

Major Reforms Bring Services to Thousands of Hoosiers—Hope to Those Waiting

It has been 10 years since The 317 Plan—a comprehensive plan for programs and services for people with developmental disabilities—laid out a roadmap for the future. Today, Indiana is seeing the results of the hard fought effort to transform our state from one based on institutional care, to supports based in the community.

The 317 Plan began under Governor Frank O'Bannon, starting with the closure of New Castle State Developmental Center and then Northern Indiana Children's Hospital. Under Governors Joe Kernan and Mitch Daniels, residents of Muscatatuck State Developmental Center transitioned to new programs and the facility closed. Governor Daniels

led the final closures of state operated institutions with the closures of Fort Wayne State Developmental Center and Silvercrest—a facility for children.

Funds that had been used to operate large state institutions are now being channeled into supports to families to care for loved ones at home, and supports to allow adults to live in community based programs throughout the state.

Increase in People Served on Medicaid Waivers

Nearly 10,000 people are currently served through the combined Medicaid Waivers—Autism, Support Services and Developmental Disabilities. Medicaid Waivers allow Medicaid to pay for supports to families to care for a loved one at home, or supports to allow adults to live in the community. The number of people served on these Waivers has increased by nearly 700 people in the last two years.

In addition, major announcements this summer have opened the door to services for specific groups of people with developmental disabilities facing immediate needs.

In May, the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) announced that **caregivers age 80 and older can immediately be eligible for a Developmental Disabilities Waiver**—providing immediate access to in-home supports, or, if needed, out of home supports.

A study by The Arc of Indiana's Waiting List Committee identified 400-700 Hoosier parents over the age of 80 whose adult sons and daughters still live at home.

The Arc of Indiana Key Partner in Reform

As priorities for change and specific steps have been laid out to move Indiana forward in a new, positive direction of community based supports, The Arc of Indiana has been a key player at the table with top officials from the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA). Specific thanks must go to volunteer leaders of The Arc of Indiana Board and its Waiting List Committee. More than 18 months ago, the Board implemented a Strategic Plan which provided a roadmap to guide The Arc's Waiting List Committee. The committee developed and implemented strategies that lead to making a significant impact on moving people off Medicaid waiver waiting lists. With their leadership and involvement, we can be proud of what's been accomplished.

As of mid July, over 125 of these families have contacted FSSA field offices to begin the process of getting help.

FSSA has announced a new priority to reach young adults who are ages 18 to 24. This target population will be able to receive the Support Services Waiver to assist them in moving into the workforce, and/or receive other community based supports. The initial release of these waivers will be for those eligible students who left school in the 2006-2007 school year. This will be followed by moving additional people off the waiting list each quarter until the sup-

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Helen and Kenneth Doyle continue to love and care for their son, David, at home. With the new initiative to provide the Developmental Disabilities waiver to caregivers over the age of eighty, families such as the Doyles will have the ability to immediately access supports to help care for their loved ones at home.



Frank Migliano lived at Muscatatuck State Developmental Center (MSDC) for many years. When MSDC closed, Frank moved to a home in the community with 24/7 supports, and began attending a day program operated by Arc Rehab Services, local chapter of The Arc in Boone County. Funds that had supported Frank at MSDC followed him to the community, and funds saved from the closure of MSDC and other state institutions are now allowing people to move off long waiting lists for community based services.



Marcus Caldwell found employment through Wabash Center, associated organization of The Arc of Indiana, at a bookstore on the Purdue University campus. Providing the Support Services Waiver to young adults leaving special education will allow a smoother transition from school to work.

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Jeff Huffman, President and CEO of Janus Development Services / The Arc of North Central Indiana, at the State House with self-advocates.

WELCOME TO THE ARC FAMILY

The Arc of North Central Indiana

The Arc of Indiana welcomes Janus Developmental Services Inc., headquartered in Noblesville, as our newest local chapter of The Arc. Janus will serve as the local chapter of The Arc in Tipton and Howard counties, and has joined as The Arc of North Central Indiana.

The mission of Janus has long been to provide individuals with disabilities and their families the opportunity to participate and contribute within the community through training, education and development of social skills.

Janus offers Community Employment Services, Transitional Services, Pre-Vocational training, Family support groups and Transportation services through the operation of Hamilton County Express, the public transportation system in Hamilton County.

Jeff Huffman, President and CEO of Janus, said, "When I joined Janus, our family already had a relationship with The Arc. As we established Janus' new strategic plan, we became much more of an individual, family and community focused organization than just a provider of services. With that new vision in place our Board of Directors agreed that being a member of The Arc of Indiana and The Arc of the United States was essential to the future for the families we serve.

"We feel that being a member of The Arc of Indiana allows Janus to truly focus on advocating for what is right. While we are a provider of services to individuals and families in our community, it is also our responsibility to understand and keep our families informed about issues that are important to them. The Arc of the United States and The Arc of Indiana are the best representation Janus and our families can have in Washington, D.C. and Indianapolis. Our organization will change based on the wants and needs of our families, not necessarily what services government systems may offer.

"The Arc gives us the guidance to look beyond our business model and provides an opportunity to truly be of service to our community. It allows us to be the voice of the community when it comes to issues relating to individuals with intellectual disabilities. We hope that Janus, through our position in the communities we serve, will be able to promote the values of The Arc of the United States and The Arc of Indiana to our families, elected officials and the community as a whole—until everyone we serve is a valued, active participant in life and in the community. Our work has just begun."

Achieva Resources Dedicates New Facility in Richmond

Achieva Resources, local chapter of The Arc in Wayne, Fayette, Franklin and Union counties, dedicated its new \$980,000 building on Saturday, June 30, 2007 in Richmond, Indiana.

The dedication ceremony was attended by over 300 people. The keynote speaker, Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, congratulated Achieva on their successful community capitol campaign which raised over \$480,000. To that amount was added a \$500,000 grant from the Office of Community and Rural Affairs that she oversees. As a direct result, Achieva now enjoys a 9,000 sq. ft., fully accessible facility providing services each week to over 160 people. Programs offered at the new building include: Older Adults Services (Golden Explorers), Adult Developmental Activity/Medically Fragile Program, Individual Habilitation Training, Children's EXCEL and Waiver Services.

The new facility has been named the Vergie Gabbard Building in honor of Achieva's founding parent, who began what is now known as Achieva Resources in 1956 when she began providing services to 18 children in her garage in Richmond. As part of the dedication ceremony, the Lieutenant Governor presented Mrs. Gabbard with the Distinguished Hoosier Award.



Lt. Governor Becky Skillman presents Vergie Gabbard with the Distinguished Hoosier Award for her lifetime commitment to Achieva Resources and The Arc.

Membership Campaign Raises Disability Awareness Throughout Indiana

For the second consecutive year, The Arc of Indiana and local chapters throughout the state conducted a Disability Awareness and Membership Campaign. The campaign, held in the spring, was designed to raise awareness about disabilities and The Arc, and to increase the membership of local Arc chapters.

In celebration of The Arc's 50th anniversary, this year's campaign incorporated the anniversary theme with the awareness message promoted by the Governor's Council for People with Disabilities: *Room for Everyone in The Arc and the Community. Membership Matters—Yesterday and Today for Tomorrow.*

Chapters were issued a challenge to recruit 50 new members.

Chapters were issued a challenge to recruit 50 new members in celebration of The Arc's 50th Anniversary. Six chapters met and exceeded the goal. Congratulations to **Easter Seals Arc of North-east Indiana**, 211 members; **Hoosier Prairie Arc**, 116 members; and **Arc BRIDGES**, 101 members. Also meeting and exceeding the challenge were **The Arc of Bartholomew County** (90 members); **Peak Community Services** (54) and **Arc Rehab Services** (50).

Other chapters who reported new members were **Passages**, **The Arc of Hancock County**, **Noble County ARC**, **Clinton County ARC**, **Jayland Arc**, **Greene County ARC**, **The Arc of Jackson**

County, **Sycamore Services**, **Evansville Arc** and **The Arc of Rush County**. The Arc of Indiana had 20 new At-Large members.

Overall, the annual Membership Campaign resulted in 727 new members, reported by 17 chapters, throughout the state. Chapters recruiting members for the campaign will be honored at The Arc's Awards Luncheon, to take place at The Arc of Indiana's 2007 Conference on November 8th. (See page eight for conference information).

Throughout the state, local chapters of The Arc developed creative and innovative approaches to promote disability awareness and the work of local chapters. Many local events were held to highlight the work of chapters and promote the theme of there's "room for everyone" in the community.

Dances were popular activities, with dances hosted by **The Arc of Bartholomew County**, **The Arc of Dearborn County**, and **Stone Belt Arc**.

Stone Belt held a "Run With Me 5K" and a 1 mile Fun Walk, while **Achieva Resources** had more than 70 participants brave a cold rain for its "2007 Disability Awareness 5K Run/Walk."

Bloomington Mayor Mark Kruzan proclaimed Disabilities Awareness Day, and Evansville Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel read a series of disability-related books to children who received a free book which the Mayor signed. Logansport Mayor Mike Fincher presented **Peak Community Services** the Spirit of the City award.

Peak Community Services received the Non-profit Organization of the Year award from the

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Executive Director's Column



Promises to Keep

In 1956, The Arc of Indiana was founded by two mothers, Ilene Younger and Dorothy Burnside, who made the difficult decision to place their young daughters in a state operated facility. There were no supports to help them care for their daughters at home, and public schools would not allow them to attend school. Ilene and Dorothy, along with countless other parents, made it their life's work to fight for the right for their

children to attend public schools, work, and live in their own community.

Now, over fifty years later, many of Ilene's and Dorothy's dreams have been realized—all children can attend public schools, employment programs allow people with disabilities to work, and home and community based programs support families and allow adults with disabilities to live in their own homes.

The next generation of advocates fights on: working to ensure former residents of state facilities receive the care they deserve, leading the fight to reduce waiting lists for home and community based services, advocating for

early intervention and public school programs to truly meet the needs of children with disabilities, and continuing to call for widespread employment opportunities.

These efforts have resulted in some recent, exciting announcements:

- Caregivers over the age of 80 can immediately receive home and community based supports to assist in caring for a loved one at home.
- Children and adults with developmental disabilities will move off waiting lists for home and community based supports.
- Beginning August 15, a crisis inter-

vention service will bring immediate help to a person with a developmental disability in crisis.

- The Support Services waiver will target students with special needs who have left special education programs and do not have services.

There has been tremendous progress over the past fifty years. But, to paraphrase Robert Frost, we have promises to keep, and miles to go before we sleep. The Arc of Indiana will continue to fight for quality programs and services for all children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Read John's blog at www.arcind.org. Click on "John Dickerson's blog."

Self-Advocates Convention Coming to Indianapolis in 2008

Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE), the nation's largest consumer-directed organization, will head to Indianapolis for their 2008 convention, September 4-7, at Indianapolis' newest and largest downtown hotel, the Marriott.

What promises to be the largest SABE convention ever, with expected participation of 1,500 to 2,000 people, will be a landmark occasion for Indiana. Betty Williams, President of Self-Advocates of Indiana (SAI), along with the hard-working board of directors and helpers, have played a key role in Indiana's hosting this milestone event.

Lots of volunteer help will be necessary to accomplish such a sizeable undertaking as this, so please be ready and willing to lend a hand.

Already the support of The ArcLink's Elbert Johns and INARF's Nanette

Wenclewicz has been tremendous. FSSA has stepped up to the plate as well, providing financial support to SAI to hire a professional meeting planner and assist with the cost of the conference, lowering registration costs.

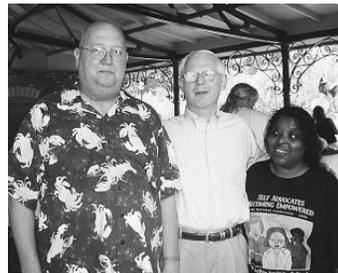
Be sure to mark the date, and plan



Joe Tamewitz, Billy Setzer and Brian Fiscus, Stone Belt Arc, enjoyed the day at the 2006 Self-Advocates of Indiana picnic.

to attend and support Self-Advocates of Indiana at the SABE's 2008 conference.

You can follow the conference developments at: www.sabe2008.org.



David Gootee, Deputy Director; and Peter Bisbecos, Director, FSSA Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services; with Betty Williams, President, Self-Advocates of Indiana and Coordinator of Consumer Education and Training, The Arc of Indiana.

Looking for a Best Buddy?

Best Buddies Indiana has openings in its College Program in Indianapolis, which pairs young adults with intellectual disabilities in one-to-one friendships with college student volunteers. Adults with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities between the ages of 21 and 35, who have access to transportation, should contact Jen Nucciarone at:

jennifermucciarone@bestbuddies.org or (317) 920-8622 to learn more about participating. The program runs from September through April and includes group activities throughout the year, in addition to one-to-one activities between buddy pairs. For more information, visit:

www.bestbuddiesindiana.org

Membership Campaign Raises Disability Awareness, from page 2

Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce, and the Zionsville Chamber of Commerce newsletter had a feature article about Arc Rehab Services' Executive Director Brent Cardin and the local Arc.

Displays at events occurred throughout the state. Arc Rehab Services exhibited at the Boone County Home & Garden Show, and artwork created by consumers from Noble of Indiana (The Arc of Greater Indianapolis) was displayed at the Indianapolis City County Building. The Arc of Jackson County held its annual Awareness Fair, which included a supper and recognition of three students who were winners of a disability awareness essay

contest. The Arc of Bartholomew County participated in the United Way's "Get on Board" Awareness and Volunteer fair.

Programs about The Arc were presented throughout the state. Jayland Arc presented a program for parents of students in special education. The Arc of Rush County hosted The Arc of Indiana's Nanette Whightsel, and Shane Service of The Arc's Trust Program spoke to several organizations around the state.

Lake County Foundation for the Retarded and the Friends of Arc BRIDGES held "Buds and Blossoms Boutiques and Silent Auction" which featured Merri Dee of WGN-TV. Stone Belt

Arc held its annual Business Recognition Ceremony; and Noble of Indiana, partnering with The Autism Society of Indiana, sponsored a Movie Night at the Cinema Grill in Indianapolis.

Overall, the annual Membership Campaign resulted in 727 new members, reported by 17 chapters, throughout the state.

Local chapters promoted disability

awareness month with local news media. Executive Director Mark Draves of Carey Services had a weekly radio program, and Carey Services also launched a new website. Other chapters, including Evansville ARC and Peak Community Services, promoted disability awareness on their websites. Noble of Indiana listed on its website "31 Days/Ways people with developmental disabilities impact the central Indiana community."

It's never too early to plan for next year. For information on membership and awareness activities, contact Mark Kevitt, Director of Outreach, The Arc of Indiana, 317-977-2375 or 1-800-382-9100.

THE ARC OF INDIANA 2007 LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP

The Indiana General Assembly ended the 2007 Legislative Session at midnight on Sunday, April 29. In the hours leading up to *Sine Die*, elected officials passed the state's biennial budget and a comprehensive health plan to address Indiana's problem of thousands of uninsured. Following is a summary of key legislation that impacts people with cognitive and other developmental disabilities.

HB 1001—State Budget

The state's two-year budget was by statute the only piece of legislation that had to be passed during the 2007 Legislative Session. It took every minute of the session to develop a budget that could be passed by the Democrat-Controlled House, a Republican-Controlled Senate and then signed by a Republican Governor. Following are key components of the budget that relate to people with cognitive and other developmental disabilities, their families and providers of services:

Medicaid Growth—The budget includes funds for 5% Medicaid growth. The Arc of Indiana was successful in working with legislators to assure that the budget includes language to provide that savings from the closure of Fort Wayne State Developmental Center are used for home and community based services.

Residential Services—The Budget includes \$204.9 million over the biennium for residential services for people with developmental disabilities. This budget line item provides state matching funds for federal Medicaid Waiver programs, and provides ongoing support for existing residential services. Included in this section of the budget is language that reflects that savings from the closure of Silvercrest Children's Developmental Center be used for home and community based services.

Guardianship—The budget includes a new appropriation of \$1 million for an Endangered Adult Guardianship Program. This will provide six pilot programs, including programs for Lake County and St. Joseph County.

This money will help people with developmental disabilities receive guardianship services in the community.

Best Buddies, a program that teams people with developmental disabilities with non-disabled peers, received an appropriation of \$500,000 over the biennium;

CHOICE, Indiana's state funded home care program, received a slight bump in their appropriation. However, the state will now be able to utilize more of that money for match money for the Aged and Disabled Medicaid Waiver.

ATTAIN, a program that provides assistive technology, continues to receive an appropriation of \$333,000.

Centers for Independent Living received an additional appropriation this year of approximately \$2.5 million.

HB 1220—Adult Protective Services

Requires the Division of Aging to provide coverage for (instead of contracting for) specified adult protective services. Permits the division to contract with a prosecuting attorney to perform specified adult protective services, and permits a prosecuting attorney under contract with the division to provide specified services in certain other counties.

HB1264—Guardian Ad Litem and CASA Funding

Provides that the division of state court administration will determine the number of children in need of services cases in each county to determine funding for guardian ad litem and court appointed special advocate programs.

HB1428—Autism and Asperger's Training for School Personnel

Requires every school corporation police officer or regular or special police officer assigned to a school to complete training on autism and Asperger's syndrome. Allows a governing body to adjourn its schools to allow teachers, school administrators, and paraprofessionals to participate in a basic or in-service course of education and training on autism.

ing on autism.

HB1457—Birth Problems Registry and Prenatal Substance Abuse Commission

Establishes the prenatal substance abuse commission to develop a plan to improve early intervention and treatment for pregnant women who abuse alcohol or drugs or use tobacco. Reestablishes the Birth Problems Registry (under current law the registry would have expired on July 1, 2007).

HB1647—Twenty-first Century Scholarships; GEDs; Informational Graduation Rate

Expands eligibility for the 21st Century Scholars Program to grade 7 students, and, beginning with the 2008-2009 school year, to grade 6 students. Provides that an individual must be at least 18 or have withdrawn from school with permission to receive a GED diploma. Modifies the formula for determining graduation rates, and adds an informational five-year and six-year graduation rate determination.

HB 1678—Health Matters

Much of the session focused on the development of a comprehensive health plan to help Indiana with the growing number of Hoosiers without any type of health insurance. The rising number of uninsured is the number one reason why health insurance premiums continue to increase year after year. It took a great deal of cooperation from the Administration and leaders in the legislature to develop a measure that passed. Following are highlights of the plan:

- Provides for a tax credit related to small employer qualified wellness programs.
- Increases the cigarette tax by 44 cents per pack to fund various health related expenses.
- Allows an employer to take a tax credit for making a health benefit plan available to employees for the first two taxable years that the employer makes the health benefit plan available.
- Increases the income limit

(Continued on Page 5)

Congressman Hill Listens to Arc, Special Education Leaders on No Child Left Behind



Kim Dodson, Congressman Baron Hill, Michelle Robb, and Amber Wolf at The Arc National Public Policy Conference in March

No Child Left Behind (NCLB), a federal act requiring that all students be assessed to determine educational progress, was a major item of discussion with Congressman Baron Hill (D-Seymour) when two of his constituents traveled to Washington, D.C. as part of The Arc of Indiana's delegation to The Arc's National Public Policy Conference in March.

Michelle Robb, Coordinator for The Arc of Bartholomew County and parent of two children receiving special education services, and Amber Wolf, a special education teacher from Columbus, discussed the difficulty which certain components of NCLB place on students with special needs. That conversation led Congressman Hill to ask The Arc of Indiana to assemble an informal roundtable discussion on NCLB with parents, teachers and school professionals in his district's town of Jeffersonville in July.

A group of 15 people met at the Jeffersonville City Hall building with Congressman Hill to discuss how NCLB impacts children with special needs, and provide input for Congressman Hill to take back to Capitol Hill and to the Chairman of the Education Committee.

NCLB's authority expires in September. Legislation has been introduced to reauthorize the Act. Congressman Hill is not yet convinced that the Act properly measures educational progress for special education students and is not supportive of many of the components in the NCLB Act.

The meeting with Congressman Hill allowed school officials and families to talk openly about their personal experiences and concerns. Agreement was reached in the following areas:

- NCLB does not allow for progress made by special education students to be recognized and rewarded. Not all children in special education are able to pass ISTEP without accommodations, and accommodations are not always easy to receive from school systems.
- Drop-Out identification is not well suited for special education students under NCLB. Special education students are allowed to stay in the education system through age 22; however, if they receive their diploma after the four-year mark, they are counted as a dropout.
- More needs to be done under NCLB for students who are not able to continue on into higher education, but who could benefit from vocational training.
- Attracting qualified teachers for special education is difficult and needs to be better addressed under NCLB.
- The accountability measures in NCLB are good in theory. Teachers and schools need to be accountable, but not to the extent that students are held only to specific standards, without individual aspects unique to their special needs being taken into account.

The Arc will continue to work closely with Congressman Hill as legislation is introduced and aspects of NCLB are debated.

LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP, from page 4

for Medicaid eligibility for pregnant women.

- Provides for continuous eligibility of a child under Medicaid and the children's health insurance program (CHIP) until the child becomes three years of age.

- Increases the CHIP eligibility family income limit.

- Requires health insurers and health maintenance organizations to cover children up to 24 years old upon request.

- Allows certain small employers to join together to purchase group health insurance.

- Requires the Indiana comprehensive health insurance association to administer plan benefits for high risk individuals insured under the plan.

- Requires application for necessary federal Medicaid approvals, including approval for presumptive eligibility for certain pregnant women and implementation of the plan.

- Establishes a plan task force.

- Requires the health finance commission to study and report concerning several issues.

HCR 40—Urging Congress to Reevaluate “No Child Left Behind”

A Concurrent Resolution urging the Congress of the United States to reevaluate the requirements of the “No Child Left Behind Act” and to fund the levels authorized in the act.

SB 43—Neglect of a Dependent

Specifies that a person having the care of a dependent commits neglect of a dependent as a Class C felony if the person's abandonment or cruel confinement of the dependent: (1) deprives a dependent of necessary food, water, or sanitary facilities; (2) consists of confinement in an area not intended for human habitation; or (3) involves the unlawful use of handcuffs, a rope, a cord, tape, or a similar device to physically restrain a dependent.

SB 94—Individuals with Disabilities

Changes terms used to describe individuals with disabilities. Puts “People First” language in practice in statutes and laws.

SB 408—Programs for High Ability Students

Changes reference in school corporation annual reports from “gifted and talented” to “high ability.” Changes the criteria for awarding grants to school corporations for high ability programs. Requires a school corporation to establish a program for high ability students consistent with federal, state, local, and private funding sources and sets forth requirements for assessments to identify high ability students.

SB 451—Emergency Communication Disorder Permits

Allows the department of education to issue an emergency communication

disorder permit to an individual to serve the needs of certain students who are eligible for speech and language services.

SB 489—Funding for Rural Health Care Program

Establishes the rural health care pilot program support fund to provide grants to Indiana health care providers who participate in the federal rural health care pilot program.

SB 503—Health

Requires the department of insurance and the office of the secretary of family and social services to study and make final recommendations to the legislative council not later than November 1, 2008, concerning: (1) a plan to provide health insurance to specified uninsured individuals; and (2) a health insurance program that would require local units of government, school corporations, and other public employees to join together to purchase health insurance. Requires the health finance commission, during the 2007 interim, to study specified issues concerning the Indiana tobacco use prevention and cessation program and certain health coverage reimbursement rates and premium costs. Requires the office of the secretary of family and social services to study and make final recommendations to the legislative council not later than November 1, 2008, concerning the viability of keeping families who are eligible for different state health care assistance plans together under the same health care plan.

SB 504—TANF

Changes references from “Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program” to “Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.” Requires TANF applicants to participate in employment and job opportunities and that applicants who refuse to participate may be sanctioned. Removes a provision that makes a person convicted of specified misdemeanors ineligible for TANF. Provides that an individual who has been convicted of a felony involving a controlled substance, that does not include an element of distribution or manufacturing of controlled substances, and has completed or is participating in certain substance abuse treatment programs or mental health programs may receive assistance under TANF for up to 12 months. Requires drug testing not less than once every two months for an individual who has been convicted of a felony involving a controlled substance.

SB 566—Health Care Services

Requires an insurer to accept a Medicaid claim for services provided to a Medicaid recipient for three years after the date the service was provided. States that notice requirements may be satisfied by electronic or mail submission (current law provides only for certified or registered mail). Adds certain less

restrictive settings to the definition of children's psychiatric residential treatment services. Requires OMPP to conduct a study of Medicaid claims eligible for payment by a third party. Provides that if the study by OMPP reveals a percentage of at least 1%, OMPP shall implement an automated procedure for determining whether a Medicaid claim is eligible for payment by a third party before payment. Allows OMPP to implement a change in the office's maximum allowable cost schedule for prescription drugs 30 days after OMPP posts the changes on OMPP's Internet web site. (Current law requires 45 days before the change may be effective). Allows a pharmacy to determine not to participate in the Medicaid program as a result of a change

in the schedule if the pharmacy notifies the office within 30 days of the change in the schedule taking effect. Changes the way charges are set at state mental health institutions. Repeals provisions concerning the per capita cost of treatment at state mental health institutions and the per capita cost of outpatient services.

SCR 91—Centennial of Indiana 1907 Eugenical Sterilization Law

A concurrent resolution to mark the centennial of Indiana's 1907 eugenical sterilization law and to express the regret of the Senate and House of Representatives of the 115th Indiana General Assembly for Indiana's experience with eugenics.

MAJOR REFORMS BRING SERVICES, from page 1

port services waiver is eliminated for people who have left school. There is a commitment to provide the Support Services Waiver to eligible special education students leaving school in 2008, and each year forward.

500 families have been targeted to move off waiting lists for Autism, Support Services and Developmental Disabilities Waivers. Those families began receiving letters in June, 2007. Another 500 waiver slots will be released over the next several months to those on the waiting list, bringing to a total nearly 1,500 people off the waiting list since September, 2006.

New Initiatives for Technical Assistance, Training, Crisis Intervention

In addition to the effort to move people off of waiting lists, three new initiatives are underway.

First, a statewide technical assistance project will provide direct support to providers who need immediate assistance to best serve individuals facing a crisis in their community program.

Second, INTRAIN, the first comprehensive effort to provide training and professional development to direct support staff, is underway.

Third, in mid August FSSA will announce the first ever crisis intervention program to provide 24/7 support to children and adults with developmental disabilities in crisis. In addition to a toll-free hotline, over 2,100 cases a year will be eligible for onsite training, support, in home intervention, and—if needed—out-of-home supports.

Watch for more information on these initiatives in our newsletter and on our website—www.arcind.org

How it Happened

The Governor's leadership, closing of state institutions, better use of federal dollars, support of General Assembly, tireless work of The Arc board, volunteers and staff, and partnerships with providers lead to tremendous change.

How has all this change been possible

in tight economic times? A vision of what could be, hard work, and cooperation among the state, providers, and advocates has lead to significant change.

In April, Indiana became the largest state in the nation without a state operated institution for people with developmental disabilities. The closures of Fort Wayne State Developmental Center and Silvercrest, the last remaining institutions, were landmarks in Indiana's history.

The funds saved by serving former residents of FWSDC in more cost-effective community programs allowed funds to be redirected to new community priorities.

In addition, at the direction of Mitch Roob, Secretary of FSSA, every effort was made to draw down federal Medicaid dollars. It took a great deal of work by many families and providers to transfer over 4,000 people onto Medicaid in a very short time frame. That hard work has made it possible for many people in desperate need of services to finally get the supports they deserve.

The Work Ahead

For those who worked so hard to change the direction of services in Indiana from institutional care to community based supports—state officials, legislators, providers through the leadership of INARF, and members of The Arc—it is important to recognize how far we have come.

Yet, there is much more to do. We must ensure that services are paid for in a way that keeps quality staff. We must solve bureaucratic problems that keep people from getting the programs and supports they really need. We must continue to look to the future.

Indiana has closed all of the expensive institutions, and just about all the federal funds that could be utilized from those closures has been used. It will take a solid plan and continued work to address future needs in creative ways.

To keep informed on all these developments, and how you can be part of this change, keep up to date on our web site: www.arcind.org

Minority Outreach Project

Seeking to Connect Minorities with Disabilities to Programs, Services

As part of a project to connect African-Americans and Latino/Hispanics with disabilities to programs and services, The Arc of Indiana has provided cultural competency trainings to more than four hundred staff members of local Arc chapters, and Indiana Vocational Rehabilitation and community disability service provider staff.

The Arc is working closely with two widely recognized and respected organizations, Indiana Black Expo, Inc. and La Plaza, Inc.

A primary goal of the project, funded by Indiana Vocational Rehabilitation Services, is to increase the number of minority referrals to Vocational Rehabilitation and expand the capacity of rehabilitation and employment programs to better serve minorities with disabilities.

The Arc is working closely with two widely recognized and respected organizations, Indiana Black Expo, Inc. and La Plaza, Inc. The project covers six counties that span all five Vocational Rehabilitation Service Regions and involves local chapters of The Arc.

Vanessa Summers serves as the Project Director. Local partners include: Noble of Indiana, Indianapolis; Arc BRIDGES, Gary; Easter Seals Arc of Northeast Indiana, Fort Wayne; Evansville Arc; Achieva Resources Corporation, Richmond; and Janus Developmental Services, Inc., Noblesville.

Project partners are participating in a series of three training programs. The Arc will also present a training program on disability to local minority organizations during the summer months.

Laura Dandeleit, Program Manager, La Plaza, said: "La Plaza is delighted to be a partner in this important endeavor. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the number of Latinos living in Central Indiana increased 300 percent from



James Rocha found employment at Key Market through Arc BRIDGES, local chapter of The Arc in Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties.

1990 (8,450) to 2000 (33,290). People with disabilities from diverse cultures are significantly under served. With our history and experience serving the Latino community, we are uniquely qualified to assist The Arc of Indiana, their local chapters, and other service providers in enhancing vocational rehabilitation outreach to the Latino community."

"Indiana Black Expo has a long history of dealing with issues that affect the African-American community, whether it be education, employment, or health related," said IBE President and CEO, Joyce Q. Rogers, Esq. "This outreach touches on all three focus areas of the organization so we may better inform the community about these services, making a better community."

John Dickerson, Executive Director, The Arc of Indiana, said, "The Arc of Indiana is thrilled to partner with Indiana Black Expo and LaPlaza in this effort to bring more minority people with disabilities into the Vocational Rehabilitation system. It took vision for FSSA to fund this special effort, and The Arc is proud to be a contributing partner to this important project."

THE ARC OF INDIANA

107 N. Pennsylvania St., Suite 300
Indianapolis, IN 46204

317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100

www.arcind.org and www.TheArcLink.org

Lex and Alice Phillips Remember The Arc in Honor of Arc Founder

Lex Phillips, a former President of The Arc of Indiana Board of Directors, recently passed away. He was preceded in death by his wife, Alice, in 2006. They remembered The Arc with a generous gift of \$25,000—made in honor of the lifetime work of one of the founders of The Arc, Ilene Younger Qualkinbush.

Tod Phillips, the son of Lex and Alice Phillips, visited The Arc office in June to formally present his parents' gift to The Arc.

Phillips was President of The Arc Board, 1965-1967

Lex Phillips first became aware of The Arc when he was President of the State Jaycees. He was elected to The Arc Board of Directors in 1964, and served as Vice President of Membership. He served as President from 1965-1967. Under his leadership, YOUTH-IARC was formed, and important legislation was passed—including mandating PKU testing in newborns, enabling legislation for a local tax for construction of community centers, and special education mandates.

Under his leadership, the *IARC Story* and slide presentation was developed and taken *on the road* to encourage local chapters to support the adoption

of a Fair Share Support plan to help support funding of the state association. A "Stop Measles Campaign" was initiated, and a state convention was held outside of Indianapolis for the first time in French Lick.

Lex and his wife Alice had two sons, Tod, and Douglas, who was born with a developmental disability. Alice was also active on committees of The Arc, and Tod worked with The Arc to establish its GAPS program—Guardianship, Advocacy, and Protective Services.

The generous gifts of time, talent, and financial support of the Phillips family are greatly appreciated and will long be remembered by The Arc.



Ilene Younger Qualkinbush and Tod Phillips

THE ARC NETWORK STATEWIDE ADVOCATE NETWORK LAUNCHED WITH FSSA SUPPORT

Connecting families and self-advocates has long been part of The Arc of Indiana's 50 year history of advocating, educating and communicating. Now, with the support of the Family and Social Services Administration, we are launching The Arc Network as a resource to communities throughout the state.

The Arc is in the process of hiring ten new family advocates and ten self-advocates to work as a team in each of the Bureau of Developmental Disability Service regions. This group will work under the direction of Nanette Whightsel, Director of Family Educa-

tion and Community Resources; and Betty Williams, Coordinator of Consumer Education and Training, to provide outreach, education and involvement of families and self-advocates at every level of our system. This will include, but will not be limited to, outreach to young people leaving school, people on the waiting list, and aging parents in need of support.

We are actively working with INSOURCE, IPMG and ASK to coordinate with and strengthen existing networks. There is much to do, and by collaborating we will achieve even greater results.

OASIS Offering Waiver Reform

The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration is working with key consultants, families, self-advocates and providers to implement a new way of allocating resources for people receiving home and community based services through a Medicaid waiver. The project is known as OASIS.

Project holds great promise to address the real cost of supporting people in the community

The goal of OASIS is to have a reliable and predictable way to allocate resources based upon the individual, where they live—at home or

with others—and what is *best practices* for people in similar settings. It is a huge undertaking, but one that is important.

The OASIS project holds great promise to address the real cost of supporting people in the community, to give meaningful wages to staff, and to create new opportunities for families to design the services and supports which they want. However, it will take the cooperative work of many to make the goal of OASIS a meaningful and helpful reality. Watch The Arc website, www.arcind.org for updated information on what promises to be a critical and important step for Indiana.

Regular updates on OASIS can be found on www.davisdeshaies.com.

The Arc of Indiana Master Trust...



When I die, how will my child's personal needs be met?

Many parents who ask this question have found that The Arc of Indiana has a dependable answer, The Arc of Indiana Master Trust I. Trust I has operated continuously and successfully since 1988.

Trust I lets you leave funds for your disabled son or daughter without endangering eligibility for government programs such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Medicaid, and home and community based services. To protect eligibility, The Arc serves as the intermediary with government agencies on all trust related matters. Family members need not worry about learning regulations and dealing with government bureaucrats. Trust I assumes these responsibilities.

How are we doing? Our trust program may be the largest of its kind in the country. We administer over 300 funded Trust I accounts. Over 880 families are enrolled in Trust I.

If you want experienced and knowledgeable representation for your child who is disabled, Trust I may be the answer.

We also administer over 730 Trust II accounts. Trust II accounts are usually funded by persons who are themselves disabled. Like Trust I, Trust II continues eligibility for benefits like SSI, Medicaid, and home and community based services.

For a free copy of our material call or write:

The Arc of Indiana Master Trust
107 N. Pennsylvania St., Suite 300, Indianapolis IN 46204
(317) 259-7603 or toll free (877) 589-8848

24-hour support line

Crisis Assistance to be Launched Statewide

One of the critical areas identified when Silvercrest Children's Developmental Center closed was the need for a statewide crisis assistance program that would help families, children and adults with disabilities prior to institutional placement being seen as the only option.

With perhaps record speed, FSSA has announced that effective August 15, 2007 a new statewide crisis assistance program will be launched to reach over 2,100 people throughout the state.

Two providers, AWS and Meridian Services, will provide comprehensive statewide coverage—including a 24-hour crisis support line, on-site support in the event it is needed, and out-of-home supports in cases of most immediate need.

Every case will be treated individually with trained personnel. The service will be available to children and adults living at home, in supported living, in a group home or through their school programs.

The total cost of this statewide effort is approximately \$7.5 million—about equal to the annual cost of serving the 60 children per year at Silvercrest.

At this writing, phone numbers to access the Crisis Assistance program have not been officially announced. For information go to The Arc of Indiana's website, www.arcind.org, and click on "Crisis Assistance."

Participant Directed Supports

In recent years, a number of providers have developed a new model of supporting people that has caught on with many families. Called Self Directed or Participant Directed Care, it offers a totally new way of providing services and supports under the Medicaid waiver program. In many cases people provide the services who are selected by the individual with a disability, or their family. In some cases parents, siblings and other family members are the paid caregivers.

This is part of a national growing trend. The Arc of Indiana believes this to be a positive development that offers stability and support. It also brings with it critical issues that need to be addressed in order for it to become an integral part of the service system.

The Arc of Indiana has engaged Jeff Keilson, a nationally respected leader in this field, to identify what is already working in Indiana—analyze how this compares to other areas of the country—and then work with families, self-advocates and providers to develop a plan to make this a real option for individuals and families throughout the state.

Jeff began working with The Arc in July by visiting providers and individuals in Indiana using this model. Watch for more information on The Arc of Indiana's website, www.arcind.org, as this project continues to develop.

Psychiatric Consultations Available Through Outreach Services of Indiana

Short-term psychiatric services are now available throughout Indiana for children and adults with developmental disabilities who: have extreme or challenging behavioral or emotional issues, do not have a psychiatrist and may be in jeopardy, or have a psychiatrist who would like to consult with the Outreach Services psychiatrist.

Services are now accessible in the following cities:

Bloomington	Columbus	Indianapolis
Evansville	Fort Wayne	Madison
Clarksville	Hobart	South Bend

Contact Outreach Services to make a referral:

Central
1-866-406-7134
tlewis@awsusa.com

North
1-866-429-5290
cdeluna@awsusa.com

South
1-812-265-7493
Robin.stearns@fssa.in.gov

STEVE GREEN'S 17TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT GREAT SUCCESS

Tournament raises nearly \$32,000 for The Arc of Indiana

Steve Green's 17th Annual Golf Tournament was held at The Legends of Indiana in Franklin, Indiana on June 22.

A new event this year, the Golf Ball Bounce Raffle, featured over 300 numbered golf balls dropped from a helicopter onto the driving range and targeted to a marked hole. Tickets for the Golf Ball Bounce were \$10 per ball. The lucky winners were: Steve Rypma, \$1,000, closest to the hole; Clint Gerguson, \$500, second closest; Dan Stewart, \$250, third closest; and Shay Smith, furthest from the hole, \$250. We plan to do this fun event next year, so be sure to watch for your chance to purchase a raffle ticket for that lucky ball. The goal is to drop 1,000 balls!

Thanks to all of our sponsors, and of course Steve Green and Ted Bishop, Director of Golf for The Legends of Indiana, for making this a great event to benefit The Arc.

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Lunch Sponsor
The National Bank of Indianapolis

Hole-in-One Sponsor
Burd Ford

Golf Ball Drop Sponsor
Janus Developmental Services, Inc.

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MDwise, Inc.



Quinn Buckner, and Jessica and Steve Green before the golf outing begins. Quinn played with Steve at IU, and Jessica is Steve's inspiration for hosting The Arc's golf outing.

Shay Smith, winner of the Golf Ball Bounce Raffle "Furthest from the Hole." Shay generously donated his \$250 prize back to The Arc.



CHAMPION YOUR FUTURE

Middle and High School Students with Special Needs and Their Families

You do *not* want to miss a fantastic conference designed just for you.

Saturday, August 18, 2007

Hamilton Southeastern High School
13910 E. 126th Street, Fishers, IN
Registration: 8:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m.
Conference: 9:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Registration—\$15 per person; no more than \$60 per family.

Three nationally-known speakers will inspire and guide you to take positive, proactive steps to plan for the future and life beyond school.

Concurrent workshops for parents and for students will provide practical, up-to-date information on planning for the future, accessing government benefits, and more.

Panelists of young adults with disabilities who will share how they overcame obstacles to achieve their dreams and goals.

Complete information, including a registration form, on Champion Your Future can be found at:

www.arcind.org, click on "Upcoming Events."

Please register by August 10, 2007.

The Arc of Indiana 2007 Conference



November 8, 2007

A Golden Homecoming, 50 More Years of Progress

Events

Keynote Speakers and Workshops
Awards Luncheon
ICEArc Annual Meeting
The Arc of Indiana Annual Meeting
Exhibits and Silent Auction
Homecoming Celebration Dance

Keynote Speakers

Mary Beth Busby and Megan Massey
authors of *Dear Megan, Letters of Life, Love and Fragile X*

Location

The Fountains Banquet and Conference Center
502 East Carmel Drive, Carmel, Indiana

for complete conference information,
go to www.arcind.org, click on "upcoming events"

Congratulations to The Arc of Indiana's 2006 Award Recipients

Employment Award
Evansville ARC Industries
Outstanding Advocate Award
Laurie Booher
and Amy Lienhoop
Community Living Award
Jeff Darling

Development of The Arc Award
Central Indiana Community
Foundation

Public Policy Award
Representative Sheila Klinker
Media Award
WXIN—Fox 59

*Cathleen Clark Professional
Service Award*
Jackie Tijerina

*Outstanding Professional
Achievement*
Kris Prohl

Citizenship Award
Mollie Noble
Sycamore Award
Mike Furnish

To read all about our outstanding award recipients, go to www.arcind.org, click on "2006 Award Recipients." To nominate someone outstanding from your community, watch for award nomination information on The Arc website.