The Arc Active During Special Legislative Session
Federal Stimulus Payments Avoid Cuts

After months of work, the Indiana General Assembly adjourned at the end of April without agreement on a state budget. A key reason why agreement could not be reached was a shifting state revenue forecast that by the end of April was over $200 million below the earlier revenue forecast.

A budget must now be approved in a special legislative session.

At the heart of this process is the question of how people perceive the economy—is the worst of the recession over, or is more bad news still to come? One thing is clear to advocates for people with disabilities. Without the Federal Stimulus Plan, people with disabilities would be in a dangerous situation. Indiana has already received the first payments for Medicaid as part of the stimulus plan. Without those increases in the federal share of Medicaid Indiana would be facing massive cuts in Medicaid payments to doctors, hospitals and programs that serve people with disabilities.

Keep up to date on public policy issues by visiting our website, www.arcind.org.

In another key area for The Arc, local school corporations have already been notified about federal stimulus funding for IDEA, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Each school corporation will receive funds based on enrollment. These funds support existing budgets for children as well as direct funds to children with disabilities.

The actions by the President and Congress to help states with Medicaid were designed to protect people over a two-year timeframe by requiring states to maintain existing efforts and make no further cuts.

Medicaid is the primary funder of health care for people with disabilities. In addition, Medicaid funds nearly 86% of the community-based supports people receive through Medicaid waivers and group homes.

The General Assembly was scheduled to begin the special session on June 11 to develop a budget. This is an excellent time to talk to your elected officials and let them know how important it is for the budget to address the needs of people with disabilities.

Action on the budget will change quickly. You can keep up to date by visiting our website at www.arcind.org or by signing up to receive Legislative Alerts via e-mail by visiting the Public Policy Advocacy section of our website.

A delegation of 16 people representing The Arc of Indiana participated in the 2009 Disability Policy Seminar held in Washington, D.C. The Seminar was hosted by The Arc of the United States, United Cerebral Palsy, American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities and Self Advocates Becoming Empowered.

Over 500 people attended the Seminar. Kareem Dale, Special Assistant to the President for Disability Policy, welcomed the attendees and laid out the President’s commitment and agenda for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.

After participating in two days of workshops and plenary sessions to learn about federal issues, Indiana’s delegation met with Indiana’s members of Congress on issues including housing, vocational rehabilitation, Medicaid, social security, the federal budget and education.

The Arc of Indiana will continue working with our federal representatives to advocate and support key initiatives in the 111th Congress.

To learn more, visit The Arc of the United States Federal Legislative Action Center, http://capwiz.com/thearc/issues/.

Indiana Report from The Arc US Disability Policy Seminar

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Visit The Arc of Indiana’s New Website
www.arcind.org

See story on page 4
The Arc Network, a statewide network closed. She was also the first leader of community placements when those facilities closing state institutions.

Nanette was instrumental in helping the Medicaid waiver, Nanette quickly became one of the state’s biggest advocates for employment. An award has been established by Shares, Inc. to honor Vickie Collins, daughter of long-time Arc volunteer and Past President of The Arc of Indiana, Don Collins. Shares is a service provider to people with developmental disabilities. The newly established “Reach for the Stars Award” will be presented annually to the individual who best exemplifies the traits demonstrated by Vickie, who passed away in March, 2008. The names of award recipients and a plaque with Vickie’s picture will be on permanent display at Shares in Greenfield where Vickie worked for several years.

Family Reunion for Man Once Institutionalized,Separated from Family

Jennifer Akers, Family Advocate for The Arc Network, recently learned about an uncle who spent 20 years in an institution, completely cut off from his family and never knowing he had four brothers. He has long since lived in Alton, Illinois, building a successful career as a behavioral specialist and staff specialist. He started a Sunday school class for people with disabilities in the nursing home who couldn’t attend church, and has started programs at several churches to include people with disabilities.” Lantz says his goal is to “plant ministries to include people with disabilities.”

Easter Seals Arc Awarded Grant for Ballroom Dancing Program

Easter Seals Arc, local chapter of The Arc in Allen, DeKalb and Steuben Counties, has received a $1,400 grant from Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne, the Indiana Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts to support their ballroom dance program. Dancing with ESArc, ESArc provides adults with disabilities weekly ballroom dance lessons, taught by professional ballroom dance instructors at a local dance studio. Dance partners are community volunteers who do not have disabilities. As a result of the program’s great success, ballroom dancing has been named an official Olympic sport in Indiana Special Olympics.

Carey Services’ School-to-Work Program Leads to Employment of Graduates with Special Needs

Carey Services, local chapter of The Arc in Grant and Blackford Counties, is partnering with Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Cass County schools to help students with special needs transition from school to work. The program provides career assessments, preparation for post-secondary education, internships, job shadowing and job placement. One of the program participants, Cati Gruszczyn, now living with other non-paid things. Cati, applied, was hired and completed a certification course and training.

Bill Lantz has found his calling. After medical issues caused Bill to change his career, he became a job coach and transition specialist at Hopewell Center, the local chapter of The Arc in Madison County. He works with young people and adults with special needs. Bill was nominated for the Herald Bulletin’s “Positive People” column by Sandra Montgomery, a co-worker at Hopewell. Montgomery wrote, “He works here at Hopewell Center transitioning high school students into ‘life after school.’ He does about a million other non-paid things. He started a Sunday school class for people with disabilities in the nursing home who couldn’t attend church, and has started programs at several churches to include people with disabilities.”

Medicaid Waiver Success

Tom had been dismissed from many group homes due to behavior and was living with his sister when he moved to a group home operated by Tangram, a residential services provider. Once again, a group home was not a good fit for Tom. To prevent him from being institutionalized, Tom was granted a Medicaid waiver. Tom moved into his own apartment where Tangram helped him learn to redirect his anger and find appropriate responses to frustration. Last year Tom moved into a two-bedroom apartment with a roommate. His roommate Josh also has challenging behaviors. They both are supported by behavioral specialists and staff specifically trained in behavior management. Tom and Josh have become good friends, and Tom is doing great. He’s lost weight, is a member of the Hound Dog Band, and is interested in finding a job.
### Executive Director's Column

**Pulling Together, Reaching Out to Others**

*John Dickerson, Executive Director*

In the 53-year history of The Arc we have lived through many difficult times. During war, times of great social change and times of great uncertainty, one thing remains constant—the movement known as The Arc finds a way to pull people together to achieve the goal of improving the lives of people with developmental disabilities.

The challenges we face are daunting. As the head of Microsoft said recently, “Our economy is going to reset, not rebound.” What does this mean for us? We have traditionally been the innovators—the one to find new paths. That means there is great opportunity to advocate for systems that work to educate children and adults, support people to be employed and support people to live in the community.

The Arc was asked to identify how people can share costs by living with roommates while at the same time respect the rights of individuals. We are responding by bringing together self-advocates and families to learn about and discuss this important issue and draft a policy for review by providers and state officials.

The Arc is being asked by legislators to address how the state budget can best fund programs and services. We are responding by discussing with policy makers how funds are being used, how funds can be redirected and how what is funded today can best result in the right investments and direction for tomorrow.

The Arc is being asked by those waiting for services, “When will we turn our?”

We are responding by continuing the efforts of our Waiting List Committee—efforts that have led Indiana to be one of few states, despite the economy, to still plan to bring over 2,500 people off waiting lists over the next two years.

The Arc of Indiana asked our local chapters to reach out in new ways to families and self-advocates throughout the state. Local Arcs responded by helping us grow to over 9,000 members.

The Arc is also extending a hand to others facing difficult times. During our spring membership campaign, many local Arcs hosted food drives to help local food pantries.

We are continuing this effort through a partnership with Stone Belt, in cooperation with The Arc of Indiana (Arc). We are asking local Arcs and self-advocate groups to hold local food drives in June or July, and a collection will take place at the Self-Advocates Picnic in Indianapolis on July 10. For more information on the picnic, please see the article on page 8, or visit our web site at www.arcind.org.

At the local, state, and national level, the work of The Arc will continue, facing the challenges of today to build a better tomorrow.

### 2009 Membership Campaign

**NEARLY 1,600 NEW MEMBERS JOIN THE ARC**

The 2009 Annual Spring Membership Campaign resulted in an historic record for The Arc. The goal for the membership drive was 1,000 new members statewide. When all was said and done, seventeen chapters recruited 1,592 new members statewide.

**Nine Chapters Met “Chapter Challenge”**

For the 2009 Membership campaign all local chapters of The Arc were challenged to recruit at least 25 new members. Eleven chapters met the challenge.

Chapters who met or exceeded the challenge are: Evansville ARC, KCARC (Knox County), Noble – The Arc of Greater Indianapolis (Marion and Hamilton Counties), Easter Seals Arc of Northeastern Indiana (Allen, DeKalb, Huntington and Steuben Counties), Hoosier Prairie Arc (Benton, White, Newton and Jasper Counties), Fountain County ARC, Arc Rehab Services (Boone County), ARC of Wabash County, The Arc of Bartholomew County, and The Arc of Tippecanoe County.

### The Arc of Indiana Congratulates Special Olympics on 40th Anniversary

In 1969, the Arc of Indiana co-sponsored Indiana’s first Special Olympics. Four decades later, Special Olympics Indiana has grown to include more than 7,000 volunteers, nearly 2,500 partners, 16 full-time staff members and nearly 10,000 athletes competing in more than 20 Olympic-type sports on the state, national and world levels.

Beyond Special Olympics, Indiana is considered a leader in the development of projects that enhance the quality of its participants’ lives through athlete leadership training, initiatives that work to improve the health of its athletes and programs that provide sports training opportunities for young children. More importantly, Special Olympics Indiana changes the lives of its participants by showing the world skilled athletes with a variety of talents and strengths. Special Olympics has helped to change the way that people with intellectual disabilities are viewed by their peers.

In addition, through volunteer opportunities, corporate partnerships and programs that support inclusion of individuals with and without intellectual disabilities, Special Olympics fosters a community of respect and acceptance.

The Arc of Indiana congratulates Special Olympics Indiana on their many achievements as they celebrate their 40th anniversary. For more information about Indiana Special Olympics, visit www.soindiana.org.
Visit The Arc of Indiana’s New Website: www.arcind.org

The Arc of Indiana has launched a new and improved website that we hope will be the place for families, self-advocates, professionals and the general public to go for information.

The website features new ways to get information from The Arc, including the ability to sign up to receive E-newsletters, RSS news feeds and blogs by Arc staff and self-advocates—plus new ways to connect with others through Facebook and YouTube. The websites’ video gallery features eight short videos designed to inform, inspire and guide families and self-advocates. The video gallery includes:

- About The Arc, We’re Here to Help
- About Self-Advocacy, Speaking for Ourselves

Local Arcs Deliver Valentines to Governor, Legislators

Self-Advocates, families and leaders of local Arc chapters came to the State House on Thursday, February 12, to meet with legislators and give them Valentines with the message “Fill Your Heart with Respect.” They also were able to meet Governor Mitch Daniels, who spoke with them outside of his office.

Governor Daniels talks with a group of self-advocates from Stone Belt Arc, the local Arc chapter in Monroe County.

A delegation from Arc Opportunities, the local Arc chapter in LaGrange County, shares a Valentine’s Day message with their state legislators.

FSSA Continues OASIS Review

People who receive Medicaid waiver services through the Developmental Disabilities and Autism Medicaid waivers should by now be aware of a new process that the state wants to implement to allocate individual Medicaid waiver budgets—a process called OASIS (Objective Assessment System for Individual Supports) process.

The new budget allocation is based on an individual assessment, called the ICAP, and a series of interview questions asked of three people who should know the individual well.

At this time, the planned rollout of OASIS remains suspended while FSSA reviews Medicaid waiver budget allocations of people who received a new budget allocation under the OASIS process and who subsequently submitted a request to have that budget reviewed (OASIS Review Request). These reviews are assisting FSSA in identifying problems with the assessment tool and the financial modeling used to determine the allocation under OASIS.

For up-to-date information on OASIS, please visit our web site at www.arcind.org. If you have any questions, please contact us. We’re here to help.
Photography of Self-Advocate, Brandon Boas, Featured at Gallery

Brandon Boas received a camera as a gift from his dad when he was 14, and so began his love for photography. Now at age 26, he has started his own photography business, and his photos were recently displayed at Stillframes Gallery in Columbus, Indiana. The collection, entitled “Brandon’s Dreams,” included nature, wildlife and landscape images.

Love of photography has led to his own business.

On www.bblovephotos.com, his web site, Brandon notes, “You may be asking yourself what makes me unique from other photographers. Well, I am unique in two ways. The first reason why I am unique is because I have Down syndrome. Even though I have Down syndrome, that has not stopped me from reaching my goal of becoming a photographer. The second thing that makes me unique is that I have no special training. I have never taken a photography class of any sort. I have just reached my goal by working hard and practicing. I am so thankful to have the ability to take photographs.”

Virtual Graduation Held for First Graduating Class of Direct Support Professionals

Arc BRIDGES, local Arc chapter in Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties, honored their Direct Support Professional graduates as a part of Indiana’s first virtual DSP Graduation Ceremony. Friends and family celebrated this event with Arc BRIDGES staff. Pictured left to right: Catherine Burnett, Residential DSP; Terri McCool, Health and Safety Tech; Catherine DeMeyer, DSP; Lilly Cox, DSP; Alice Battle, DSP; Gloria Morson, Health and Safety Tech.

The Family and Social Services Administration’s (FSSA) Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) held a “virtual graduation ceremony” for the first graduating class of the Direct Support Professionals (DSP) initiative on May 15, 2009. Provider agencies around the state held celebrations at the conclusion of the ceremony in recognition of the first 46 graduates of the Indiana DSP Initiative.

DDRS Director Peter Bisbecos, said, “DSPs are critical in the effective support of individuals with disabilities and we are thrilled with the success and growth this initiative has seen in one short year.”

The DSP Initiative is a collaborative effort between the Center on Community Living and Careers (CCLC), providers, professional organizations, DSPs, self-advocates, families, Ivy Tech Community College and a wide range of state agencies. The goal of the initiative is to recruit and retain DSPs in Indiana.

The second class of the initiative will graduate at least twice as many DSPs at the completion of their coursework this August.

CCLC, a program of the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community, has coordinated a three-year initiative designed to offer current and newly-hired DSPs the opportunity to advance their skills, further their education and increase their earning potential.

Funds have been allocated to provide full financial support to train up to 2,300 new and existing DSPs at nine provider agencies. Of those, 720 will be funded to attend Ivy Tech Community College to earn a Direct Support Professional Certificate in Human Services, along with 17 hours of transferable college credit.

The CCLC has also developed a six-day competency-based orientation course and partnered with Ivy Tech to develop and implement the coursework taught primarily through distance education options.

For more information on the DSP initiative, visit www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs.
KCARC for Life: Seeking Connections to Last a Lifetime

The Arc in Knox County reaches out to school age children and families

KCARC, the local chapter of The Arc in Knox County, has developed a new program, KCARC for Life. The program is designed specifically to connect with families who have school age children with disabilities.

The effort began when KCARC realized that the strong relationship they have with families whose children participate in their early intervention program was not continuing once public school education began.

Of greater concern was that many of the children were not transitioning to adult programs and services once their public education concluded.

Through KCARC for Life, many avenues have been developed to connect with students and their families throughout their school years. The program includes KCARC’s support of Buddy Ball (a division of the Babe Ruth League) which provides buddies to assist players with disabilities who enjoy baseball.

The School-to-Work Transition Program allows students with special needs to acquire job skills by working at one of KCARC’s plants.

The School-to-Work Transition Program allows students to acquire job skills.

In addition, KCARC’s recreation coordinator regularly visits area schools. Students with special needs and their families are provided information about opportunities for activities such as Special Olympics, conferences and workshops, and sessions to help them navigate the maze of government programs.

KCARC for Life believes that The Arc can play an important, life-long role for people with disabilities and their families. You can learn more about KCARC by visiting www.knoxcountyarc.com.

Indiana University Offers New Programs for Students with Disabilities

Students with special needs due to a physical or cognitive disability can take courses through the Indiana University School of Continuing Studies’ (SCS) distance education program.

SCS offers a wide variety of educational options including high school and undergraduate courses, a high school diploma and an associate and bachelor’s degree in general studies. Other options include self-paced online and correspondence courses and semester-based online courses.

Students may register year round, have up to one year to complete a course (extensions are available) and receive personalized feedback and support from instructors. In addition, SCS can provide disability support services and or auxiliary aids to eligible students with temporary or permanent disabilities.

Program offers disability support services and educational options.

Through SCS, the Adaptive Technology Center (ATC) is expanding its services to students with disabilities who are learning at a distance. The center provides services for students who need assistance due to blindness and low vision, mobility and hearing and learning disabilities (dyslexia, ADHD and others).

For more information contact disabilities coordinator Eileen Balliet at: sscs@indiana.edu, 800-334-1011, or visit sscs.indiana.edu/special_needs.html or www.indiana.edu/~iuadapts.

Conference for Middle and High School Students with Special Needs and Families

Champion Your Future, Reaching New Heights

Saturday, September 12, 2009

The Arc of Indiana and FUSE are partnering to host the 2nd bi-annual conference for middle and high school students with special needs and families. The conference will take place Saturday, September 12, 2009.

As we go to press, the location is not yet confirmed. Please visit our website at www.arcind.org for up-to-date information and to register online.

Families and students who attended this conference in 2007 gave it rave reviews. We hope those who attended in 2007 will attend again, and that we will reach many new students and families.

Champion Your Future Conference at a Glance

Keynote Speaker – Inspirational Speaker and Athlete, Mike Schlappi

Workshops for Parents

- Fasten Your Seatbelts: An Overview of Changes to Article 7
- Vocational Rehabilitation as your Co-pilot
- Navigating Adult Services: What to Expect from Adult Service Providers
- Develop Your Flight Plan: Accessing Government Benefits
- Flying Solo: Accessing Supports in College
- Blast Off to After School & Summer Activities

Workshops for Students

- Making Friends and Gliding Through Social Situations
- Spread Your Wings: Learning about Leadership with Special Olympics / Best Buddies
- Pilot Your IEP Meeting
- Bridging the Gap: Transition to Life on Campus
- Soar Above Bullying
- Rising to New Challenges: How We Moved from High School to Community

Study published

“Time-out, Seclusion, and Restraint in Indiana Public Schools”

The Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services Commission has published a study, “Time-out, Seclusion, and Restraint in Indiana Public Schools.” IPAS hopes this will begin a serious dialogue about the unregulated application of restraints and seclusion in Indiana schools—with the goal that every student in Indiana be protected through policies and practices that define and carefully regulate their use. Contact IPAS at 800-622-4645 to request a copy of “Time-out, Seclusion, and Restraint in Indiana Schools; Analysis of Current Policies” and “Time-Out, Seclusion, and Restraint in Indiana Schools; Literature Review.” Visit http://www.in.gov/ipas/2760.htm to read or download the reports.
The Arc Master Trust Continues History of Conservative Investment Strategy

Kevin D. Hampton

Kevin Hampton is Vice President & Sr. Portfolio Manager, Diamond Capital Management, with The National Bank of Indianapolis.

The Arc of Indiana has always taken a conservative approach to the management of The Arc Master Trust to assure the assets of Trust beneficiaries are protected. The standing allocation allows for a greater equity exposure. A more conservative allocation of The Arc of Indiana Master Trust portfolio was slightly altered. A more conservative allocation was recommended and implemented to allow for a greater exposure to fixed income and cash equivalents, thereby reducing the exposure to equity securities. The revised allocation resulted in the following allocation:

- Cash and Cash Equivalents 8%
- Fixed Income 45%
- Equities 47%

While The Arc Master Trust posted a moderate loss... it was significantly less than that of most portfolios with greater equity exposure.

What can be foreseen in the current market? Since the lows of March 9th, the S & P 500 has appreciated approximately 35%. This has been the largest bear market rally dating back to 1929. It is the magnitude of the rebound that has some economists, strategists and investors suggesting that the worst of the downturn is over. While elements of such may be true, it ignores the fact that typical bear markets have a series of peaks and troughs. And, there is nothing to suggest that this recovery will be different. The worst of the credit issues are behind us, as is the uncertainty and fear created by questions surrounding the solvency of several major U.S. banks. However, there remain economic hurdles which require resolution prior to our seeing a new bull market.

The Arc Master Trust’s Investment Decisions

How will this effect investment decisions for The Arc Master Trust? It reinforces the need for guardianship. Yes, we have had a significant rebound. Yes, there is a hint of economic optimism. Yes, consumer sentiment is improving. And yes, there is excess capital waiting to be spent. However, throwing caution to the wind and immediately jumping back into the market would not be prudent.

The National Bank of Indianapolis and The Arc of Indiana will continue to monitor and review the investment strategy for The Arc Master Trust and make adjustments where appropriate. The focus will continue to be on patiently investing in high quality, fundamentally sound companies and mutual funds.

For more information about The Arc Master Trust, contact Melissa Justice, Trust Director, at mjustice@arcind.org, call us at 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100, or learn more about us by visiting The Arc Master Trust section of our website, www.arcind.org.

Diamond Capital Management™ is a fee-only portfolio management group that is a wholly-owned division of The National Bank of Indianapolis. On deposit at The National Bank of Indianapolis is the Trust I pool; its balance is currently over $20 Million.

Guardianship

Issues and Responsibilities

The Indiana Adult Guardianship Services Project (IAGS) is a project of The Arc of Indiana. The mission of IAGS is to improve the quality and provision of guardianship services in Indiana. The following information on guardianship has been adapted from The Arc of the United States’ position statement on guardianship.

The majority of people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities can manage their own affairs with informal assistance and guidance from others, such as family and friends. If guardianship is necessary, it should be tailored to the person’s needs, and should be monitored to ensure that the best interests of the individual are protected. The appointment of a guardian is a serious matter because it limits a person’s independence and rights.

Guardianship has been overused by those who were unaware of less intrusive alternatives or who simply wanted to have their views prevail over the wishes of the individual. Frequently, lesser forms of legal intervention such as limited guardianship and use of powers of attorney have been either overlooked, intentionally avoided or unavailable.

Guardianship is essential, it should be used only to the extent necessary with a presumption in favor of limited rather than full guardianship. Following are important issues to be aware of regarding guardianship:

- Appointment of a guardian should be made only to the extent necessary for the protection and welfare of the individual and not for the convenience of the family, the service system or society.
- Less intrusive alternatives to full guardianship, like limited guardianship or power of attorney, should always be considered first. If used at all, these restrictions on the individual’s rights and decision-making powers should be confined to those areas in which the individual clearly cannot understand the serious consequences of his or her decisions or the person lacks foresight.
- Guardians should be knowledgeable of services, supports and systems that could significantly affect the life of the individual; and must be committed to the well-being of the individual, know and understand the individual’s needs and wishes, and act in accordance with them whenever possible.

Family members are preferable when they meet these criteria.

- Guardians should take the person’s preferences into account.
- Since guardianship represents a transfer of the responsibility for exercising an individual’s rights, adequate safeguards, including the right to counsel, are needed to assure the individual retains as much decision-making power as possible.
- Guardians should be accountable for their actions, and those actions should be reviewed periodically.

Guardianship

IAGS is a project of The Arc of Indiana. Learn more about future planning and guardianship by visiting www.arcind.org.
20th Annual Golf Outing to Feature Special Guest, Coach Tom Crean

Former Indiana Pacer and IU Basketball star Steve Green will host the 20th annual charity golf tournament to benefit The Arc of Indiana on June 26, 2009. The highlight of this year’s event will be an appearance by Indiana University Men’s Basketball Coach Tom Crean.

The tournament will be held at The Legends of Indiana Golf Course in Franklin, Indiana. Lunch will begin at 11:00 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 12:00 p.m. Prizes will be awarded at approximately 5:00 p.m. after the round is completed. The tournament is open to both advanced and recreational golfers.

The lucky participant whose golf ball lands the closest to the marked hole will win $1,000! The golf ball second closest to the hole will receive $500, and $250 will be rewarded to the third closest 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 want to support The Arc of Indiana, everyone can participate, and you do not have to be present to win.

To register online for the golf tournament and to purchase your chance in the golf ball bounce, please visit the News and Events section of our website, www.arcind.org. Or, you may call the office at 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100.

This is The Arc’s primary fundraising event. All proceeds will go towards enriching the lives of people with developmental disabilities. Your support helps make this important work possible and will positively impact the lives of many people.

Join in the Fun at the Self-Advocates of Indiana Annual Picnic

Self-Advocates of Indiana invites self-advocates throughout the state to join in a day of fun and fellowship at their Annual Picnic:

Friday, July 10, 2009, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Post Road Community Park, 1313 S. Post Road, Indianapolis

There will be bingo, dancing to the music of D.J. Shawn Fulton, a catered lunch and photo portraits provided by The Arc of Indiana’s Executive Director, John Dickerson. Candidates for the Self-Advocates of Indiana board will also be campaigning for their board seats.

As a way to give back to the community, Self-Advocates of Indiana is holding a food drive at the picnic. Please bring a canned food item (or several items) with you to the picnic to donate to Gleaners Food Bank.

Picnic Schedule

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Registration / Food Drive Collection
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Self-Advocates of Indiana Board Member Candidate Campaigns
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Bingo, Dancing, Photos and More!

To guarantee lunch, please register and pay the $5.00 registration fee before Friday, June 26, 2009. For complete registration information, please visit our website, www.arcind.org or call us at 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100.