

## 2016 Public Policy Agenda

The 2016 session of the Indiana General Assembly will provide many opportunities to advance initiatives that will lead to greater independence for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Following is an overview of The Arc of Indiana's legislative priorities.

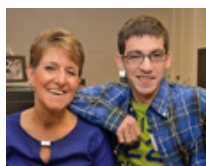
### 2016 Legislative Priorities



#### ABLE Act

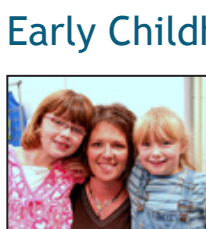
Support legislation to allow families to develop ABLE accounts in Indiana. The federal ABLE Act allows people with disabilities and their families to set up a special

savings account for disability-related expenses. Earnings on an ABLE account would not be taxed, and account funds would generally not be considered for the supplemental security income (SSI) program, Medicaid, and other federal means-tested benefits.



#### Education

Support legislation that provides the opportunity for every student to earn a high school diploma with consistent curriculum requirements. In addition, the courses required to earn a diploma need to be accessible throughout all schools.



#### Early Childhood

Support legislation that extends the age for a child to be diagnosed with a developmental delay.

#### Employment

Support legislation that increases employment opportunities for people with I/DD.



#### Workforce



Continue to support efforts to ensure a sustainable system that attracts and maintains the direct support professional workforce.

#### Funding for Programs and Services



Continue to monitor the investments made in provider reimbursement rates in 2015.

Support efforts to improve funding for programs and services which help people with disabilities, their families and service providers.

#### Criminal Justice



Monitor and support legislation that will identify people with I/DD within the criminal justice system.

Monitor and support legislation that will create and/or support programs for people with I/DD as they get involved in the criminal Justice system.

Support legislation that provides for stronger sentencing of crimes committed against someone due to their disability.

#### Crisis / Emergency Services



Support recommendations made to FSSA by the University of New Hampshire regarding the need for a crisis system for people with I/DD as well as mental illness. The Arc supports putting out to bid a demonstration project that will implement the first regional project and then continue implementation throughout the state.

To read *The Arc's* full 2016 Public Policy Agenda, visit [www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org)

## 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 early years.

#### The Arc's Early Years

In the 1950s, small groups of parents and other concerned individuals came together to act as voices for change. At the time, little was known about the condition of intellectual

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*The Arc's Utility Support Program can assist families with a dependent child, and one or more family members with a disability, who meet income guidelines.*

**See Page 8**

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# Self-Advocates of Indiana President's Corner

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



Melody Cooper

Hello everyone! I can't believe that a new year has begun for Self-Advocates of Indiana.

The end of 2015 passed quickly with SAI's many activities. In September we held our annual conference, "Branching Out Into the Community." Jennie Todd from the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community was our conference keynote speaker. Over 85 self-advocates and supporters attended our conference.

As soon as the conference was over, we began preparing for The Arc National Convention which was held in Indianapolis. Many SAI chapters and members attended or volunteered at the convention. The Governor's Council for People

with Disabilities provided SAI with a scholarship which allowed us to cover the cost for eight self-advocates to attend the convention. So we would like to say thank you to them.

In October four self-advocates participated in a panel discussion for CareStar case managers. They spoke about customer service and what it means to be a good case manager. On the same day we attended the Governor's Council Town Hall meetings.

In November Betty Williams and I spoke to an education class at Indiana University, Bloomington. I also spoke at The Arc of Jackson County's Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet, where I spoke

about self-advocacy. They are hoping to open a chapter soon. SAI Treasurer, Nicki Hinkle, and our administrator, Amanda Circle, attended the "First Mile, Last Mile Connections To Transit" workshop on November 13, in which participants complete bus stop accessibility assessments around Indianapolis.

We are also sad to announce that we lost a strong self-advocate, board

member and friend this November: "Big" John Ellinger passed away, and he will be very missed. We honored him, celebrated all that we accomplished in 2015, and made plans for 2016 at our December board meeting, December 16 and 17 at The Marten House in Indianapolis.

*Please follow us at our NEW Instagram account, SelfAdvocatesIN.*

## 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 broadcasts of A View from My Window, including these recent shows:

A View into The Arc's Utility Support Program

A View into Celiac Disease

A View with Podcast Host Reid Moriarty

A View into "Just the Facts" on the Erskine Green Training Institute



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

## Supported Decision Making an Alternative to Guardianship

The Arc of Indiana is partnering with the National Center for Supported Decision Making to research the current guardianship environment in Indiana. Derek Morris, a graduate of Ball State University and current law student at the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law, is working with The Arc to review 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 is an alternative to guardianship that uses friends, family members and advocates to give people with disabilities the help they



Derek Morris

need and want to understand the situations they face and the choices they must make, so they can make their own decisions.

Shop for art at

# Works of Arc

featuring the work of Indiana artists with developmental disabilities.

[www.worksofarc.com](http://www.worksofarc.com)



Kim Dodson

## Executive Director's Column

We all have colleagues who come and go. Some we miss more than others, and some we know we will never be able to replace. As we head into 2016, we at The Arc bid "Happy Retirement" to a dedicated staff member, Mark Kevitt, who has given so much to The Arc's mission.

All of us in the non-profit world relish it when a new fresh volunteer gets involved and is as dedicated to the mission of the organization and those we serve as much as we are.

Mark Kevitt became involved in The Arc in 1977, not because he had a personal connection, but because he had learned about The Arc and its goals. These were to accomplish our mission of helping people realize their dreams of living, working, playing and learning in the community.

Mark was asked to join The Arc of Johnson's County board in 1977. He

had recently graduated from Franklin College and had met the board president while he was working at the local radio station. The board was in need of a secretary, so Mark immediately became a board officer and started his volunteer time with The Arc.

In 1983, Mark joined the board of directors for The Arc of Indiana and remained on the board for 23 years, serving in key positions as Secretary, Treasurer and Regional Vice President. He was part of the leadership team that hired longtime Executive Director John Dickerson and was also on the board when The Arc's Master Trust program was established.

Helping The Arc of Indiana embark on new initiatives, he quickly caught the eye of The Arc of the United States and was courted to serve on their board of directors, which he did for 8 years, also serving as Treasurer.



Mark Kevitt

Always dedicated to his local community, Mark became involved in his home town of Columbus with The Arc of Bartholomew County in 1988. He has served on that board as well in the position of Secretary, Treasurer and Vice President. Mark continues as a tireless volunteer for the local Arc and is known to hit up all he knows to buy ducks for their annual fundraiser.

In 2006, Mark took his commitment to The Arc's mission a step further and joined The Arc of Indiana's staff. As a longtime advocate for issues important to people with disabilities and their families, he was seen as the right person to

head up our Chapter and Membership Services area. When Mark joined The Arc, we had just under 4,000 members statewide; today we have nearly 23,000! Mark's belief in membership and the power of collaboration has made a real difference in The Arc's advocacy efforts. We have had great accomplishments with the help of our grassroots effort and membership.

We are sad to see Mark move into retirement, but at the same time congratulate him for years of service to thousands of people with disabilities who have benefited from his passion and dedication. He truly deserves to travel with his wonderful wife, Chris, and enjoy wonderful adventures across the globe.

We know Mark will remain involved, as that is just his nature. People like Mark are hard to come by these days: true advocates, not because of any personal gain other than the satisfaction of making the world a better place.

Cheers to you, Mark Kevitt!

## Celebrating Our Local Chapters of The Arc

The following stories exemplify the good work that is happening throughout the state thanks to local chapters of The Arc.

### KCARC Local Chapter of The Arc in Knox County



RaeShonda Davis

RaeShonda Davis loves to paint in her "Canvas and Conversation" art class. Staff from the Evansville based program brings the art program to various locations, including Vincennes, Indiana, where RaeShonda lives.

RaeShonda likes that music, drawing, painting, and coloring make her feel different. Music gives her energy and makes her want to move and drawing makes her feel

happy – but painting is her favorite because it makes her feel excited. Her excitement comes from being able to "see her action on the paper."

RaeShonda attends class with several of her friends. After class they love to take their artwork back home and show it off to their friends and staff at KCARC. The arts program inspires the artists to create something beautiful, and also inspires the staff by reminding each of them how they are making a difference in the lives of the people they serve.

### The Arc of Evansville

Nikki Goodridge enjoys working at Uncharted International in Evansville's Old National Place Wayne Henning Atrium. Nikki enjoys greeting and educating customers on the work of Uncharted International – a non-profit organization that focuses its efforts in parts of the world where there are proportionally more people who are poor, orphaned and outcast.

The Arc of Evansville's Community Job Link program, which assisted Nikki in obtaining her job, provides employment services that connect individuals with disabilities



Nikki Goodridge

to competitive community employment, job coaching and employment follow along services.

According to Deidra Conner, President of The Arc of Evansville, "The collaborative efforts of Uncharted International, Old National Bank, and The Arc of Evansville showcases the great work of all three organizations and is providing a valuable work opportunity for an employee with a disability."

### Noble/The Arc of Greater Indianapolis Local Chapter of The Arc in Marion and Hamilton Counties

Whitney Long is enjoying the path that her life has been taking lately,

thanks to her personal drive and work ethic, as well as the support she receives from Noble/The Arc of Greater Indianapolis.

Whitney loves to experience the changing seasons and capture them in the artwork she creates. As a result, her finished canvases inspire others to look for the best in the world around them.



Whitney Long

In addition to being an accomplished artist, Whitney has recently been inspired to take steps to improve her health and enjoy a more active lifestyle. With her Noble Community Exploration guide, they have developed a plan to incorporate her fitness goals into the time they spend enjoying the amenities of Whitney's community.

# The Arc of Indiana 2015 Annual Awards Recipients

It was an honor to recognize the outstanding people, businesses and organizations making a difference in the lives of people with I/DD, and leaders with I/DD, at

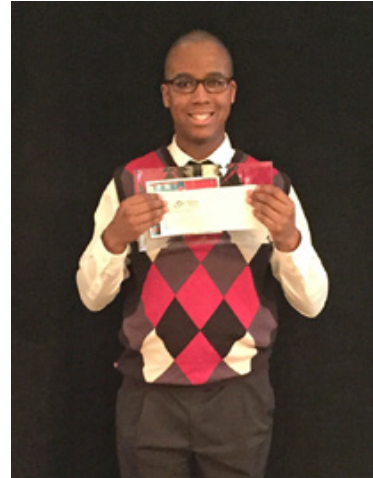
The Arc's Appreciation Luncheon and Annual Meeting on December 4. Congratulations, and thank you for all that you do, to all of our award recipients.



President's Award  
President Kerry Fletcher & Ella Boyd



Sycamore Award, Roger Brunkow  
and Executive Director Kim Dodson



Outstanding Self-Advocate Award  
Zach Curtis



Outstanding Self-Advocate Award  
Daniél Mize



Education Award, Evansville Vanderburg School Corporation  
Mark Thompson, EVSC Administration and Arc of Evansville Board  
Member; Dr. David Smith, EVSC Superintendent; Mary Schweizer,  
Ed.S., Director of Exceptional Learners; and Donna Robbins, Ad-  
ministrative Coordinator of Exceptional Learners-Early Childhood



Employment Award  
Kroger, Donita King & Debbie Quarles



Community Involvement Award  
Judge Gregory Horn



Innovation Award  
John Goebel



John Dickerson Emerging Leader  
Investment Grant, Jason Meyer, President  
and CEO of Passages



Outstanding Professional Achievement  
Award, Carey Kelsey



Cathleen Clark Professional Service  
Award, Ryan Peek

Suzanne, Crouch, Indiana State Auditor, who was honored with the Executive Director's Award, was not able to attend the event.

# Maximizing Personal Independence

## Blog Chronicles Life in the Community after Move from Nursing Home

Gregory Anderson began writing a blog in 2012 to chronicle his life in a nursing home and his goal to move into his own home.

Greg now lives in an apartment with home and community-based supports. Following are posts that offer insights into living as independently as possible with supports from caregivers. Follow Greg's blog at: [maximizingindependence.blogspot.com](http://maximizingindependence.blogspot.com).

**January 8, 2015**

**New Aide** – Another new aide came last night to be shown the ropes, and she did just fine. She starts on her own next week, and I think I'll be comfortable with her.

**January 26, 2015**

**Long Afternoon** – My daytime aide provider failed, again, to send somebody out here until dinner shift Saturday. This time, though, it did notify the other aide provider I use of its failure before the fact. I guess that's progress.

**March 17, 2015**

**Notes** – Notes have been placed around my apartment, reminding my aides to do things they should be doing anyway. It gives the place an institutional feel, but I guess it's okay.

**May 5, 2015**

**Aide Shift** – My regular aide

couldn't make the dinner shift last night, so the company sent an aide who comes on the weekend. It worked well. We have developed a small group of aides I can count on, which makes things much easier for me.

**May 22, 2015**

**Lease** – The rental lease for my apartment is up in July, but I intend to renew. I've lived longer by myself here than I have anywhere else in my life.

**May 25, 2015**

**Roses** – The rose bush outside my apartment has roses again. After two consecutive harsh winters, it's a reminder of how resilient life is.

**September 16, 2015**

**Family** – I have two aides now who've told me I'm part of their families. They're both terrific ladies whom I trust completely, so I'm honored they feel that close to me.

**September 17, 2015**

**Assumptions** – People make assumptions about other people. They especially make assumptions about disabled persons, often assuming the disabled are less intelligent, less capable than they are. Even physicians and other healthcare professionals too often make such assumptions. They should know better.

**September 30, 2015**

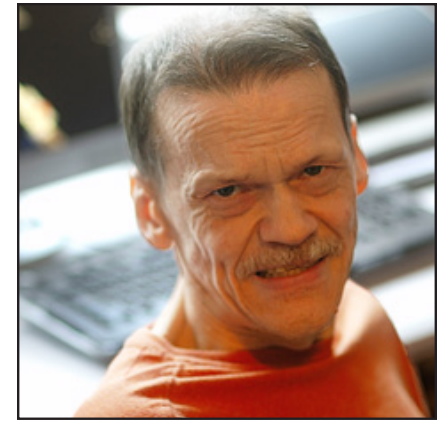
**Fiddling with Me** – The company nurse came by yesterday, and she brought new sippy cups. It seems an aide who comes occasionally isn't happy with the way I drink. She not only brought new cups, but, I'm told, they threw away the old ones. So, without asking me, instead of telling that aide to adjust to me, the company forces me to adjust. That doesn't strike me as good business practice. It does strike me as heavy handed and disrespectful. Who gave them the right to throw away my property? I have enough challenge getting adequate fluids – which, I suppose, is largely my fault. I don't need people making it even harder for no good reason.

**October 19, 2015**

**Doors** – An aide this weekend shut every door in my apartment – the doors to my office, my bedroom, both bathrooms. Who knows why.

**October 23, 2015**

**Icky** – There's a worker at the store I go to about every week who regularly comes up to me, hugs me, tells me I'm sweet, and calls me some affectionate name. I realize its part of her job to be friendly, and she no doubt has the best intentions, but if a man treated her the way she treats me, she might have grounds for a



Greg Anderson

sexual harassment complaint. In a civil society the point should be to treat everyone the same, within some broad boundaries. If she doesn't do that to every customer, she shouldn't do it to me.

**November 10, 2015**

**Another Failure** – My daytime aide company again failed to cover a shift yesterday. The scheduler told me she assigned an aide, but if the aide doesn't come, there's nothing the company can do. Really?

**November 12, 2015**

**Weeks and Years** – Two years ago this week, I moved into this apartment. A year ago this week a conference on humanity's future in space that I helped create was held in Hawaii.

**December 8, 2015**

**Christmas Time** – My aide Dennise has gotten some Christmas decorations for my apartment. It's looking pretty good.

## Celebrating 60 Years, from page 1

disabilities (I/DD) or its causes. There were virtually no programs or activities in communities to assist in the development and care of children and adults with I/DD or to support families.

It was common at that time for doctors to tell parents that the best place for their child was in an institution. Like every parent of any child, they wanted more for their children. They wanted their children to lead fulfilling lives out in the community and not shuttered away in dark institutions. Emboldened by their collective desire to raise their children at home and their refusal to accept that institutionalization was the only option, The Arc's founders came together to fight for a better life for their children. It was in that spirit that The Arc was born.

1947 – Parent group formed in South Bend

1952 – First discussions and attempt at establishing a regional/state organization. Joe Newman, South Bend, chosen as first leader/president.

1954 – 18 local groups in Indiana.

1955 – Representatives from 9 groups meet to discuss forming state organization following first legislative success – authorization of schools to establish programs for children with I/DD.

1956 – First meeting of what would become The Arc of Indiana takes place September 25. Otto Hughes of Bloomington elected President and Constitution adopted. Chapter Fees/Membership dues set at \$5 per

year for each 25 members of a local chapter.

1957 – Landmark legislation passed authorizing comprehensive study on I/DD. The Arc begins a summer camping program. 12 local groups affiliated

1960 – "Face of a Child" television series of 8 half-hour programs aired. Riley Hospital clinic established.

1961 – Legislation establishes Division on Mental Retardation within the Department of Mental Health.

1963 – Office opened in Indianapolis. Volunteer Ilene Younger hired as Executive Secretary. Legislation enacted to provide funding for the development of local programs.

1964 – Owen Wemhoff hired as first Executive Director and serves 3 years.

1965 – Founding of what would become Youth IARC movement. Law enacted mandating PKU testing of all newborns.

1966 – 63 local chapters in 59 counties with individual memberships at 4,600.

1967 – Stop Measles Campaign developed.

1969 – Co-sponsor Indiana's first Special Olympics in Indianapolis. Law passed mandating education for all school aged children with disabilities in 1973-74 school year.

1970 – Initiated 3-year residential services project that would serve as a catalyst for the development of community residential programs.

# Just the Facts on the Erskine Green Training Institute

The Arc's Erskine Green Training Institute, located in Muncie, Indiana, is a postsecondary education program that provides vocational training in the hospitality, food service and health care fields. There are many interesting questions that have come up as we've traveled the state speaking with educators, parents, prospective students, employment service providers, local chapters of The Arc, vocational rehabilitation offices and more. We've decided to give you some important facts in one fell swoop and hope to answer questions YOU may have.

## You have to live in Muncie to attend. *False!*

The training institute is open to any students, regardless of where they live. Indiana residents receive first priority; but the room and board package is available so that students may live in the hotel, as one would a dorm or residence hall at a traditional university, while they take classes.

## There's no financial assistance available. *Not True!*

Students may apply for scholarship funds from a variety of sources, work with their local vocational

rehabilitation counselor or apply for financing through a bank.

Students are encouraged to meet with a VR Counselor as soon as possible to see if they qualify for VR funding. Scholarship information is available on the Erskine Green Training Institute website: [www.erskingreeninstitute.org](http://www.erskingreeninstitute.org)

Financial assistance may be available to students or their guardians by applying for a consumer loan or credit card through First Merchants Bank in Muncie, Indiana. Please contact Ben Studebaker to discuss

which option is best for you at 765.747.1577 ext. 21577

## There is an age limit. *Wrong again!*

Students must be at least 18 and have exited high school. That's it!

## The focus is only on job skills. *No.*

In addition to learning valuable vocational skills to find employment and maintain a job, students will learn all sorts of soft skills such as resume development, interview skills, communication, using public

**Continued on page 7**

## Meet the Erskine Green Training Institute Instructional Team

The Arc not only advocates for change, we are working to be part of that change by establishing the Erskine Green Training Institute. This postsecondary education program provides vocational training for employment in the hospitality, food service and healthcare fields. The first class was welcomed by the Institute instructional team and nurse Manny Standish on January 11, 2016.

Visit [www.erskingreeninstitute.org](http://www.erskingreeninstitute.org) for information on upcoming sessions.

### Megan Stevenson, Director



Megan received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Ball State University. Her bachelor's degree is in special education with a major in intense interventions and a minor in mild interventions; her master's degree is in applied behavior analysis. She began her career as a high school special education teacher and transition coordinator where she trained, placed and oversaw students working in the community. After teaching, Megan worked as a Special Education Specialist with HANDS in Autism® Interdisciplinary Training and Resource Center.

### Brittany Bales, Instructor



Born and raised in Muncie, Indiana, Brittany graduated from Ball State University with a BA in Special Education. She continued her education immediately after completing her BA and received a MA in Special Education and a special education director's license. She taught in Muncie Community Schools for five years before joining the Institute team as an instructor. She is currently pursuing a doctoral degree at Ball State University in Educational Leadership.

### Grace Clark, Student Support Specialist



Grace is a graduate of Indiana Wesleyan University with a degree

in Psychology. Growing up with an older sibling with Down syndrome, Grace's personal experiences have inspired her in her career choices. Prior to joining the Institute team, Grace worked as a direct support professional for a service provider for individuals with disabilities.

### Daniel Gurulé, Student Support Specialist



Daniel attended New Mexico State University and majored in Special Education. Over the last nine years he was employed by DAMAR Services Inc. working with young men with autism, helping them to develop the skills needed to obtain employment and independence.

### Sarah Lambert, Instructor



Sarah became passionate about working with those with I/DD after participating in Best Buddies, training therapy dogs and working as a direct support professional. This led her to Purdue University where she obtained a BA in Special Education. Sarah comes to the Institute after teaching special education in the public school system.

### Manny Standish, Nurse



Manny is a graduate from Purdue University with a degree in nursing. Prior to moving to Muncie, she worked as an RN on the Progressive Care Unit at IU Arnett Hospital in Lafayette. Manny is passionate for those with a variety of disabilities as she has grown up with a brother who has ASD. Also, while living in Lafayette, Manny worked for Cornerstone Autism Center where she did ABA therapy for children who have ASD.

# The Arc's Center for Future Planning

## New Website Features

There are 600,000-700,000 families in the United States in which an adult with an intellectual and/or developmental disability (I/DD) is living with aging family members, and there is no plan for the individual's future. The Arc's Center for Future Planning supports and encourages adults with I/DD and their families to plan for the future.

The Center offers a website that provides information and practical assistance to families and individuals with I/DD on areas such as person-centered planning, decision-making, housing options, financial planning, employment and daily activities and making social connections. The website also features stories of people and families who have created future plans or who are in the planning process.

The Center Total on deposit for the Trust was \$56,919,614. recently launched a new "Build Your Plan" tool feature to the website which will allow families to create accounts and begin to develop their plans within the Center.

Finally, the Center also offers webinars to chapters of The Arc and other professionals who support people with I/DD to help them learn how to assist families in the future planning process. You can learn more about the resources that the Center for Future Planning provides at [futureplanning.thearc.org](http://futureplanning.thearc.org). Please contact us to learn more of the Center's plans to develop more resources and training opportunities.

# Financial Outlook

## The Sky is Not Falling

Kevin D. Hampton, Diamond Capital Management

The Arc Master Trust, or Trust I, was established in 1988 as a way for families to ensure that even after they were gone, they would be able to provide for their loved ones. Funds provided for in The Arc Master Trust are placed into the Trust I pool at The National Bank of Indianapolis. The National Bank of Indianapolis was founded in 1993 and was granted full trust powers in 1994. In 1995 the growing demand for personal trust and equity money management services led to the development of the full-service Wealth Management Division. Soon after the Wealth Management Division was formed, the investment arm of Wealth Management was renamed Diamond Capital Management.

Kevin Hampton, Diamond Capital Management Vice President and Senior Portfolio Manager, works to ensure that The Arc's large trust corpus is invested in a highly diverse, well-performing yet prudent portfolio consisting of mutual equity funds, mutual bond funds and a small percentage of money market funds. He joined The National Bank of Indianapolis in December, 2000 and has over 25 years of experience in the financial services and investment industries. Following is Kevin's commentary on the financial outlook as 2016 begins.

In late August and much of September I was reminded of the 2005 Disney movie, *Chicken Little*. In the movie, this wimpy little chicken is hit on the head with an invisible panel from a flying saucer while making a feeble attempt to play baseball. The entire town thought he was crazy

with his ranting about the sky falling. They were convinced he had lost his mind! Until, the aliens landed and invaded the town.

The invasion turned out to be more of a search and rescue. You see, the aliens made an annual pilgrimage to the town to collect walnuts in route to their summer home. In their haste to leave, the father leaves his son behind, all alone on a foreign planet. When they realize he's missing, they scour the universe trying to find the little one and create widespread panic when they return with ray-guns blazing, taking no prisoners! In short, they overacted to a situation that was easily corrected.

By the way, this is not the rantings of someone forced to watch animated movies with his children! This is a correlation between the movie and the late summer sell-off and volatility to follow in subsequent months.

**What Happened** The approximate 12.0% correction from August 17<sup>th</sup> to August 25<sup>th</sup> was a correction, not a crisis. Market participants, especially retail and novice traders, overacted to the potential effects of slowing economic growth in China, the ongoing Greek saga, anticipated Fed rate increase, etc. This correction was long overdue and the sky is not falling!

**Concerns** While it is obvious that some of our trading partners are in the midst of fiscal and economic challenges, the US economy continues to demonstrate signs of strength. The biggest challenges to ongoing US expansion are being created in the foreign markets, primarily the emerging sector.

**Positives** The correction was long overdue! The consumer discretionary and healthcare (primarily biotech industry) sectors were the best performers for roughly the past eighteen months. The US economy continues to exhibit strength with only hints (very slight) that a slow-down is on the horizon.

**Conclusion** The bull-run is not over! I repeat, the bull may be trotting, but the RUN IS NOT OVER! Expect periodic ebb-and-flow and more channel expansion versus huge swings in either direction. However, just as we learned from *Chicken Little*, remember that the sky is not falling, and it is important not to overact to situations that will be corrected.

## Trust Deposits

At the end of the third quarter, the total value of the invested Trust I fund was \$17,143,105 and the total value of the invested Trust II fund was \$21,238,674. These amounts include market gains/losses, interest and dividend earnings. Total on deposit with The National Bank of Indianapolis for the Trust II checking account was \$18,205,589 and the total on deposit for the Trust I checking account was \$332,246. Total on deposit for the Trust was \$56,919,614.

## Disbursements

There were a total of 1,412 disbursements for Trust beneficiaries made in the third quarter of 2015, totaling \$1,152,379. There were 1,764 disbursements totaling \$1,020,152 made in the third quarter of 2014.

## Just the Facts, continued from page 6

transportation, and independent living; and will have the option to participate in as many extra-curricular activities as they choose. Want to pick up conversational Spanish? Love sports or music? There will be lots of scheduled activities outside of the classroom and internship schedule to allow for personal growth and development.

**You will have to work at the hotel or restaurant after completing the program. Fiction.**

Every student will be able to return to their home community to work with a local job coach or employment specialist to help them find work where they choose to live and where they have friends, family and other supports.

**All students are required to live at the hotel for the duration of their program. Seeing a pattern here? No again!**

Students may choose to commute from home to participate and

attend their training session as long as they live within a 60-mile radius of the Institute and have reliable transportation.

**You have to have a high school diploma to attend. Untrue.**

The Erskine Green Training Institute accepts applicants regardless of whether or not they have earned a high school diploma. Students may have exited their secondary schooling with a certificate of completion or may have even dropped out.

**You have to be out of high school before you can apply. Incorrect.**

Students may apply while in high school so that they may prepare for a more seamless transition into their postsecondary program of choice with the Institute.

If there are questions that we haven't addressed here, please drop us a line at: [info@erskingreeninstitute.org](mailto:info@erskingreeninstitute.org). We're always happy to hear from you!

# The Arc Utility Support Program

The Arc of Indiana's new Utility Support Program can help with utility bills and more 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.

## Eligibility Requirements

- Family with a dependent child under the age of 18
- One or more residents in household must have a disability
- Thirty days income verification
- Family income at or below 250% of federal poverty level
  - 2 person household – \$39,825
  - 3 person household – \$50,225
  - 4 person household – \$60,625
  - 5 person household – \$71,025
  - 6 person household – \$81,425

## Target Families to Receive Services

- Families served or eligible for First Steps Services
- Families receiving or on a waiting list for Medicaid Waiver Services

- Families receiving or eligible for Indiana's Children's Special Health Care Services program

## 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

## Referral Process

Families who believe they may be eligible for assistance should contact The Arc's Utility Support Program Coordinator.

The First Steps System Point of Entry (SPOE) and service providers may refer families by providing The Arc with pages 1-3 of the family's First Steps Enrollment Form, or by submitting information which includes a listing of household

members, family's monthly income and indication of need for utility assistance.

## Application

The Utility Support Program Application can be found on The Arc of Indiana's website at: [www.arcind.org/news/utility-support-program](http://www.arcind.org/news/utility-support-program)

## Eligibility Review Process

The Arc's Utility Support Program Coordinator will complete the eligibility review process and develop a plan regarding what services will be provided. All payments will be provided directly to the utility company.

## Contact

To apply for assistance, or for questions or additional information regarding the Utility Support Program, please contact:

**Gina DeWilde**  
**Utility Support Program**  
**Coordinator**  
[gdewilde@arcind.org](mailto:gdewilde@arcind.org)  
**800-573-9816**  
**Fax: 800-573-9816**



# Eddie Gill to Host The Arc of Indiana Golf Tournament

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 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 their two children.

Mark your calendars now to attend Eddie's inaugural golf tournament on June 17.

# Chapters of The Arc Recognized for Membership Campaign Effort

Four years ago The Arc challenged its local chapters to double statewide membership to 20,000 members. At the end of 2014 Indiana chapters of The Arc reported 21,511 members statewide.

In 2015, as The Arc began its annual membership campaign, the membership committee set a new two-year goal for 2015 and 2016 to grow membership to 25,000 members statewide.

In this year's statewide campaign our chapters recruited 1,326 new

members. Chapters who helped make this happen were recognized at the December Appreciation Luncheon.

"Top Achievers," those chapters who met or exceeded the goal of recruiting 49 or more new members included:

- Easter Seals Arc of Northeast Indiana
- KCARC – The Arc of Knox County
- The Arc of Bartholomew County
- The Arc of Evansville
- The Arc of Greater Boone County
- The Arc of Shelby County

Each year we present two "Traveling Trophies," with a 1956 Chevy on top to symbolize our earliest beginning, to recognize chapters that recruit the most new members to The Arc.

One trophy is presented to the chapter that recruits the most members, and the second trophy is awarded to the chapter that recruits the most new members based on per thousand population. This year's recipients were Noble / The Arc of Greater Indianapolis and The Arc Noble County Foundations.



Six Top Achiever chapters each recruited 49 or more new members.



Traveling Trophy winner, Noble / The Arc of Greater Indianapolis



Traveling Trophy winner, The Arc Noble County Foundations

## Join The Arc!

If there is a chapter of The Arc in your county, you can join The Arc through your local chapter.

When you join at the local level you also become a member of The Arc of Indiana and The Arc US. You can also join as an "at large" member of The Arc of Indiana and The Arc US. Visit [www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/join-the-arc](http://www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/join-the-arc) for information or to join The Arc.