

## ABLE Act, High School Diploma Legislation Pass 2016 Session of General Assembly

The 2016 session of the Indiana General Assembly came to a close on March 10. Despite the short session that did not allow time for the passage of many initiatives, The Arc of Indiana successfully championed the passage of legislation to allow ABLÉ accounts to be open in Indiana and legislation to provide the opportunity for all students to earn a high school diploma with consistent curriculum requirements. *Unless otherwise indicated, all bills reported were waiting for Governor Pence to sign into law as we went to press.*

### SB 11 - ABLÉ Act

SB 11 passed unanimously in the Indiana House and Senate and was signed by Governor Pence on March 21. The bill provides for the cre-

ation of the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Board that will work to establish a qualified ABLÉ program in Indiana. This will allow individuals and families to make contributions to an ABLÉ account for qualified disability expenses that will benefit an eligible individual with a disability. Our thanks to Senator Luke Kenley, Representative Edward Clere, and State Treasurer Kelly Mitchell for their leadership in supporting SB 11.

Members of the ABLÉ Board will include:

- State Treasurer
- Secretary of Indiana Family and Social Services
- Budget Director
- Lieutenant Governor
- Governor Appointees
- Individual with experience in

- actuarial analysis, accounting, investment management, or other areas of finance
- Individual with legal expertise and knowledge in estate planning
- Individual who is a representative of a statewide association that advocates

on behalf of individuals with disabilities

- Individual with a disability
- Family member of an individual with a disability

Next steps will include work by the board to establish policies and administrative guidelines for the ABLÉ program, and action in the 2017 legislative session to provide funding to staff the program. This should allow families and individuals to begin funding ABLÉ accounts later in 2017.

### HB 1219 - High School Diplomas

HB 1219 passed unanimously in the Indiana House and Senate. The bill requires a high school operated by a school corporation to offer students the opportunity to earn any type of state diploma approved by the state board of education. It

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Advocates for the ABLÉ Act following testimony on the bill in the House — Erika Steuterman, The Arc of Indiana Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman; State Treasurer Kelly Mitchell; SAI President Melody Cooper; Kristen LaEace, CEO, Indiana Association of Area Agencies on Aging; Executive Director Kim Dodson.

## Celebrating 60 Years

*“... it is not where we stand, but where we are going that counts.”* — Joe Newman, Acting President, 1955

The Arc of Indiana was established in 1956 by parents of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) who joined together to build a better and more accepting world for their children. Today, the combined strength of local Arcs, state Arcs and The Arc of the United States makes The Arc the largest national community-based organization advocating for and

serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

Throughout 2016 The Arc will be celebrating the important milestone of our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We will be looking back on the history of our accomplishments, and looking forward to new goals and achievements. In this issue of *The Arc News in Indiana*, we look back on The Arc's years 1971-1985.

**1971** Grant provides funding for training on recreation.

**1972** \$43,400 pledged at first Ride-A-Bike. ADEC, The Arc in Elkhart County, still holds an annual Ride-A-Bike event.

Resolution passed to take legal action if necessary to implement special education funding. “Child Hunt” conducted to locate school-age

children with disabilities not enrolled in school.

**1973** Regional conference of The Arc held in Indianapolis. 1,000 in attendance.

**1974** Hosted forum on residential services.

**1975** Conducted “Project Understanding,” statewide public awareness campaign.

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## Self-Advocates of Indiana President's Corner

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



Melody Cooper

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Disability Awareness Month! This is a good time to reflect on how far we've come, and to realize that there is still much to do so that people with disabilities are fully heard and understood.

Over the past few months our members have had the chance to use their voices. Our Vice President, Shawn Fulton, and I both had the chance to testify on SB 11, ABLE Act legislation that would allow people with disabilities and their families to set aside money in special ABLE accounts that would not affect their important benefits and services.

In addition, over 100 self-advocates from all over Indiana joined together at the State House on February 11 for the annual Valentine's

Day at the State House event. We shared the message of the ABLE Act with our legislators and government officials, and thanked them for their work. We'd like to thank all of the governmental officials who met with us that day.

In April, Shawn Fulton and I will have the chance to represent SAI at the Disability Policy Seminar in Washington, D.C. We look forward to learning more about disability legislation and having the opportunity to speak to our legislators on Capitol Hill.

During Disability Awareness Month, and every month, I encourage you to keep using your voices to produce change in your communities and in our state!

## Supported Decision Making offers Alternative to Guardianship

The Arc of Indiana continues to work on its Supported Decision Making project with the National Resource Center for Supported Decision Making. The project focuses on a review of current laws and policies, as well as how supported decision making might fit within the array of supports available to people with disabilities.

Supported Decision Making (SDM) is an alternative to guardianship that uses friends, family members and advocates to give people with disabilities the help they need and want to understand the situations they face and the choices they must make, so they can make their own decisions. It does not replace more formal substitute decision making legal structures, but it is one more alternative, another tool in the toolbox so to speak, that would enable people to use their own support systems and family to obtain information and make decisions instead of having

someone else make decisions for them. SDM is the least restrictive option available and would be less costly to both the State and those who might otherwise seek guardianship by avoiding expensive court processes and unnecessary legal fees.

***SDM uses friends, family members and advocates to give people with disabilities the help they need and want, to understand the situations they face and the choices they must make, so they can make their own decisions.***

The Arc of Indiana is honored to be a part of this project. Next steps include reaching out to legislative leaders to urge them to study SDM in an interim study committee with the goal of introducing legislation next session that would make SDM a reality in Indiana.

## 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/AViewfromMyWindow](http://www.arcind.org/AViewfromMyWindow) to listen to the latest edition and past podcasts of A View from My Window, including these recent shows:

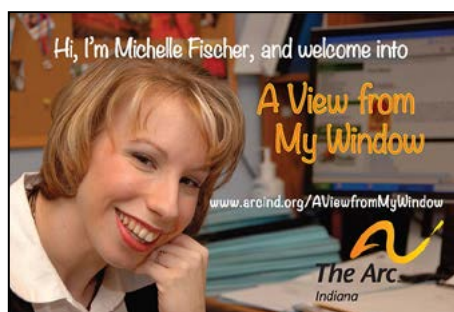
### A View into #60Stories60Years

### A View with Scott Chesney

Scott Chesney is a navigator of life with paralysis and President of Raise Hope Foundation that trains, mentors, and places people with disabilities and veterans in financial services careers.

### A Tribute to Jewel Kats

Jewel Kats was a children's book author and the inspiration for Harper Lodge, the first Archie Comics character with a disability.



**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

## The Arc Utility Support Program

The Arc of Indiana Utility Support Program can help with utility bills for families with a dependent child, one or more family members with a disability, and income at or below 250% of the federal poverty level.

### Eligible Utility Support Services

- Up to two months heating or cooling utility bill assistance
- Deposit assistance to begin services
- Funding to prevent disconnection of services
- Funding to reactivate services
- Funding to cover utility debt back to one year from date of application

### Learn More

For additional information, visit:  
[www.arcind.org/our-programs/  
the-arc-of-indiana-utility-support-program](http://www.arcind.org/our-programs/the-arc-of-indiana-utility-support-program)

### Apply for Assistance

To apply for assistance contact:  
Gina DeWilde, Utility Support Program Coordinator,  
[gdewilde@arcind.org](mailto:gdewilde@arcind.org) or 800-573-9816





Kim Dodson

## Executive Director's Column

### Facing Change and the Future Together

As disability awareness month is concluding and autism awareness month begins, it is a great time to think about what lies ahead for The Arc of Indiana, our 43 chapters throughout Indiana and the thousands of people with disabilities in our state. Times are changing, and we need to get ready.

As you look at new policies being handed down from the federal government regarding home and community based services, we need not face everything as a challenge but perhaps as an opportunity. Even as Indiana moves forward with an

amendment to our Community Integration and Habilitation Waiver, we need to stay focused on the end goal – which is a more sustainable, efficient waiver that supports as many people as possible.

Change is difficult and sometimes scary. However, we have been through it many times, and more times than not, change has been good.

Last summer The Arc of Indiana's Board of Directors started our strategic planning process and wanted to look at things a bit differently. They didn't want to evaluate what we do and its impact; they wanted to look at what we need to do to remain viable in this ever-changing culture

we live in. What is it we need to make sure we continue to support of our chapters and the people and families they serve? How do we continue to be the leading advocacy organization for people with disabilities and their families?

Although the plan is not yet finalized, we have identified five strategic leads for our organization:

1. New Models of Services to Members and Chapters
2. Extending our Scope of Geography and Diversity
3. Currency of Awareness and Advocacy through Stories
4. Innovation and Continuous Improvement

#### 5. Partnership Advantage

This strategic plan comes at a critical time in the development of the organization. The environment in which The Arc operates is rapidly changing. We have had a great deal of success over the years, and now is the time to not only respond to the changing environment, but also to be transformative in our response. It is essential that The Arc continue to be relevant and responsive to our constituencies, while being nimble and able to seize opportunities that present themselves.

I look forward to what lies ahead and know we will face change together, and together we can make great things happen.

## Celebrating Our Local Chapters of The Arc

The following stories exemplify the good work that is happening throughout the state thanks to the 43 local chapters of The Arc. To find a chapter in your area, visit: [www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/local-chapters](http://www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/local-chapters).

### Easter Seals Arc of Northeast Indiana The Arc in Allen, Dekalb, Huntington and Steuben Counties



Kiew Ler

Those who know Kiew Ler say that if her sunny outlook doesn't inspire you, then the story of her life will.

"Her radiant smile brightens the room," says Derek Stanley, one of the Direct Support Professionals Easter Seals Arc of Northeast Indiana's Adult Day Center.

Kiew began attending the Adult Day Center in Spring 2015. She is from Burma and came to America just five years ago. Her mother died

when Kiew was just a toddler, and she has lived with an aunt and uncle ever since—first in the jungles of Burma and then in a refugee camp for many years before coming to the United States.

In addition to her bright smile, Kiew has a gift for music and the arts. She understands very limited Burmese, no English and is non-verbal, so most of her communication began by gesturing and pointing. Derek and co-worker Mary Jo agree that Kiew has made huge strides in understanding phrases and catching on to daily routines—all with that big smile on her face.

### Stone Belt Arc The Arc in Monroe County

Brittani Parker and Wesley Mull performed monologues of their personal stories to live theater audiences at Stone Belt's I AM YOU production in 2014. Family relationships inspired both of their performances. Wesley's handmade Granny puppet helped him tell the story of his close relationship with his grandmother before she passed away. Brittani dedicated her performance about her family relationships to them for their love and support.

This bi-annual production will have its fifth season in June 2016 with 10 new performers. I AM YOU



Brittani Parker and Wesley Mull

provides individuals with disabilities with the opportunity to share their stories and showcase their talents. Participation in a professional theatre production is an exciting chance to demonstrate to the community that all individuals have inspiring and impactful stories to share, and that all people have artistic skills, dreams and aspirations. Performers work for several months to write and rehearse their stories. Performances in past years have been given to sold-out audiences on the Bloomington Playwrights Project stage.

Visit [www.stonebelt.org](http://www.stonebelt.org) for more information about this year's show.

### The Arc of Greater Boone County

On any given day when you can ask Terry Scott and Kevin Jackson how they are doing, they always respond "Great!" Their positive attitudes inspire their co-workers and staff daily.

Terry and Kevin participate in several programs offered by The Arc of Greater Boone County. Terry participates in Arc Artisans, earning income through his artwork; and Kevin is part of a mobile cleaning crew. For recreation, Terry and Kevin enjoy working on their drum and bongo skills in music class. Their favorite way to spend their extra time is volunteering in the Lebanon community.

Last year, The Arc of Greater Boone County joined an "adopt a street" program, pledging to keep one mile of the street that runs in front of one their buildings clean. When Terry and Kevin learned through the Lebanon Rotary Club that there are 51 billion pieces of litter discarded on US roadways every year, they were inspired to become enthusiastic participants in the program and the rotary club's goal to make Lebanon the cleanest city in Indiana. Terry and Kevin are proud that their efforts are making a difference and that through volunteering, they are able to give back to the Lebanon community.



Terry Scott and Kevin Jackson



# Funding Sources for ABA Therapy in Indiana

Michele Trivedi, MHA, The Arc Insurance Project Manager

As of March 3, 2016 • Photos provided by Little Star Center

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is the process of systematically applying interventions based upon the principles of behavioral theory to improve socially significant behaviors, and to demonstrate that these interventions are responsible for the improvement in behavior.

Families seeking ABA therapy for their loved ones have a variety of funding options. If you have questions, or need additional information to navigate ABA funding, contact Michele Trivedi, The Arc Insurance Project Manager, at [mtrivedi@arcind.org](mailto:mtrivedi@arcind.org), 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100.



## Private Health Insurance Plan

- Employer based plan that is *fully funded* and regulated under Indiana Law or from a state that has an *autism mandate*.
- *Individual policy* purchased on the commercial market in Indiana.
- *Any HMO or Health Maintenance Organization* plan purchased in Indiana.
- A self-funded or ERISA employer based plan that voluntarily covers autism (they are not required to cover autism under a state mandate at this time – they are under federal law).
- Your Human Resources or Employee Benefit department can tell you if your plan is fully funded (state regulated) or ERISA (federally regulated) and provide you with documentation about autism coverage.

## Affordable Care Act Plan (ACA)

- Purchased on the federally facilitated Indiana ACA marketplace, [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov).
- Must follow the Indiana Autism Mandate provisions.

## Federal Employee Health Care Plans

- In 2017, ALL federal employee health care plans must cover medically necessary autism treatment, including but not limited to ABA therapy.
- Federal employees should contact their HR or benefits coordinator to inquire about coverage in 2016, as some plans offered coverage and some did not for 2016.

## Indiana Medicaid Health Insurance Plans (NOT Waivers)

All carriers in Traditional and Managed Medicaid must cover medically necessary autism treatment, including but not limited to ABA under the EPSDT program.

Children will be screened to determine if they are eligible for ABA Therapy services; how this will be done has not been made public yet.

The program that will cover autism treatment (EPSDT – Early, Periodic, Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment) *must cover all medically necessary services for eligible children ages 0-21 in order to prevent or reduce potential life-long disability.*

## Indiana Medicaid Waivers (for “support services,” NOT “medically necessary services”)

- Behavioral Consultation Services are available, such as by a BCBA, Social Worker, Behavioral Consultant and other qualified providers.
- Behavioral Consultant Services do not include front line technician services.
- IBI or Intensive Behavioral Intervention Services are in the state plan, are limited by age and other factors.
- Most individuals are on the Family Supports Waiver, which has a budget limit of \$16,545.



## Children’s Special Health Services (CSHS)

- Limited to \$10,000 per child per year.
- Is intended to be a source of supplemental coverage for children who have special health care needs that are not covered by private insurance or Medicaid – private insurance and/or Medicaid must be billed first.
- Coverage is limited to 23 specific conditions (which covers over 500 diagnoses).
- Reimburses for one-to-one BCBA services or BCaBA services only (The BCaBA must be under the supervision of a BCBA.)

- May assist with copays; does not cover deductibles OR premium payments for ACA or private plans.

## Grant Programs

- United Health Care grant program.



- Check for Autism Support Groups and Grant programs in your county via The Autism Society of Indiana Ally Program.
- Some providers offer financial need-based assistance and payment plans; check with your local providers.
- Check the Indiana Resource Center for Autism (IRCA) website for grants.

## Public Schools - For Educational Services ONLY, Not Medically Necessary Treatment

- Some school districts have hired BCBA's to consult with teachers.
- Some school districts will collaborate or contract with outside agencies for BCBA services and/or other behavioral services, including outside placement, when determined to be necessary in the Case Conference Committee planning of the child's IEP (Individual Education Plan).
- Schools do not write any particular method of education into an IEP; therefore, parents should not expect to see “ABA Therapy” written into an IEP.
- If ABA therapy is needed to access education and to make progress in academic and state curriculum requirements, it should be included in the services offered.
- Public schools do NOT treat medical conditions; *IDEA does not require treatment – it requires services to access a free, appropriate public education – this is a much different standard than clinical standard of care for treatment of a condition.*
- Schools should, and many would argue are obligated to, cooperate with the provision of medically necessary treatment during school hours and in the school setting.





## Blueprint for Change: Next Steps in the Journey

In 2010, The Arc of Indiana developed the *Blueprint for Change*, a transformational initiative designed to empower people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to shape their own future, nurture and create natural systems of support, and strengthen the foundation of programs and services for people with I/DD and their families. Since that time, great progress has been made, but in other areas much work remains to be done.

To evaluate the achievements realized from the *Blueprint for Change* and lay out the next action steps Indiana needs to take, The Arc of Indiana has created a new report and a new initiative, *Blueprint for Change: Next Steps in the Journey*, which identifies five critical areas:



### *The "First Conversation"*



### *Building a Workforce*



### *Establishing Shared Living*



### *Developing a System for People with Challenging Behaviors and Mental Health Needs*



### *Navigating Managed Care*

In future issues of The Arc News in Indiana we will explore each of the five critical areas.

We invite you to read the full *Blueprint for Change: Next Steps in the Journey* report and to join us as we explore and develop the next steps in our shared journey.

You can find the report by visiting: [www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/blueprint-for-change](http://www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/blueprint-for-change)

To request a copy of the report, contact us at 317-977-2375, 800-382-9100 or [thearc@arcind.org](mailto:thearc@arcind.org)

## Celebrating 60 Years, from page 1

- 1976** L.S. Ayres adopts "Christmas Angel" project to raise funds for The Arc's prevention initiatives.
- 1977** First Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll project begins.  
SB 452 establishes Indiana Protection and Advocacy Commission.  
21 members of Youth-IARC attend national convention in Colorado.
- 1978** "Protect Every Child," statewide campaign to promote immunizations, launched.
- 1979** Board Resolution calls for development of small residential group homes.
- 1980** Prenatal testing begins for rubella and RH factor.  
Zoning measure passed restricting local ordinances from prohibiting establishment of group homes in community residential areas.
- 1981** Division of MR/DD becomes Division on Developmental Disabilities.  
Developed Planning Your Estate booklet.
- 1982** Adopted resolution concerning withholding medical treatment from persons with intellectual disabilities in response to "Baby Doe" case in Bloomington that received national attention.
- 1983** John Dickerson named as Executive Director.  
Indiana commits funds for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities living in nursing homes.  
Board approves development of Guardianship, Advocacy and Protective Services (GAPS) program.
- 1984** "Future Planning: Decisions by Choice, Not Chance" video developed and distributed statewide as part of the GAPS program.
- 1985** 200 attend U.S. Department of Education hearing in Indianapolis.



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)



The Arc of Indiana is proud to work with our 43 local chapters of The Arc throughout the state. Find a chapter near you by visiting [www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/local-chapters](http://www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/local-chapters). We are affiliated with The Arc of the United States. Learn more about The Arc by visiting [www.thearc.org](http://www.thearc.org).



# Erskine Green Training Institute

## Building Skills, Achieving Success

The Erskine Green Training Institute (EGTI), a program of The Arc of Indiana Foundation, graduated its first group of students on March 19.

EGTI, located at the Courtyard Muncie at Horizon Convention Center in Muncie, Indiana, provides vocational training for a variety of jobs in the hotel, food service, and healthcare environments. Students can commute or live onsite at the Courtyard Muncie.

During their time at EGTI, students work with instructors to learn specific job skills, and then practice those skills through on-the-job training and an internship at Courtyard Muncie, Thr3e Wise Men Brewing Co., or IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital. In addition, EGTI students receive support and instruction on developing and improving social and life skills that will be key to success on the job, as well as instruction on navigating and utilizing community resources.

The students in EGTI's inaugural class grew by leaps and bounds, and not just in their job skills.

Although employability was the main focus during students' time at EGTI, there was a lot of focus on social life and learning skills in how to get along with a diverse group of people.

Over the ten week program, with the support of instructors, students worked to pass three areas included in a Community Access Checklist. Successful completion meant students could independently walk to and shop at local stores, utilize public transportation, and spend time on campus at Ball State University.

Leslie Morgan was the first student to master all three levels of the Community Access Checklist. She was able to show that she had the skills necessary to independently and safely navigate the community. In her

free time, Leslie enjoyed taking Muncie's MITS bus to shop at the Muncie Mall. Leslie has not only secured a job in Indianapolis, but also will be moving into her first apartment.

Students had the option to choose an academic tutor, a fitness mentor, and/or a community mentor to work with on a weekly basis during their time at EGTI. Students who worked with a fitness mentor enjoyed time working out in the fitness center and swimming at the facilities located at the Courtyard Muncie.

The "Weekly Activity" bulletin board kept students up to date on activities taking place in Muncie. Students were encouraged to view the board to help make decisions about what they would like to do in the evenings and on weekends,

including BSU sporting events, movies, plays, LATE NITE at BSU, etc. Community mentors worked with students on identifying social activities to engage in each week and then scheduled a time to participate in the activity.

Toward the end of the session, students learned how to seek out job opportunities in their home community and practiced interviewing and job retention skills.

Zach O'Connor, who studied Environmental Services at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital, received high praise from a patient and was recognized by hospital staff for excellence in service. Prior to graduation, Zach accepted a position at Riley Hospital for Children. In addition, three of the six Heart of the House students, including Leslie, Orlando Nicks, and Ethan Arbogast accepted job offers prior to graduation.

The second 9 week session for EGTI students runs April 4 – June 4.

### Enrollment at EGTI is Open for the Following Sessions

#### Session 3

##### July 11 – September 10

Server Assistant/Host (Restaurant)

Patient Transporter (Hospital)

Housekeeping: Heart of the House (Hotel)

Dietetics (Hospital)

#### Session 4

##### September 19 – November 18

Housekeeping: Heart of the House (Hotel)

Dietetics (Hospital)

##### September 19 – December 17

Front Desk Agent (Hotel)

Prep Cook (Restaurant)

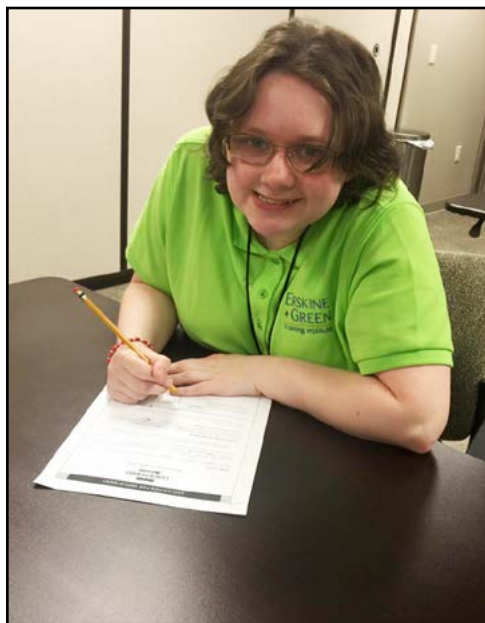
### Scholarships and Funding Available

There are a variety of funding avenues available to prospective EGTI students. Scholarship dollars are available through a grant provided by AWS Foundation, and Indiana Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) has provided funding to a majority of EGTI's students. Prospective students are encouraged to meet with a VR counselor to see if they qualify for VR services. Financing is also available through First Merchants Bank in Muncie, Indiana.

For more information, visit [www.erskingreeninstitute.org](http://www.erskingreeninstitute.org) or call 765-381-8071 or 877-216-2479. And be sure to follow EGTI on Facebook, Twitter @ErskineGreen, and Instagram @erskingreen.

**ERSKINE  
GREEN**  
Training Institute

*Although employability is the main focus during students' time at EGTI, there is a lot of focus on social life and learning skills in how to get along with a diverse group of people.*



Leslie Morgan completes a job application. She later was hired at a hotel in Indianapolis.



Orlando Nicks took the skills he learned in the EGTI Heart of the House training to secure a job in Indianapolis.



Zach O'Connor works out in the fitness room at the Courtyard Muncie.



Student Support Specialist Grace Clark and Ethan Arbogast learning the routes for the Muncie bus system.





## To Celebrate The Arc of Indiana's 60 Years, a Membership Goal to Challenge Local Chapters

To help celebrate The Arc of Indiana's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a statewide goal of 25,000 members has been set in honor of this achievement. To reach this goal, each chapter of The Arc has been challenged to recruit (at least) 60 new members during our annual membership campaign that kicked off March 14 and continues through May 31.

We welcome *you* to become a

member of The Arc through your local chapter. If there is not a local chapter in your area, please consider joining The Arc of Indiana as an at-large member.

Learn more about membership and join as an at large member by visiting: [www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/join-the-arc](http://www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/join-the-arc). Find local chapters of The Arc by visiting: [www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/local-chapters](http://www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/local-chapters)

### ABLE Act, High School Diploma Legislation Pass 2016 Session of General Assembly, from page 1

also provides that a student with a disability shall not be required to complete local requirements that exceed state requirements to receive a diploma unless approved by the case conference committee. Representative Ed Clere was the lead author and Senator Pete Miller was the lead sponsor of HB 1219.

#### HB 1012 - Identification Card/Bracelet

HB 1012 passed the House 93-0 and the Senate 48-1. The final conference committee report on HB 1012 passed the Senate unanimously.

The bill requires the state department of health, upon request, to issue a bracelet, an identification card, or both indicating that an individual has been medically diagnosed with a developmental disability. The department may charge a fee for the bracelet and identification card. Information collected by the department is confidential and certain requirements must be met before information may be released under a court order.



Eric Smith and Shawn Fulton, owners of Fulton Express DJ, testified that passage of legislation allowing for the creation of ABLE Accounts would help them be able to save money that could be used to upgrade equipment and expand their business.

The intent of the card is to help identify people with disabilities in emergency situations and to help first responders realize that the situation may need to be handled in a sensitive manner.

HB 1012 was authored by Representative Eric Koch and sponsored by Senator Vaneta Becker.

#### HB 1337 - Prohibits Abortion of a Fetus Determined to have a Disability

HB 1337 passed the Senate 37-13 and the House 60-40.

The bill prohibits a person from performing an abortion if the person knows that the pregnant woman is seeking the abortion solely because of (1) the race, color, national origin, ancestry, or sex of the fetus; or (2) a diagnosis or potential diagnosis of the fetus having Down syndrome or any other disability. Provides for disciplinary sanctions and civil liability for wrongful death if a person knowingly or intentionally performs a sex selective abortion or an abortion conducted because of a diagnosis or potential diagnosis of Down syndrome or any other disability. The bill also requires the state department of health to develop information concerning perinatal hospice care, and requires physicians to provide information about perinatal hospice care to a pregnant woman who is considering an abortion because the fetus has been diagnosed with a lethal fetal anomaly.

The Arc of Indiana is deeply disappointed in the passage of House

Bill 1337, which used people with disabilities to advance a very narrow, political agenda. Proponents presented no data showing that women are terminating pregnancies due to the fetus being determined to have a disability. Legislators have a responsibility to improve the lives of all Hoosiers. They have a unique obligation to protect and improve the lives of Indiana's most vulnerable citizens. With the passage of HB 1337, legislators failed to put their time, energy and support toward actions that would improve the lives of Indiana's most vulnerable citizens. Instead, they allowed people with disabilities to be used as political pawns and allowed a political organization to push them into approving a divisive law.

The Arc did support the creation of a perinatal hospice brochure so women who are facing the difficult reality of their child having a disability that will result in death, either in the womb or shortly after birth, will know of resources available to them.

#### SB 192 - Guardianship and Adult Protective Services Report

Urges the legislative council to assign to the appropriate committee a study of the visitation, communication, and interaction with a protected person. Requires FSSA in cooperation with the Indiana prosecuting attorneys council to prepare and submit a report to the legislative council before December 1, 2016, concerning adult protective services.

#### SB 323 - Combined Reporting Study

Urges the legislative council to assign to the interim study committee on fiscal policy the following topics: (1) new requirements from CMS regarding home and community based settings; (2) the effect of rate reimbursement and rate methodology requirements on Indiana waiver services; (3) the fiscal impact of the requirements; (4) the impact of the change from daily rate billing to hourly billing for facility based habilitation services. Also requires FSSA to provide information by October 1, 2016, regarding (1) the effect of the CMS requirements on Indiana waiver services; (2) the fiscal impact of the requirements of the CMS rule; (3) the impact of the change from daily rate billing to hourly billing for facility based habilitation services on the services provided and the providers of the services; and options identified by FSSA for ensuring viability of facility based habilitation services.

#### SR 39 - Employment First Program

A senate resolution urging the legislative council to assign to an appropriate study committee the topic of the Employment First Program to promote and expands quality, community employment outcomes for all people with disabilities. The resolution passed and will be considered for summer study committee when the Legislative Council meets.



## Former Pacer Eddie Gill to Host Annual Golf Tournament



has agreed to help us continue the fine tradition that Carl and Steve began.

Eddie grew up in Colorado and was named the MVP for the 1999 Big Sky Conference Men's Basketball Tournament while playing for Weber State University. After college he played for the New Jersey Nets, Memphis Grizzlies, Portland Trail Blazers, Milwaukee Bucks, Seattle Super Sonics and our own Indiana Pacers. He resides in Zionsville with his wife Marissa and his two children. Please join us at Eddie's inaugural golf tournament on June 17. Register at [www.arcind.org/news-events/golf](http://www.arcind.org/news-events/golf)

The Arc of Indiana is excited to announce that former Indiana Pacer, Eddie Gill, will be following in the footsteps of Steve Green and Carl Erskine by hosting our annual golf tournament. This annual tournament to benefit The Arc was started 26 years ago by baseball legend Carl Erskine. Steve took over and hosted for 24 years before stepping down to spend more time with family. We are thrilled that Eddie



## A Hole in One Anyone Can Make!

Try Your Luck at The Arc of Indiana Golf Ball Bounce

**\$10 per golf ball or purchase 13 lucky golf balls for \$100!**

*You do not need to be present to win!*

Up to 1,000 numbered golf balls will be dropped from approximately 100 feet onto Eagle Creek's front green at the start of The Arc of Indiana's 27th annual golf tournament, Friday, June 17, 2016.

The lucky participant whose golf ball lands closest to the marked hole

wins \$1,000. The numbered golfball that is 2nd closest to the hole wins \$500, and \$250 will go to the 3rd closest numbered golf ball. There is even a \$250 prize for the numbered golf ball furthest from the hole.

To purchase your golf balls visit: [www.arcind.org/news-events/golf](http://www.arcind.org/news-events/golf)



To help celebrate our 60th Anniversary, we will be sharing 60 stories and photos on 60 days, "#60Stories60Years," starting in March and continuing throughout 2016.

We all have a story to tell and we would love to share yours. What story might you share?

We are seeking a short story of just one or two paragraphs, or even a few sentences.

This could be a proud moment with your son or daughter, what you love best (and what drives you the craziest) about your brother or sister, how you came to be connected with The Arc, what dream you have for yourself or loved one, how a teacher or direct support staff made a difference in your life, a special moment you had in your role as a caregiver, the hardest thing you have ever had to do, or the happiest moment (to date) in your life.

To join in our #60Stories60Years project, just email a photo and story to [thearc@arcind.org](mailto:thearc@arcind.org).

And if you or a loved one was born in 1956, '66, '76, '86, '96, '06 or 2016 – we especially want to hear from you for a special anniversary project.

Be sure to follow #60Stories60Years on Facebook, The Arc of Indiana; and on Instagram and Twitter @TheArcIN.



**#1** In addition to being an accomplished artist, Whitney Long is taking steps to improve her health by setting fitness goals with her community exploration guide at Noble/The Arc of Greater Indianapolis. As a long time IU fan, Whitney is gearing up for March Madness!



**#2** "My dad is the reason I grew up to be the person I am today. I only wish I could be half the man he was while he was alive," – Shawn Rector

"Shawn is the first to arrive and the last to leave events; and is the first to volunteer for pretty much everything," – nomination for Shawn, 2012 Outstanding Self-Advocate Award

When asked why he does all the things he does – including active involvement with Self-Advocates of Indiana, Best Buddies, Special Olympics, and The Arc of Indiana – Shawn says that he just wants people to have the best life possible and help those who do not have a voice or who are afraid to be their own voice.

**The Arc**  
 Indiana

**ERSKINE GREEN**  
 Training Institute

**The Arc**  
 Master Trust

**SELF-ADVOCATES OF INDIANA INC.**

**The Arc**  
 Indiana Foundation

### 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>EDDIE GILL GOLF TOURNAMENT &amp; GOLF BALL BOUNCE</b> <i>Eagle Creek Golf Club, Indianapolis</i>	<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>June 17</b>
<b>SELF-ADVOCATES OF INDIANA ANNUAL PICNIC</b> <i>Eagle Crest Picnic, Indianapolis</i>	<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>July 15</b>
<b>NCE SUMMER LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE</b> <i>Palm Springs, California</i>	<b>MON-WED</b> <b>July 18-20</b>
<b>DEALING FOR DREAMS, BENEFITING THE ARC OF INDIANA FOUNDATION</b> <i>Horizon Convention Center, Muncie</i>	<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>Aug 6</b>
<b>THE ARC OF INDIANA 60TH ANNIVERSARY</b>	<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>Sept 25</b>
<b>INDYCOOKS FOR THE ARC</b> <i>Dallara IndyCar Factory, Speedway</i>	<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>Oct 15</b>
<b>THE ARC MASTER TRUST 28TH ANNIVERSARY</b>	<b>MONDAY</b> <b>Oct 24</b>
<b>THE ARC US NATIONAL CONFERENCE</b> <i>Orlando, FL</i>	<b>THU-SAT</b> <b>Oct 27-29</b>
<b>THE ARC OF INDIANA CONFERENCE AWARDS LUNCHEON &amp; ANNUAL MEETING</b> <i>Horizon Convention Center, Muncie</i>	<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>Nov 18</b>

### STAY CONNECTED STAY INFORMED

The Arc of Indiana  
 Self Advocates of Indiana (Official)  
 A View From My Window with Michelle Fischer  
 Erskine Green Institute

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 @MFView  
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