guardianship Program – Fayette and Wayne Counties

More than 300 vulnerable and incapacitated adults in Indiana were served by programs that received grants in 2013. Grant funding continues in the current year.

AGO also funded the development of an on-line guardianship registry to provide public access on the status of guardianship cases throughout Indiana. The registry will be a vital tool for hospitals, banks, law enforcement, mental health facilities, government agencies, and other service providers who are often placed in emergency situations where knowing whether someone is under a guardianship and who needs to be contacted is critical.

The registry will also be an important tool for courts, tracking the number and types of guardianships filed in each jurisdiction. The on-line registry is expected to be piloted in several counties in the spring of 2014, with an expected statewide rollout later in the year.

## Achieve Your Dreams – Join The Arc

“Achieve Your Dreams – Join The Arc” is the theme for The Arc's 2014 statewide membership campaign. With 20,641 members statewide, an all-time record, local chapters of The Arc are recruiting new members to The Arc family with a goal of achieving 22,600 members.



The annual late winter/early spring campaign highlights that people with disabilities and their families have dreams, and that new prospective members can support people's dreams by joining a local chapter.

The campaign comes at a time when The Arc's statewide membership is at the highest level in our history. Brent Cardin, chairperson of The Arc's Member & Chapter Committee, reports eight chapters accounted for 65% of Indiana's members. While crediting the fine work of all chapters in reporting members, Cardin expressed appreciation to Noble, The Arc of Greater Indianapolis; Easter Seals Arc of Northeast Indiana in Allen County; KCARC in Knox County; ADEC in Elkhart County; The Arc Northwest Indiana in Lake County; Evansville ARC; Stone Belt Arc in Monroe County; and The Arc of Bartholomew County for their leadership with membership.

While thanking the chapters for their membership recruitment this past year, Cardin noted our membership represents less than one percent of Indiana's population and there are many more Hoosiers who may be interested in and could benefit from membership in The Arc. Cardin also thanked the members themselves who either joined or renewed membership this past year. Membership in The Arc in Indiana ranks second only to New York in total state memberships.

If you are not already a member of The Arc, we invite you to join! If you are a member, please invite others to *Join The Arc*. Find complete information on membership by visiting [www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/join-the-arc](http://www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/join-the-arc) or call us at 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100.

We all have dreams, no matter what our abilities. The Arc is here to help people with developmental disabilities and their families achieve their dreams. Join us!



# The Arc of Indiana 2014 Entrepreneur Grants Announcement



*Have you dreamed of owning your own computer repair business or starting an online business to sell your artwork? Or maybe you want to sell books at a kiosk in a hotel or start a dog walking business. The Arc of Indiana wants to help people with intellectual and developmental disabilities achieve their dreams.*

The Arc of Indiana is pleased to announce a new state-wide initiative to help individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities (I/DD) in Indiana achieve their dreams of owning their own businesses.

The Arc of Indiana Board of Directors has created a \$50,000 fund to award up to five small business grants of up to \$10,000 each to individuals with I/DD, selected from a competitive selection process.

The Arc fully realizes that starting a small business is difficult and that many small businesses do not succeed over the long term. That should not deter anyone from following their dreams. Therefore, in addition to the cash award, The Arc will connect successful applicants with small business resources in their community. In addition, The Arc is working with Indiana's Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (Vocational Rehabilitation) to develop ongoing support for the new business. We believe that building this network of support will enhance the ability of successful applicants to achieve their dreams of business ownership.

Applicants are asked to submit a written business plan, as detailed in the application guidelines, which will be scored by an independent committee that will include people from across the state and country.

Applications must be received by July 1, 2014 for consideration. Interviews will be conducted with finalists as part of the final selection process.

Recipients of The Arc of Indiana's 2014 Entrepreneur Grants will be announced at The Arc's annual conference on October 29, 2014 at the Horizon Convention Center in Muncie, Indiana. Awards will be granted in January 2015.

There are many resources available that may help applicants develop a business plan and information for this application process. Following are questions to think about from START-UP USA. You can find more information at: [www.start-up-usa.biz](http://www.start-up-usa.biz).

- Does this business address a recognized need in the marketplace?
- Can this product or service be produced at a profit?
- Can this business compete with similar businesses?
- Does this business match your dreams and goals?
- Are you really interested in owning this business?
- How much time can you invest in operating this business?
- Do you have the business and personal supports required to run a business?

The Arc is excited about the possibilities that this new grant opportunity offers for those who are themselves excited about owning their own businesses. We look forward to receiving your application.

## 2014 Entrepreneur Grants Application Guidelines

Application and attachments must be submitted electronically in PDF format and emailed to: Kim Dodson, Associate Executive Director, [kdodson@arcind.org](mailto:kdodson@arcind.org), with the subject line: "The Arc Entrepreneur Grant – Applicant's First and Last Name"

Please submit application using one-inch margins and 12-point type, Times New Roman font.

Applications must be received by July 1, 2014. The application must include the following information, which will be scored as noted below:

**Applicant's Name, Address, Telephone Number, and Email Address**

**Introduce Yourself** – In 500 words or less, please share with us who you are, what type of disability you have, and why you are the right person to start this business – 10 points

**Provide an executive summary,** no longer than one page, of your business proposal, including the grant amount you are requesting from The Arc, up to \$10,000 – 10 points

**Describe your business concept** – In 500 words or less, describe your overall business concept – 20 points

**Describe the business product or service** – 10 points

**Describe your target customers** – 10 points

**Describe the amount you will charge** customers for the product or service you will provide – 5 points

**Describe the number or amount** of products or services you can provide in a typical year – 5 points

**Describe the cost to you** to produce or provide each unit of your product or service – 5 points

**Describe supplies, equipment, resources** etc. that you already have that will be used for your business – 5 points

**Describe how you will use the grant** money awarded by The Arc – 5 points

**Describe additional resources** you believe you will need to begin your business – 5 points

**Describe why you think your business will be successful** over the long term – 10 points

### Attachments

Please attach 2-3 letters of reference, including the phone number and email address of the person providing the reference.

Please feel free to attach additional information that may strengthen your application.



# The Arc Master Trust Staff Growing to Better Serve Beneficiaries, Reach Out to New Clients

It is a busy and exciting time at The Arc of Indiana Master Trust, as we grow our trust program to reach new audiences and bring added value to current beneficiaries.

We are excited about new staff members joining The Arc Master Trust. Trent Barnes and Libby O'Brien have joined the trust team in the new positions of Trust Beneficiary Advocates. Trent and Libby will provide assistance to beneficiaries who need help and support beyond the normal functions of the trust. They will provide added value for our families and will be of great service to our beneficiaries.



Trent Barnes and Libby O'Brien

Also joining The Arc Master Trust and The Arc of Indiana as Director of Marketing and Development is Spencer Valentine. In this new position, Spencer will bring his civic, business development and public relations experience to develop and grow marketing efforts for The Arc Master Trust as well as fundraising and development activities for The Arc of Indiana, including special events and donor relationships.

"The Arc Master Trust is an under-utilized tool for securing the financial future of citizens and families impacted by disabilities," said Valentine. "We are going to raise the Trust's profile and grow the ranks of those using it to invest in their future."

The Trust Beneficiary Advocates will assist beneficiaries who do not have a key person or family member in their life to help make decisions in making use of the trust and will provide assistance to beneficiaries that may be in crisis.

When someone enrolls in the trust, part of the information we request is, who will be the key person or key people on the account? A key person is someone who contacts our office to let us know what the beneficiary wants or needs from their trust. They keep important

information up to date by letting us know when addresses, phone numbers or government benefits change for anyone on the trust. However, sometimes families or beneficiaries do not have anyone to designate as a key person.

Our Trust Beneficiary Advocates will meet with beneficiaries who do not have a key person to make sure their trust is being used appropriately and that they are receiving appropriate supports and services. If help is needed, assistance will be provided ranging from helping beneficiaries obtain government benefits, to securing appropriate housing, to navigating and accessing mental health services.

**For more information about our new Trust Beneficiary Advocate service, contact Brandi Davis, Assistant Trust Director, at**



Spencer Valentine

**317-977-2375 or [bdavis@arcind.org](mailto:bdavis@arcind.org). Contact Spencer Valentine at 317-977-2375 or [svalentine@arcind.org](mailto:svalentine@arcind.org). Learn more at [www.thearctrust.org](http://www.thearctrust.org).**



Melissa Justice, The Arc of Indiana Master Trust Director, is available to make presentations and exhibit throughout the state. Contact Melissa at 317-977-2375 or [mjustice@arcind.org](mailto:mjustice@arcind.org)



**The Arc**  
Master Trust

*Serving Hoosiers of all disabilities and their families for over 25 years*



*Regardless of your age, or your child's age or disability, planning for the future is important.*

**Trust I** Helping families plan for the financial future of their loved one

**Trust II** Helping people with disabilities fund their own trust



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



*Former Pacer and IU Basketball Star*

## Steve Green's 25th Annual Golf Tournament to Benefit The Arc of Indiana

Join us for a day of golf, fun, friends and community giving!



**Friday, June 13, 2014**

**Eagle Creek Golf Club**

Online registration now open! Visit [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org) and click on the link under "Upcoming Events"

## A Hole in One Anyone Can Make! The Arc of Indiana

### 7th Annual Golf Ball Bounce

At the start of our 2014 golf tournament, 1,000 numbered golf balls will be dropped from approximately 100 feet onto Eagle Creek Golf Club's front green.

The lucky participant whose golf ball lands the closest to the marked hole will win \$1,000!

The second closest numbered golf ball to the hole will receive \$500, and the third closest numbered golf ball will be awarded \$250. In addition, the person whose golf ball lands the farthest away wins \$250!

You do not have to be present at the tournament to win!

Golf Ball Bounce tickets are now on sale for only \$10 each. Please visit [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org) and click on the link under "Upcoming Events"



Support The Arc and enjoy a day of golf at beautiful Eagle Creek Golf Club.



Steve and Jessica Green

# The Arc of Indiana and The Arc Master Trust Team — We're Here to Help —

It is a busy and exciting time at The Arc of Indiana. The Muncie Training Institute and Teaching Hotel project (profiled on page one) is in full swing, and activity with our grant from FSSA for The Arc Advocacy Network and the My Life My Choice project has increased.

The Arc Advocacy Network now has a network of Family Educators throughout the state available to make presentations on Indiana's Medicaid Waiver program and exhibit at local events. My Life My Choice teams, made up of people with disabilities and a support member, are meeting with individuals with I/DD living in large Medicaid funded facilities and individuals who have lived in a Medicaid funded group home for more than five years to talk about community living options.

And, as profiled on page 11, we are growing our trust program to reach new audiences and bring added value to current beneficiaries.

Please know that the entire team from The Arc of Indiana and The Arc Master Trust is here to assist you in any way we can.

**John Dickerson**, Executive Director  
**Kim Dodson**, Associate Executive Director  
**Melody Cooper**, My Life My Choice Self-Advocate Specialist & SAI President  
**Laura Cummings**, Self-Advocates of Indiana Administrator  
**Bryce Dickerson**, Technology Manager  
**Michelle Fisher**, Podcast Host  
**Bobbi Jo Franson**, Receptionist  
**Jill Ginn**, The Arc Network Manager  
**Geyssel Gonzalez**, Accounting Manager  
**Jenny Good**, Grants Administrative Assistant  
**Mark Kevitt**, Director of Program Services  
**Andrea Kiefer**, Executive Assistant  
**Randy Kriebel**, My Life My Choice Consultant  
**Sally Morris**, Assistant Director of Public Relations  
**Tammy Noel**, Director of Finance  
**Karly Sciortino-Poulter**, Family Advocate Specialist  
**Jill Smith**, My Life My Choice Project Coordinator  
**Michele Trivedi**, The Arc Insurance Project Manager  
**Spencer Valentine**, Director of Marketing and Development  
**Jill Vaught**, Director of Advancement, The Arc of Indiana Foundation  
**Betty Williams**, Consumer Education & Training Coordinator  
**Melissa Justice**, Trust Director  
**Brandi Davis**, Assistant Trust Director  
**Amanda Ables**, Trust Administrative Assistant  
**Katie Batagianis**, Trust Account Manager  
**Tom Ewbank**, Senior Trust Officer  
**Trent Barnes**, Trust Beneficiary Advocate  
**Libby O'Brien**, Trust Beneficiary Advocate

## 2014 Events

**Steve Green's 25th Annual Golf Tournament**  
June 13, Eagle Creek Golf Club, Indianapolis

**National Down Syndrome Congress Convention**  
July 11-13, Indianapolis

**Self-Advocates of Indiana Annual Picnic**  
July 18, Eagle Crest Picnic Area, Indianapolis

**National Conference of Executive Directors of Arcs**  
July 24-26, Chicago

**Autism Society National Conference**  
July 23-26, Indianapolis

**Indy Cooks for The Arc of Indiana**  
September 27, Dallara IndyCar Factory, Speedway

**The Arc US National Conference**  
September 30 – October 2, New Orleans

**Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered Conference**  
October 8-12, Oklahoma City

**The Arc of Indiana 2014 Conference  
Appreciation Luncheon & Annual Meeting**  
October 29, Horizon Conference Center, Muncie

For more information on 2014 events visit  
[www.arcind.org/news-events/upcoming-events](http://www.arcind.org/news-events/upcoming-events)