

ARC NEWS IN INDIANA

Empowering People. Inspiring Change.

The
Arc

OF INDIANA

Vol. 53, No. 1

www.arcind.org

Winter-Spring 2010

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Jobs, Work Experience Goal of Proposed Change

The Indiana Alliance for Full Participation, a coalition led by Self-Advocates of Indiana and supported by The Arc of Indiana, INARF, Indiana Association of Behavioral Consultants, Indiana Institute on Disability and Community, IPMG and DDRS/FSSA, has identified the goal of expanding employment opportunities for people with significant disabilities from the current 30% to over 50% within five years.

While this goal is bold and challenging, it is achievable. This is a major undertaking and one that will need the will and commitment of all stakeholders, as well as a robust infrastructure of staff, training and financial resources.

While some might question if it is realistic to promote employment

of people with disabilities when unemployment and underemployed has reached record levels, we believe it is not only realistic but imperative to launch this effort now. The failure to do so will only worsen Indiana's economic situation. This jobs initiative not only affects people with disabilities, but also their families and those who will be employed through jobs created to support them.

The Arc of Indiana and our partners take this initiative seriously. As a major step toward achieving this goal a "Joint Day Services Proposal" has been submitted to FSSA that lays out a comprehensive plan to address a range of job development in a creative and responsible way.

The proposal lays out an approach to employment that ties the infrastructure of the state and local communities to the personal interests, abilities and unique goals of individuals as described in their person-centered plan.

Further, it addresses the need to assist in maintaining skills and developing new ones, supporting people in competitive employment and offering choices to meaningful employment options.

Central to the proposal is affirming that employment initiatives must recognize and embrace these principles:

- The importance and value of employment in an individual's life.
- The need to provide supports regardless of where employed or if in the process of developing skills to prepare for employment.
- Employment services and work-related activities to be selected and defined by the person served, along with his or her team, during the Person-Centered Planning/Individual Support Plan process.



The current funding system focuses on what chair you sit in, limiting choice.

Proposed change focuses on providing choice in gaining skills, work experiences and jobs.



- Services to be provided as needed.
- The focus to be on employment and work, not simply placement.
- Support is to serve the goal of achieving the person's employment objectives.

We will continue to share information and report on progress of this exciting initiative. To learn more, visit our web site at: www.arcind.org, click on "Public Policy Advocacy" and "Helpful Resources and Links" and scroll down to "Joint Day Services Proposal."

The Arc of Indiana Launches New Initiative

Building Pathways to Empowerment

The State of Indiana is facing a budget crisis unlike anything that has been seen in many years. Every program that people with disabilities count on is facing huge challenges, at a time when more people than ever before need help (see article on page 3).

At this critical time, it is important that we not simply react, but that we act. That is why The Arc of Indiana has launched a new initiative, *Building Pathways to Empowerment*, to take a fresh look at Indiana's system of programs and services for people with developmental disabilities and their fami-

lies, and begin to redesign and redefine that system to one that provides what people want and need in the most sensible way possible.

Building New Pathways

The Arc of Indiana, along with our partners, including INARF and Indiana Association of Behavioral Consultants, has already been working with the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) to implement the following reforms that can save significant funds, rather than eliminating services and making across the board cuts:

Housemates—Help people who receive Medicaid waiver funded residential services find housemates.

Continued on Page 3

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2010 Membership Campaign Underway

The Arc of Indiana's 2010 membership campaign is underway. The theme for this year's campaign builds upon our very successful 2009 conference in which more than 500 attendees provided input on the critical questions and issues faced by the disability community:

Join

Our Voice . . .

Our Vision . . .

Our Future

Membership Matters

Chapters that recruit and report new members will be in the running for a variety of honors. We will again present two Membership Traveling Trophies for most members recruited and most recruited based on population, which allows for those in smaller populated areas to have the opportunity to receive the trophy. ALL Chapters that recruit 25 members will receive a complimentary registration and ticket to The Arc's annual fall conference and awards program. And ALL chapters that recruit members (no minimum necessary) will be eligible for complimentary registrations for the conference/awards program.

If you receive the newsletter, you are probably all ready a member, and we thank you for your support. We welcome you to "spread the word," encourage others to become a member of The Arc, and help us reach our goal of recruiting 1,000 new members statewide.

For more information, contact Mark Kevitt, Director of Program Services, at 317-977-2375, 800-382-9100 or mkevitt@arcind.org. People who do not have a local chapter of The Arc in their county can join as a state member by visiting our web site: www.arcind.org



Self-Advocates Seek Ways to Help People in Haiti

Self-Advocates of Indiana held their winter meeting at the Indiana State Government Center on February 15, 2010, and then headed to the State House to participate in The Arc of Indiana's Valentine's Day event. The Arc of Indiana's Executive Director John Dickerson addressed the group.

At the meeting, several self-advocates asked how they might be able to help people with disabilities in Haiti. There are many organizations providing assistance, and while The Arc of Indiana is not endorsing any one organization, the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) is collecting funds for disaster relief.

The following information was shared on the AAIDD web site from their president, Joanna Pierson, "I know that everyone is concerned with

the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti, and many of you are probably wondering how we can assist people with disabilities in Haiti. Because of the catastrophic nature of the earthquake and the extreme poverty of the Haitian citizens even before the earthquake, the relief efforts now do not have any specific focus on people with disabilities. As Haiti stabilizes there will likely be opportunities to assist people with disabilities more directly. If you wish to contribute to this future effort, please send a donation to the AAIDD Disaster Relief Fund. All of the money that you donate to this fund will be sent to Haiti."

You can find information on how to donate through AAIDD by visiting their web site: www.aaidd.org



Down Syndrome International (DSI) has designated March 21st as World Down Syndrome Day (WSDSD). The date was chosen to signify the uniqueness of Down syndrome in the triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome. The annual observance aims to promote awareness and understanding of Down syndrome and related issues and to mobilize support and recognition of the dignity, rights and well being of persons with Down syndrome. To learn more, visit: www.worlddownsyndromeday.org



March is National Professional Social Work Month. In communities throughout Indiana, people who go above and beyond their usual work to make a significant difference in the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families include professional social workers. The Arc of Indiana gives special thanks to the many dedicated social workers who work for local chapters of The Arc.



Executive Director's Column

Tea-Baggers, Deficits and Disability Policy



John Dickerson

One of the great criticisms on the “war on terror” is that we are always planning to stop the last attack from happening again. It may be a truism for more than the war on terror.

As the state, advocates, providers and consumers look to use existing funds more efficiently, control costs, redirect resources and at the same time work to meet the ever increasing needs of people—we too may be guilty of “stopping the last attack” instead of thinking ahead.

The topic of federal deficits continues to capture attention, including the possibility of creating a new federal deficit commission. Key to any discussions such a commission has will be the topic of entitlements. We can be certain that they will not be looking to expand entitlements, which consume the overwhelming portion of federal resources, but rather will most likely focus on how such entitlements can be reduced. Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid are the big three, all of which people with disabilities depend upon.

Much has been written about the tea-bagger movement—some praising it and some ridiculing it for the fringe elements involved. But it may be missed by many that people in the middle are fed up with business as usual and “spending that is out of control.” People are worried about deficits and what that means for them and their children.

What brings me to this point? Every week I will spend hours on behalf of people with developmental disabilities and their families working with FSSA on how Medicaid is used to fund very important services through Medicaid Waivers. Many times I feel the argument is over nickels and dimes. For example, there is currently a great deal of discussion on spending on supported employment, even though it represents only three-tenths

of one percent of the state’s Medicaid Waiver budget. At the same time, there is little focus on residential services which consumes 90 percent of the budget—using a model developed 20 years ago. That model depends on a work force of direct support professionals—people who are expected to provide support and care to vulnerable people while adhering to strict-compliance regulations, yet who earn so little, \$8.75 an hour for many, that they often qualify for food stamps.

I have also been taking part in national conference calls to help design a campaign to end waiting lists throughout the country. Such an effort will take tremendous resources—particularly if states keep following existing models and systems for providing services.

State Senator Luke Kenley has told us that to get through these times, it will take sacrifice. He is right, but I do not think he sees sacrifice in the same way I do.

Too often the discussion of sacrifice and entitlements comes back to support for cutting *your* entitlement, but not *mine*. That thinking will help no one.

We all must work together to get through these difficult economic and politically polarized times. Sacrifice will mean rethinking what we can and must do, breaking old molds and expectations and more wisely investing through the taxes we all pay.

It will not be easy, and it will not happen unless politicians begin working together—working not simply to win the next election but working together for all the people of this country.

I don’t have much in common with the teabagger crowd, and I am not even sure if the people The Arc represents would be welcome at their rallies. But I do know that if we do not start really working together rather than fighting with each other, we will all lose.

The Arc Launches New Initiative continued from Page 1

Potential Savings: \$20 million per year.

High-Cost—Implement innovative practices to serve high-cost individuals who receive Medicaid waiver services. Potential Savings: \$30 million per year.

Day Services Reform—Implement proposals to reform Day Services. Potential Savings and Better Services: 3.5% annually with more person-centered services.

Local Innovations—Respond to just one of several ideas offered by local provider agencies. Potential Savings: Just one proposal could save \$1.5 million per year.

These are just a few examples of the types of changes that can make a difference. We know that through our new initiative, bringing people together from many perspectives, this is just a small start of many good things to come.

The Arc of Indiana is excited about this opportunity and what it can mean to people with developmental disabilities, their families and communities throughout Indiana. We’re going to need your help. It is not just going to be the state that needs to change, or providers that need to change, but families and advocates will need to change as we face these historic challenges.

We welcome you to join us in this important initiative as we work together—Building Pathways to Empowerment. To learn more and join in the conversation, visit us at www.arcind.org, join us on Facebook, or call us at 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100.

Economic Realities Impacting Programs, Services

First Steps

The state is moving to suspend First Steps services provided to infants and toddlers with disabilities if parents fall behind on co-payments

Caregiver Support Program

Indiana’s state funded Caregiver Support program, which provides respite care, has been indefinitely suspended. Only services provided prior to February 15th will be reimbursed and no new services will be authorized. If the program is reinstated when the new fiscal year begins on July 1, 2010, families will have to apply for services and will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. The cost to the state for this program is less than \$1 million state wide and is limited to \$2,000 per person. Families are only eligible for this program if they do not receive any other home and community based services.

Group Homes

FSSA will move to enact an emergency Medicaid rule that, effective April 1, will make an across the board cut of 3% for all ICF/MR Group Homes. This is expected to cut nearly \$12 million per year from the state budget. This change does not affect residential services funded through the Medicaid Waiver.



Have a Heart for The Arc

“Have a Heart for The Arc” was the theme of The Arc of Indiana’s annual Valentine’s Day event at the Indiana State House on February 15, 2010. Over twenty groups from local Arc chapters and self-advocacy organizations braved cold and snowy weather to deliver valentines to legislators and educate them about the importance of supporting programs and services for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. Pictured here is a delegation from Arc Opportunities, local chapter of The Arc in LaGrange County, with State Senator and candidate for U.S. Senate in the Republican primary, Marlin



Stutzman (R-Howe). You can find more photos on The Arc of Indiana’s Facebook page. If you are on Facebook, please become a fan of The Arc of Indiana. You can link to our Facebook page directly from our web site: www.arcind.org.

First Steps Services at Risk to Families Behind on Co-Pays

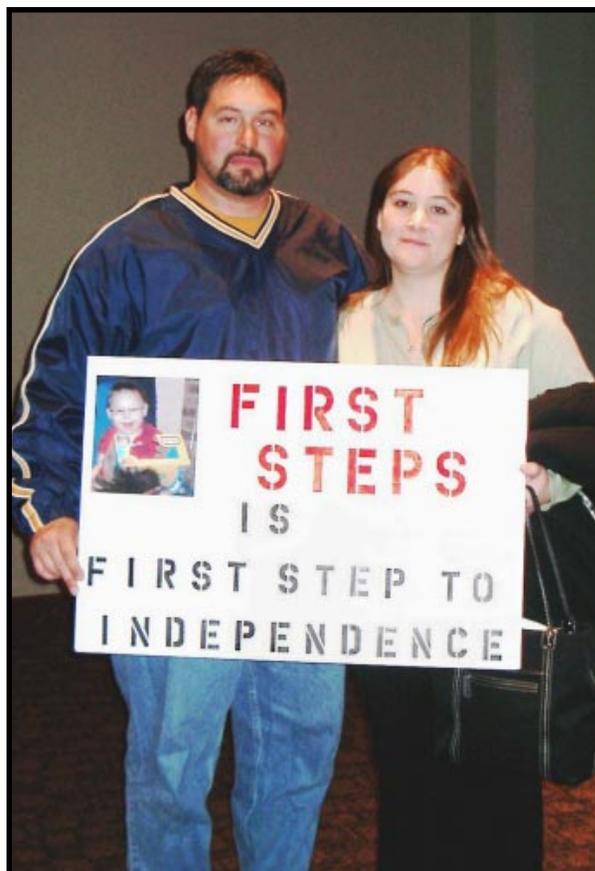
The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) held hearings on proposed revisions to the First Steps Early Intervention program in January and February. The proposed revision would allow the state to suspend services to infants and toddlers with disabilities or at risk of disability if their family has a past due amount on co-payments of 60 days or more.

The Arc of Indiana testified against the proposed change. While the State of Indiana is facing difficult financial times and every possible way to save funds must be looked at, “cost savings” should never be taken at the expense of vulnerable children with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. The State of Indiana has an obligation to protect Indiana’s most vulnerable populations—who is more vulnerable than an infant or toddler with a disability or at risk of disability?

First Steps services are services that have been determined necessary by an employee of the state for the child to make progress in his or her development. Infants and toddlers who do not receive these critical services in the early, developmental stages of life will likely fall further behind their peers in their development. It is unclear if families who have fallen behind on co-payments have chosen not to pay co-payments, or if in fact these families have fallen on hard times or are simply waiting for their private insurance carrier to pay. In addition, the First Steps system has gone through recent changes that may not allow for the billing information that this decision is based on to be current or correct.

Despite opposition to this policy from The Arc, parents, and other organizations, it appears FSSA will move forward in asking the federal government to approve the proposed change. We will continue to monitor and report on this issue.

Families who have questions or concerns, and/or whose children may lose services due to this policy, should contact us at: thearc@arcind.org or 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100.



Snapshot of Families Behind on Co-Payments

Age of children whose families are behind in co-payments

Under 1 year	13
1 year to under 2 years	125
2 years to under 3 years	326
3 years and over	113

Number of families behind in co-payments as of November 2009

90 days past due:	89
60 days past due:	147
20 days past due:	341

Median amount owed by families

\$438.00

Income level of families who are behind in co-payments

Percent of Federal Poverty Level	Number of Families
0-250% *	99**
251-350%	238
351-450%	122
451-450%	50
551-650%	31
651-750%	17
751-850%	8
851-1000%	8
1001%	4
Total	577 Families

* 250% of poverty for a family of three is \$45,775 and \$55,124 for a family of four.

** This includes families who elected to pay the maximum rate for services rather than provide First Steps financial data.

Process to waive co-payments

Service Coordinators must discuss financial issues with families quarterly, or at any time they become aware of a possible change in a family’s status. New financial data is gathered and entered into the System Point of Entry (SPOE) computer, which performs the recalculation. Recalculations must be acted upon within thirty days.

2010 State Legislative Session

As Arc News in Indiana goes to press, the 2010 session of the Indiana General Assembly is coming to a close. Following is a review of bills and resolutions impacting people with developmental disabilities and their families, and their status as of March 1st. For complete and up-to-date information please visit www.arcind.org, click on “Public Policy Advocacy.”

HB 1065 – Firearms

HB 1065 prohibits the enforcement of a policy or rule prohibiting an employee from legally possessing a firearm that is locked in a vehicle at his or her work place. An amendment supported by The Arc to include an exemption for agencies that provide services to people with developmental disabilities failed. The Arc believes that local provider agencies should be able to have a policy regarding firearms that protects the health and safety of people with developmental disabilities. As of March 1, the bill was scheduled to be heard in Conference Committee and The Arc was working to exempt agencies providing ser-

vices to people with developmental disabilities.

SCR 4 – Alliance for Full Participation

A Concurrent Resolution supporting the goals set forth by the Alliance for Full Participation’s campaign, Real Job – It’s Everybody’s Business. The Resolution passed the House and is expected to be approved by the Senate.

SCR 5 – FSSA Professional Development Programs

A Concurrent Resolution encouraging FSSA to continue efforts to develop systemic, comprehensive professional development and education for direct support professional, such as the INTRAIN Project, and to support efforts to obtain funding. The Resolution passed the House and is expected to be approved by the Senate.

HB 1109 – Voters with Disabilities

HB 1109 requires that locations where voters cast an absentee ballot before Election Day must meet the same accessibility requirements that apply to a polling place for a precinct. The bill was

approved by the House and Senate, and as of March 1 was scheduled to be heard in Conference Committee to resolve concerns regarding the effective date.

HB 1169 – Volunteer Advocates for Incapacitated Adults and Seniors

HB 1169 provides that an advocate may petition the court for reasonable compensation or reimbursement of expenses, and provides that probate courts in adjacent counties may establish joint or multiple county volunteer advocates for seniors programs or incapacitated adults programs; and may contract with an Indiana non-profit corporation to provide volunteer advocates for seniors programs or volunteer advocates for incapacitated adults programs. HB 1169 was approved by the House and Senate.

SB 35 – State Administration

The Arc of Indiana monitored and worked on SB 35 to keep language out of the bill that would allow FSSA to increase the maximum co-payment

Continued on Page 7

Our Voice...Our Vision...Our Future 2010 Forums

Last October, an important dialog began among self-advocates, family members and professionals at The Arc's "Our Voice...Our Vision...Our Future" Conference. We are committed to taking information gleaned at the conference and building on it through continued dialog and sharing of new, innovative information from experts throughout the country.

Throughout 2010 The Arc of Indiana will host four forums focusing on the eleven original conference categories. The goal of each forum will be to further explore each area and provide important information and resources. We are asking stakeholders from across the state to participate.

During each forum experts will address current trends and opportunities, answer questions and facilitate discussion.

Today, more than ever, it is important that we work together. Please join us throughout 2010 as we continue the critical dialog on Our Voice...Our Vision...Our Future. Please visit www.arcind.org for details and registration information.

April

Early Childhood Education

June

Future Planning and Guardianship
Family and Caregiver Training
Self-Advocacy

August

Cultural Competency
Family Support
Health Care

October

Post High School Employment
Community Living
2010 Appreciation Luncheon and Annual Meeting

April Forum

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

Early Childhood & Education
Empowering Parents

Barb Kleist

Arc Greater Twin Cities, Minnesota



April 21, 2010

9:00 a.m. Registration
9:30-Noon Program

American Red Cross
441 East 10th Street
Indianapolis

For complete information please visit www.arcind.org, click on "News and Events."

Resource Guide

Indiana's Medicaid Waiver Program

Priority Criteria for Waivers / No Waiting List

There is a priority for some people to receive Medicaid waiver services without having to be on a waiting list. This includes:



Over 80

- People age 80 and older still caring for a loved one with a developmental disability.



Loss of Parent

- People in a crisis or emergency situations, including the death or incapacitation of a primary caregiver.



Nursing Home

- People with developmental disabilities who want to move out of a nursing home.



Leaving School

- Recent graduates of high school special education programs have priority to receive the Support Services Medicaid Waiver.

Remember, even if you do not need services right away, you may need them by the time your name comes up on the waiting list. Do not wait to apply!

Indiana's Medicaid waiver program allows Medicaid to fund home and community-based services for children and adults with disabilities in their own homes or neighborhoods instead of in Medicaid funded facilities.

Types

Indiana has two types of Medicaid waivers:

- **Medicaid waivers for children and adults with medical needs.**
Apply at your local Area Agency on Aging. Call: 800-986-3505.
 - Aged and Disabled Waiver (A&D)
 - Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver (TBI)
- **Medicaid waivers for children and adults with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.**

Learn More at www.arcind.org

Learn more about Indiana's Medicaid Waiver program and other home and community based services by visiting "Help for Families" and "Media Gallery" on our web site. The "Media Gallery" includes links to videos, including:

- ◆ **Indiana's Medicaid Waiver Program**
- ◆ **Indiana's Support Services Medicaid Waiver**
- ◆ **Moving from a Nursing Home**
- ◆ **Help for Aging Caregivers**

Apply at your local Bureau of Developmental Disability Services. Call: 800-545-7763.

- Autism Waiver
- Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver
- Support Services (SS) Waiver

Eligibility

You can qualify for more than one waiver, so it is important to apply for all of the waivers that you might be eligible for. To be eligible for a Medicaid waiver:

- You must qualify for Indiana Medicaid's disability and financial eligibility requirements.
 - Family income and assets are NOT counted to determine Medicaid financial eligibility for children under 18. For those older than 18, only the individual's income and assets are counted.
- You must require the type of care that would be provided in a Medicaid-funded facility, such as a nursing home, large residential facility or group home.

Waiting Lists

There are long waiting lists to receive services from a Medicaid waiver. It is important to apply as soon as possible and get on the waiting list.

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

Early Childhood and Education Summary

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

In this issue, we focus on Early Childhood and Education. The following summary includes the question that was asked, choices that participants could respond to, and the answer that received the highest percentage of responses by respondent group. To view all the results visit our web site at: www.arcind.org, click on "Public Policy Advocacy," and then click on "Helpful Resources and Links."

What assistance do parents most need for their young child?

Information, Support, Respite, Therapies, Advocacy, Affordable health insurance

Self-Advocates	30%	Support
Family Members	32%	Therapies
Professionals	35%	Information

When choosing a provider for their child, parents are most interested in:

Reliability; Professional background, training and certification; Flexibility; Accessibility; Provider reputation; Cost

Self-Advocates	40%	Professional background, training and certification
Family Members	42%	Professional background, training and certification
Professionals	31%	Professional background, training and certification

What outcome is most important to families of young children enrolled in early childhood education? Academic skills, Social skills, Communication skills, Fine and gross motor skills, Developmental gains

Self-Advocates	30%	Developmental gains
Family Members	47%	Developmental gains
Professionals	63%	Developmental gains

What is the best place for parents to get information for their newly diagnosed child?

Physicians, Social workers, Support groups, Other parents, Internet, State organizations, Schools, First Steps providers, Churches

Self-Advocates	24%	Support groups
Family Members	35%	Other parents
Professionals	27%	First Steps providers



State Superintendent Dr. Tony Bennett met with The Arc of Indiana's Education Committee on February 26, 2010. He welcomed the opportunity to have a dialog with parents of children with special needs, and invited The Arc to form a representative group of parents and self-advocates to continue to meet with him on a regular basis.

What is the most critical issue faced in transition from early intervention to school?

Learning about the Individual Education Plan (IEP), Accommodating the child in a regular classroom, Navigating case conferences, Building a good relationship with the school, Understanding your rights

Self-Advocates	30%	Understanding your rights
Family Members	38%	Understanding your rights
Professionals	36%	Understanding your rights

What do parents want most for their child to achieve in school?

Academic progress, Social interaction and development, Learning appropriate behavior, Preparation for adult life, Have a happy day

Self-Advocates	33%	Preparation for adult life
Family Members	46%	Preparation for adult life
Professionals	46%	Preparation for adult life

What is the most important priority for improving special education?

More teachers, More technology, More teacher aides, Resources, Positive support from school administration, Parent training, Teacher training

Self-Advocates	29%	Positive support from school administration
Family Members	36%	Teacher training
Professionals	27%	Teacher training

What is the best setting for meeting the educational needs of a child with an IEP?

Regular classroom with individual supports, Regular classroom with resource room support, Separate class with specific expertise available, Private or charter school, Home school

Self-Advocates	41%	Regular classroom with individual supports
Family Members	55%	Regular classroom with individual supports
Professionals	57%	Regular classroom with individual supports

How can we ensure that individuals in the education system are aware of Medicaid Waiver services and how to access them?

Required with school enrollment, Required as part of IEP, Required as part of transition planning in high school, Required training for all school personnel on Medicaid Waivers

Self-Advocates	45%	Require training of all school personnel on Medicaid Waivers
Family Members	53%	Required as part of IEP
Professionals	44%	Required as part of IEP

Provider List Grows for The Arc's Family and Caregiver Training Program

Families throughout Indiana have a wonderful new resource for education and training. The Arc of Indiana's Family and Caregiver Training Program provides help and support for families just when they need it the most.

Under Indiana's Medicaid Waiver program anyone who has a Developmental Disabilities Waiver, a Support Services Waiver or an Autism Waiver can spend up to \$2,000 of their budget per year for Family and Caregiver Training. These funds can be used to provide training and education to parents, family members or non-paid caregivers in a variety of areas. Examples include workshops, conferences, marriage and family counseling, parenting skills or how to develop an individualized sup-

port plan. Family and Caregiver Training funds can help families and caregivers better meet the needs of their loved one. In an effort to make this process easier and more accessible, families who utilize The Arc's Family and Caregiver Training Program no longer have to pay for the services and wait for reimbursement. The Arc will pay all up front expenses and wait to be reimbursed by the state.

Providers across the state are joining with us to help families. They are listed in a searchable database that families can access on The Arc's web site by visiting: www.arcind.org/caregivers

Our latest Preferred Providers include:



KCARC, local chapter of The Arc in Knox County
Deborah Casey-Harvey, Indianapolis Eastside Speech Language Services
Cynthia Robinson, About Special Kids
Valerie Weber, Northern Indiana Therapies
Evansville ARC
Gail Kahl, Opportunities for Positive Growth
Jenifer Asher, Connections
Richard Lookatch, PhD

For information on the Family and Caregiver Training Program, please call Jill Vaught at 317-977-2384 or e-mail her at jvaught@arcind.org.

The Arc of Indiana Master Trust

Indiana's Premier Special Needs Trust

Serving Hoosiers of all disabilities and their families since 1988



Tom Ewbank, Krieg DeVault, Legal Counsel, and Melissa Justice, Trust Director

Trust I, established in 1988, helps families provide for the financial future of their loved ones without affecting eligibility for government benefits.

Trust II, established in 1995, allows people with disabilities to fund their own trust.

Regardless of your age, or your child's age or disability, planning for the future is important. We're Here to Help.

For information, call 800-382-9100
e-mail mjustice@arcind.org
or visit us at www.arcind.org

Trust funds are invested and on deposit with
The National Bank of Indianapolis



2010 State Legislative Session, from p. 4

that a family can be charged for First Steps services. This language was included in SB 35 when it passed the Senate. SB 35 did not receive a hearing in the House and thus the bill itself "died;" however; it is possible that the First Steps language could be put into another bill during the conference committee process.

SB 148 – Developmental Disabilities

SB 148 requires that all agencies that provide day service programs to people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities be certified by a national body. The bill was

approved by the House and Senate.

SB 236 – State Tax Matters

SB 236 includes various state tax provisions, including suspension of the neighborhood assistance credit and other beneficial tax credits for small business for taxable years 2010 and 2011. SB 236 passed the Senate and as of this writing had not been voted on following a hearing in the House Ways and Means Committee. Because the language was approved by the Senate it is possible that it could be amended into another bill during the conference committee process.

Save The Date

Location: The Legends of Indiana
Franklin, Indiana

Date: Friday, June 25, 2010

Tee Time: Noon



Former Pacer and I.U. Star

**Steve Green's
21st Annual
Golf Tournament**
To Benefit
The Arc of Indiana

Watch for more information about this event and on-line registration at www.arcind.org under News & Events



Thanks to the support of 136 players, The Arc of Indiana's 3rd Annual Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament, held on February 21, 2010, raised nearly \$10,000 for The Arc. The event would not be possible without the leadership of Kelly Hartman, Insights Consulting, and Jack Province, Hold 'Em or Fold 'Em Poker Inc. This year's tournament was dedicated to Jim Altman, who was instrumental in founding this annual event. Jim passed away following a brief illness in the fall of 2009. Pictured left to right, surrounding a photo of Jim, are Curt Foley and Debra Altman-Foley, son-in-law and daughter of Jim Altman; Kelly Hartman and Jill Vaught, The Arc's Director of Organizational Advancement.

A Hole in One Anyone Can Make!

Support The Arc by purchasing your chance to win up to \$1,000 at The Arc of Indiana's fourth annual Golf Ball Bounce Raffle.

At the start of this year's golf tournament on June 25th, 1,000 numbered golf balls will be dropped from approximately 100 feet onto The Legends of Indiana driving range. The lucky participant whose golf ball lands closest to the marked hole will win \$1,000! The numbered golf ball second closest to the hole will win \$500, and \$250 will be given for the third closest numbered ball. In addition, the person whose golf ball lands the farthest away will receive \$250.

Tickets for the golf balls, numbered 1 to 1,000, are on sale now for only \$10 each. Whether you are a golfer or just wanting to support The Arc, everyone can participate. **You do not have to be present to win!**

To support the very important work of The Arc and purchase your golf ball ticket, please go to www.arcind.org and click on "News and Events" or call us at 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100.

Our Programs and Services

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

The Arc Master Trust The nation's premier special needs trust, The Arc Master Trust serves Hoosiers of all disabilities. Trust I, established in 1988, helps families provide for the future of their loved ones. Trust II, established in 1995, allows people with disabilities to fund their own trust.

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

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

COVOH Collaborative Work Lab The COVOH Collaborative Work Lab is an innovative system that provides a streamlined meeting format designed to enhance the productivity of group meetings. The lab can be used for strategic planning, interagency collaboration, focus groups, project and grant development, project evaluation, online surveys, board development and much more. By utilizing a structured, electronic meeting format, linked computers and an experienced facilitator, every member can participate and contribute their ideas.

Self-Advocates of Indiana The Arc of Indiana supports the work of Self-Advocates of Indiana, a statewide organization run by and for people with developmental disabilities. Learn more about Self-Advocates of Indiana at www.saind.org.

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

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

ARC NEWS IN INDIANA

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