

Federal Stimulus, Special Session Avoids Budget Crisis

Of the \$1.1 billion of federal stimulus funds Indiana has received, \$900 million of that funding has gone to stabilize Medicaid.

The real world impact is that these funds have helped the state avoid massive cuts in services to Medicaid recipients. Without these funds, one can only speculate what would have happened.

Early in the evening on June 30, 2009 the Indiana General Assembly passed a **two-year state budget**, allowing state

services to continue without delay. That same day, the state's fiscal year ended with \$55 million in the checking account that pays state bills. However, if revenue from sales, personal income and corporate taxes, as well as gambling revenue, does not increase, there will be further pressures on human services and education. **Learn more on page five.**

On the federal front, as *Arc News in Indiana* goes to press, the **critical issue of health**

Health Care Reform Critical Issue for Hoosiers with Disabilities

care reform faces Congress. People with disabilities and their families are uniquely impacted by the issues surrounding reform of the nation's health care system. **Learn what you can do to**

impact this important issue on page five.

Great care must be taken in navigating through these extremely difficult times. Advocates, families, people with disabilities, providers and the state have to work through this together – not unilaterally and not without considering the alternatives.

The Arc of Indiana is hosting a unique event on October 1, 2009 at our annual conference, "Our Voice...Our Vision...Our

Future." Participants will use a hand held device to record their position on critical issues facing people with developmental disabilities and their families. This collaborative effort will help shape future decisions. We hope *you* will take part in this opportunity for your voice to be heard, and share in creating a vision for the future. **Complete information can be found below, on page 8 and our website, www.arcind.org.**

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**our Voice...
our Vision...
our Future...**

a gathering for people
committed to positive change

The Arc of Indiana

**2009 Conference &
Appreciation Luncheon**

Let your voice be heard! On October 1, 2009, The Arc of Indiana is hosting a gathering for people committed to positive change. This groundbreaking event will be unlike any that has been held in Indiana before.

Our Voice...

The goal is to bring 1,000 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 will

have a hand held voting device, and will be able to respond to a series of questions in several broad topic areas:

Early Identification and Early Childhood Education
Post High School Education / Training
Future Planning and Guardianship
Training for Families and Caregivers
Self-Advocacy
Health and Wellness
Employment and Day Supports
In-Home Supports
Living in the Community
Cultural Competency

Voting will be completely

confidential. However, demographic information will be collected so that the results can be sorted by self advocate, family member or professional. In addition, the information will be classified as male/female, by age groups and by zip code.

This valuable information will be used to shape future decisions.

Our Vision...

Registration for the conference includes The Arc's annual Appreciation and Awards Luncheon. This year's luncheon speaker is Dr. Tom Pomeranz, a nationally recognized authority, trainer, clinician and consultant in the field of services for people with disabilities. His audiences praise his ability to com-

bine information, humor, passion and storytelling into an informative whole. Dr. Pomeranz will discuss what life could and should look like for people with disabilities.

The Appreciation luncheon will feature the presentation of awards to outstanding people, businesses and organizations to honor their accomplishments in the field of disabilities. Awards will be presented in a variety of categories including employment, education, community living, professional and individual achievement, public policy and outstanding advocacy.

Our Future...

Following lunch, participants will break into small groups to discuss the questions that were asked in the morning and the answers that were given. During this discussion, everyone will have the opportunity to rank the questions/answers that they think are the most important and the items that need to be addressed. At the conclusion of the day, everyone will receive a

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Participants at "Our Voice...Our Vision...Our Future" will use this hand held voting device to weigh in on critical issues.

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Kim Dodson, Associate Executive Director, thanks Ann Smith for her lovely painting, donated to The Arc of Indiana's project to decorate the new Arc office with art work created by self-advocates.

Self-Advocates' Art Work Brightens Arc Office Walls

The Arc of Indiana's new offices are that much brighter thanks to the art work of self-advocates from around the state.

When we moved into our new office space in April, we wanted to be sure the space reflected our local chapters and celebrated the success of people with intellectual and other develop-

mental disabilities. We asked local chapters to donate artwork created by people receiving services, or photographs showcasing products or services produced or provided by people with disabilities.

If you are in Indianapolis, please visit us at 107 N. Pennsylvania, Suite 800, at the corner of Pennsylvania and Market in The National Bank of Indianapolis building, we would love to give you a tour and show off the wonderful artwork and contributions of self-advocates throughout Indiana.

On-Line Auction

Support The Arc of Indiana while you do your holiday shopping!

From **November 18 to December 2** The Arc will sponsor an on-line auction to raise important funds. This year's event will include autographed items, gift certificates from restaurants, tickets to popular events and much, much more.

Shopping has never been easier and has never meant so much.

Watch our web site at www.arcind.org for more details in the coming weeks.

THE ARC NEWS IN INDIANA

107 N. Pennsylvania St., Suite 800, Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100
www.arcind.org

Twentieth Year of Golf Tournament Registers Record Number Golfers

2009 marked the 20th anniversary of Steve Green's Annual Golf Tournament to benefit The Arc. Because of Steve's tireless work and dedication, this event has raised over \$450,000 to help individuals with disabilities and their families. You can view a video produced to honor Steve's work on The Arc's YouTube channel – just go to www.arcind.org, click on the YouTube icon at the top of the page, and click on "Tribute to Steve Green."

A record number of golfers attended this year's event which was held on June 26 at The Legends of Indiana in Franklin. The day's highlight was an appearance by IU men's basketball coach, Tom Crean.

Through our members and local chapters, The Arc of Indiana works to assure people with developmental disabilities of all ages have the support and services they need to live in local communities, learn in public schools, work in meaningful jobs and be part of the arts, sports, worship and other community activities in their home town.

The support that we receive from players and sponsors helps assure the important work of The Arc continues.

Thank you to everyone who made this year's golf outing such a huge success.

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I.U. Basketball Coach Tom Crean (center) kicked off the 20th Annual Steve Green's Charity Golf Outing to Benefit The Arc of Indiana. The day ended with a moving video tribute to Steve in honor of the contribution his golf outing has made to The Arc. Jessica Green (left) said in the tribute, "I know that you believe in me and love me for who I am... this golf outing is a good cause for individuals with special challenges and special needs, like me... Dad, I love you with all my heart." You can watch the video tribute on The Arc of Indiana's YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/user/arcadvocate

Executive Director's Column



John Dickerson

Join in a Gathering for People Committed to Positive Change!

The Arc of Indiana 2009 Conference

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

Let your voice be heard and counted!

Americans are facing many, many challenging issues—the economy, state and federal budgets, and for families with a loved one with a disability—waiting lists. When you watch the news, it seems as if the one who yells the loudest gets heard on these critical issues. The Arc of Indiana thinks there is a better way.

On October 1, 2009 The Arc of Indiana will host an historic event as part of our annual conference—and we want you to be a part of it.

We will be asking 1,000 people—self advocates, family members and professionals—a series of questions on eleven critical areas, ranging from early intervention, to education, to jobs and community living, to future planning and guardianship.

Instead of just following what “experts” say should be done, we want to hear what *you* think is important.

Your confidential answers will be recorded, compiled and compared to answers of other self-advocates, family members, and professionals attending the conference. You will receive a printed report to take home with you at the end of the day.

This will be an exciting opportunity to weigh in on, and hear from, people throughout Indiana about important issues and questions facing all of us.

Complete information on this unique event can be found on page 8 and on The Arc of Indiana’s web site, www.arcind.org

I hope you will be there—and let your voice be heard and counted.

News You Can Use

Champion Your Future, Reaching New Heights

A conference for middle & high school students with special needs and their families

Saturday, September 12, 2009
Raymond Park Middle School
8575 Raymond Street, Indianapolis
Registration 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Conference 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

There still may be time to register for “Champion Your Future, Reaching New Heights,” a conference for middle and high school students with special needs and their families. Workshops for parents and students will provide information to use *now* to plan for life after school; and you do not want to miss the opportunity to hear nationally known Gold Medalist, author and speaker Mike Schlappi. He will inspire youth and adults with his message of how life can be defined by what you *can* do instead of what you *can't* do. At the age of 14, Mike dreamed of a career in sports. A gunshot wound to the chest challenged his dreams. He would never walk again. After months of physical therapy, he began playing basketball from his wheelchair and went on to become a standout athlete. His thought-provoking presentation challenges people of all ages to realize that despite difficult circumstances, you can take responsibility and be empowered.

Learn more and register by visiting: www.arcind.org.

Join in the Down Syndrome Indiana Buddy Walk® Saturday, October 10, 2009, Celebration Plaza, White River State Park Downtown Indianapolis. The Buddy Walk® is a 2.6 mile no-fee walk along the canal beginning at Celebration Plaza in White River State Park, Downtown, Indianapolis. Proceeds from the walk help fund Down Syndrome Indiana (DSI) programs and services that help individuals

with Down syndrome and their families. Down Syndrome Indiana offers a number of programs and services, including:

- New Parent Information & Resource Packets
- Support for research and advocacy
- Financial assistance for youth who attend Camp Hi-Lite
- Informational and Educational Conferences
- Parent Support Groups
- Mom's Night Out events
- Family Picnics
- Self Advocates meetings and social activities

To learn more about DSI and the Buddy Walk® visit: www.dsindiana.org

Special Olympics Indiana Reaching Out to Young Athletes

Through a new series of youth initiatives, including the Young Athletes program, Special Olympics Indiana is working to introduce young people and their families to the benefits of Special Olympics

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Empowering People. Inspiring Change.

The Arc of Indiana was established in 1956 by parents of children with intellectual and other developmental disabilities who joined together to build a better and more accepting world for their children. We are affiliated with The Arc of the United States and are proud to work with our local Arc chapters.

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.

The Arc Network

Our statewide network of family advocates and self-advocates offer information, referral and advocacy at the local level.

Minority Outreach Project

The Minority Outreach Project provides information and guidance to African-Americans and Hispanic/Latinos in accessing supports and services.

Family and Caregiver Training

The Family and Caregiver Training Program allows The Arc to pay the cost of approved training for individuals receiving services through a Medicaid waiver, and then seek reimbursement from the state.

IAGS

The Indiana Adult Guardianship Services Project works to improve the quality and availability of guardianship services.

COVOH Collaborative Work Lab

The COVOH Collaborative Work Lab is a state-of-the-art, computer-supported meeting space that allows users to share ideas via linked computers to reach group goals.

Membership

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

For information call The Arc of Indiana at 317-977-2375 or visit us at www.arcind.org.

Direct Support Professionals Share Personal Accounts of how DSP Training Initiative is Making a Difference

Seventy-nine Direct Support Professionals recently received certificates through the DSP Initiative, a collaborative effort supported by the Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS), the Center on Community Living (CLCC) and Indiana Institute on Disability and Community (IIDC) at Indiana University, and Ivy Tech Community College. The DSP Initiative offers current and newly-hired DSPs the opportunity to advance their skills, further their education and increase their earning potential.

Following are two personal accounts, written by DSPs who completed the training, about how the training made a difference in their lives and in the lives of the people they serve.

A Bike for Mike

Mike wanted a bike. He'd wanted a bike for many years, but Mike had seizures and a bike just wouldn't be safe for him. He might get hurt. But Mike still wanted a bike.

Mike's staff explained to him that he was sick. They told him that he had seizures and he might have one while he was on his bike. They said it was much, much too dangerous for him to ride a bike, but they would help him look at bikes. Mike Still Wanted A Bike.

Mike's staff would show him pictures of bikes, take him to bike shops and take him to the park to watch other people ride bikes. Mike would also watch cycling shows on television. Mike thought this was okay, but MIKE WANTED A BIKE.

Mike's staff person enrolled in the DSP Initiative courses through Ivy Tech. She learned about the history of people with intellectual disabilities. She learned that Mike was more than a diagnosis. She learned that he was a real person with thoughts, feelings and emotions. She learned that he was just like her. She realized that there were times that she wanted things that weren't safe for her until she learned how to use them and how to protect herself. She learned that Mike could learn how to use new things and how to protect himself.

She already knew that Mike wanted a bike. Now she *heard* that MIKE WANTED A BIKE!!

Now Mike has a bike.

Learning to Respect Privacy

Staff looked at the daily schedule and noticed that it was time to toilet people. They clapped their hands together once as if leading a pep rally and cheerfully said, "Okay, ladies! It's time to toilet! Mary, let's get you in there first since you think you have to sit in there so long before you can make anything happen." Staff assisted Mary to the bathroom, closed the door, and then helped Mary to adjust her clothing before directing her to sit on the toilet.

Staff came out of the bathroom and closed the door behind them. "Okay, Jane. Let's get you in there next." Staff guided Jane to the bathroom, swung open the door and led her to the sink. Staff was sure to close the door behind them. Next staff instructed Jane to hold on to the sink while they changed her depends. Staff glanced over at Mary and said, "Anything happening over there yet?" Staff finished taking care of Jane and went back with her to the living room. Once Jane was comfortable, staff went back to the bathroom to get Mary to hurry up. Time was a' wastin'!

Hearing about this, my heart sank. I asked staff to explain this scenario to me. This seasoned, good intentioned staff said that there were so many things they needed to get done each day that they always toilet these two women by this method. I asked this staff if she remembered that each of the people she supports has the right to privacy, and she looked at me with a shocked expression and said, "We shut the door."

I began to tell this staff member how the people she works with used to get their showers in an institution. I described all the men and women from each ward being stripped and

led into a common shower area where they all stood together waiting while they were washed in an assembly line and then led back to their rooms. She cringed as she heard the story and said, "I'm so glad they don't have to live like that anymore." I looked into this warm-hearted woman's eyes and said, "But they do. When we look at the people we support and value time schedules over their right to go to the bathroom without having two other people in the room, when we think that it is okay and normal to announce to the entire room that we are going to toilet people rather than quietly and individually ask each person if they need to go to the bathroom, when we openly comment on the most private habits of people—we are keeping them in institutions. We are looking at them as things rather than as people."

When this staff person was able to look at the situation and see it in this light, she was devastated at what her actions said about how she sees the people she supports. Because of what I was able to share with her regarding the things I have learned through the Direct Support Professional Initiative, this staff person began to put herself in the place of people in the home and has committed to providing the kind of support that each person wants and deserves. Mary and Jane are now learning that they are valued—because they are being respected.

The DSP Initiative has a domino effect and changes the perspective each student, as well as all other Direct Support staff, that the student comes into contact with each day. As the mindset of Direct Support Professionals across the nation is changing, a whole new world is opening for the people they support.



DSP graduates from ADEC, local Arc chapter in Elkhart County, celebrate their success. Pictured left to right: Maria Nnachi, Sam Hooley, Erin Byrket, Carissa Bousnakis, Jodi Taylor, Blanche Samuels and Nancy Woods. Certificates were presented to ten graduates at a recognition ceremony by Paula Shively, CEO, ADEC; Teresa Shaffer, Vice Chancellor, Ivy Tech Community College Elkhart; Brenda Falcone, IVY Tech instructor; and State Representative Wes Culver.

Critical Issues for People with Intellectual and Other Developmental Disabilities

HEALTH CARE & LONG-TERM SERVICES REFORM

Developed by The Arc of the United States and United Cerebral Palsy

There is broad consensus that America’s health care system needs reform. For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, the need for health and long-term care reform is urgent.

Members of Congress need to hear from people with disabilities and from families with loved ones with disabilities. You can find contact information at: www.senate.gov and www.house.gov.

Members of Congress need to hear from you.

Following is information developed by The Arc of the United States and United Cerebral Palsy on the particular need for health care reform for people with disabilities.

Setting. Medicaid’s institutional bias makes it difficult for persons with disabilities to receive services in community-based settings.

Coverage. Under current law, private insurance companies in the individual and small group markets are allowed to exclude persons with pre-existing conditions from coverage and “cap” annual and lifetime coverage, policies which disproportionately impact people with disabilities.

Benefits. People with disabilities often need rehabilitation and habilitation services as well as durable medical equipment. These services and products are covered in all public and some private health plans. They must be covered in any new plans developed as part of health care reform.

Access to Quality Care. People with disabilities have poorer health and have less access to quality medical care for a number of reasons including low Medicaid reimbursement rates, the shortage of qualified health care professionals who have received training in how to treat people with IDD and inaccessible medical equipment.

Long-Term Services and Supports. The health care system is principally designed to meet the country’s short term or “acute” care needs. People with disabilities often need assistance with activities of daily living, such as getting dressed, taking medication, preparing meals and managing money. Only 3% of Americans have private long-term

care (LTC) insurance due to its high costs, and Medicare provides only limited LTC coverage. This leaves the overburdened and institutionally biased Medicaid program as the primary provider of LTC.

The Arc and United Cerebral Palsy have developed specific recommendations as part of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities, a coalition of over 100 national disability organizations.

The Arc and UCP’s Policy Priorities

The Arc and UCP have developed specific recommendations as part of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD), a coalition of over 100 national disability organizations.

Priority recommendations include:

Setting. Allow states to offer additional services under Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers.

Coverage. Prohibit private health insurance exclusions for pre-existing conditions; restrict the consideration of health status in setting premiums; expand Medicaid to cover people with incomes up to 133 percent of the federal poverty line (approximately \$29,000 per year for a family of four).

Benefits. Ensure that minimum covered benefits include products and services that enable people with disabilities to maintain and improve function, such as rehabilitation and habilitation services and durable medical equipment.

Access to Quality Care. Increase Medicaid provider rates to the levels of Medicare providers; require training of physicians, dentists and allied health professionals on how to treat persons with disabilities; integrate health disparities based on disabilities on the same basis as racial and ethnic disparities; ensure prevention programs include a focus on people with disabilities.

Long-Term Services and Supports. Increase the federal share of Medicaid for Home and Community-Based Services; strengthen long-term services

and supports by making program improvements within Medicaid by including the Community Choice Act which would provide for personal attendant services; and establishing a national voluntary program to finance

long-term services and supports by including the Community Living Assistance Services and Supports (CLASS) Act that will also relieve pressure on the Medicaid program.

SPECIAL SESSION AVOIDS BUDGET CRISIS, from page 1

On June 30th, in a very political and heated negotiation process, a state budget bill passed the Indiana House of Representatives with approval of 63 Republican, minority members and 36 Democrat, majority members. The Senate passed the budget 34-16, and with that the Indiana General Assembly completed their task and headed home for the summer.

The Arc of Indiana closely followed the process, and worked to ensure services to people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities were not negatively impacted.

Following are key areas of the approved Indiana state budget related to services for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.

Medicaid – Current obligations are funded at the Governor and FSSA recommended amount of \$1.1 billion in the first fiscal year and \$1.4 billion in the second fiscal year. Fiscal analysts believe that federal Medicaid stimulus funds will allow Medicaid to continue without reductions in services and that funds will be available to continue to move people off Medicaid waiver waiting lists.

Day Services for People with Developmental Disabilities	\$11.7 million
Bureau of Developmental Disability Services	\$5.2 million
For operating expenses, including funding the State-Wide Self Advocacy Program, noted below	
State-Wide Self Advocacy Program for People with Developmental Disabilities	\$340,000
Division on Disability and Rehabilitation Services Administration From Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement Fund	\$360,767
Objective Assessment System for Individual Supports (OASIS)	\$5.5 million
Vocational Rehabilitation Personal Services	\$3.5 million
Vocational Rehabilitation Services Operating Expenses	\$12.3 million
Community and Home Options to Institutional Care for the Elderly and Disabled (CHOICE)	\$48 million
Indiana Adult Guardianship Services Project	\$2 million
Crisis Management Services	\$4.1 million
From Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement Fund	
Early Intervention Services	\$6.1 million
State Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State matching funds	\$34 million
Indiana Check Up Plan (HIP)	\$137.4 million
Centers for Independent Living	
Funding to the seven centers significantly reduced by \$87,665 each fiscal year	

Proposed Medicaid Waiver Roommate Bill of Rights

Developed by The Arc of Indiana and Self-Advocates and Family Advocates of The Arc Network

The Division of Disability, Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) is working with families, self advocates, case managers and providers to develop a reasonable method to implement the policy that most people receiving community based residential services through the Medicaid waiver have roommates

In order to serve the most people with limited resources, and continue to move people off waiting lists, DDRS believes 90% of the people who need supervision 24 hours a day seven days a week can and should share staff, and that approximately 10% of people served must live alone due to the complexity of their needs. Their model is based upon three people sharing housing and staff.

The Arc of Indiana supports this effort if it will help more people receive services, recognizes that some people who must live alone, and if a policy is put in place and is followed that protects rights and gives people with disabilities a part in choosing the people with whom they live. To this end, The Arc of Indiana has submitted a proposed Medicaid Waiver Roommate Bill of Rights to DDRS. It is currently being reviewed by DDRS.

ISSUE Individuals in Indiana who receive home and community-based Medicaid waiver services are being strongly encouraged to have one or two roommates. Living with one or two other people in an apartment or house can reduce costs by allowing individuals to share staff and expenses. Maximizing the dollars used for current consumers will result in funds being available to serve more individuals currently on Indiana's approximately 10 year waiting list.

POSITION 1 Encouraging individuals to have roommates is an appropriate and responsible policy, provided guidelines and education programs are in place to protect the rights and privacy of the individuals involved.

Recommended Guidelines & Procedures

- Self-determination and Person-centered planning must be the foundation of the process
- The needs and desires of the person must be the most important factor and have the most weight in decision making
- Allow individuals to choose their own roommates
- Individuals already living in a home (with seniority) have the

right to refuse a *new* roommate or stay in the home if a *new* roommate situation isn't working

Flexibility

- Allow adequate time to choose and get to know potential roommates (encourage use of the education toolkit resources and overnight visits)
- Build flexibility into funding so that evolving roommates situations can be handled with thought and care (additional funding and time will be needed when a roommate situation isn't working and a new roommate needs to be located)
- Consider allowing roommates who do not have developmental disabilities

Disclosure

- Develop an interest survey that helps individuals find roommates with compatible personalities and interests
- Develop a voluntary "release of information" form to provide medical and behavioral information
- Help individuals and their families understand how sharing information can lead to better roommate matches.

Education Toolkit

- Utilize existing tools to help this process such as "It's My Choice" book and good person-centered planning
- Educate consumers and families about the benefits of having roommates including the positive impact on other families waiting for services
- Develop a variety of other tools to assist individuals such as a "how to" guide to finding a roommate, an on-line compatibility test and interest inventory/questionnaire
- Develop education tools to improve the success of roommates living together such as a "how to" guide for being a good roommate, including guidelines for protecting privacy and being respectful of other's space and property

Oversight

- Clearly define what group will provide oversight for this issue
- Maintain a consumer and family advisory panel to provide feedback and suggestions for policies

ROOMMATE BILL OF RIGHTS

All individuals have the right to make choices in everyday life about where and how they live, work and play:

- Right to privacy
- Right to feel safe in your home
- Right to be treated with dignity and respect

- Right to choose who lives with you
- Right to select where you live
- Right to make personal choices
- Right to disclose, or refuse to disclose, personal information (unless doing so or not doing so would put a roommate in danger)

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT FUND PROVIDES REIMBURSEMENT TO FAMILIES FOR TRAINING RELATED EVENTS

The Family Involvement Fund (FIF) is a First Step initiative funded through the Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services. Its purpose is to support family members to learn more about their child's disability and/or programs that may provide support. The fund may reimburse expenses associated with workshops, conferences, public forums, hearings or other training-related events. It may also support the purchase of approved learning/instructional media, including books, CD/DVDs and web-based learning opportunities.

The Family Involvement Fund is available to families of children with disabilities, from infants through 21 years of age. Families are limited to a maximum of \$250 for an individual or up to \$500 per family (2 or more adults) for the grant year. Family members that may apply include: parents, siblings, grandparents and other extended family members, foster parents, legal guardians, and educational surrogate parents. Funds are limited; therefore, early application is recommended.

Guidelines are available on the Family to Family web site at www.inf2f.org. Families may also apply online or print an application from the Family-to-Family web site. They may also call or email to request an application form and copy of the guidelines:

Indiana Institute on Disability & Community
Family Involvement Fund, Attn: Cathy Beard
2853 E. 10th Street, Bloomington, IN 47408
800-825-4733 / 812-855-6508
TT: 812-855-9396 / Fax: 812-855-9630
Email: fif@indiana.edu
Web: <http://www.inf2f.org>

The Family Involvement Fund is part of the Family to Family project made possible by the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) and the First Steps Early Intervention System, through a grant to the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community, Early Childhood Center, Indiana University-Bloomington.

The Arc of Indiana's Family and Caregiver Training Program Launching Fall, 2009

Indiana's Medicaid waiver program can provide Medicaid waiver recipients up to \$2,000 per year for family and caregiver training. The Arc of Indiana is launching a Family and Caregiver Training Program in September, 2009 that will allow The Arc to pay the cost of approved training, and then seek reimbursement from the state through the Medicaid waiver. By serving as the fiscal intermediary, The Arc can help families access training opportunities by eliminating high up-front fees.

To use the program, Medicaid waiver recipients can indicate that they want to include up to \$2,000 in their support plan for "Family and Caregiver Training." During the following 12 months, family members, self-advocates and

caregivers simply call The Arc at 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100 to request payment for qualified training, conferences or education events. A list of participating events and providers will be available on The Arc's web site, www.arcind.org. The Arc of Indiana's Family and Caregiver Training Fund will provide payment. Subjects for which the funds can be used include:

- Treatment Regimens
- Use of Equipment
- Stress Management
- Parenting
- Family Dynamics
- Community Integration
- Behavioral Intervention Strategies
- Mental Health
- Caring for Medically Fragile Individuals

Medicaid Waiver and OASIS Funding Update

Indiana's Division of Disability, Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) announced on August 6, 2009 that they will begin implementing a new process to move people off waiting lists for the Developmental Disability and Autism Medicaid waivers. This will allow *people who were previously targeted* to move off the list but were not able to do so because of the suspension of OASIS (Objective Assessment System for Individual Supports) to begin receiving Medicaid waiver services.

DDRS announced it will begin implementing a new process to move people off waiting lists.

OASIS is a new system that DDRS is working to put into place that will be used to determine funding for Medicaid waiver services. While the implementation of OASIS remains under temporary suspension, the announcement means that people who had been targeted to come off the waiting list will now be able to move off the list

and receive funding for services. Funding will be based on:

1. Results of an ICAP Assessment
2. Addendum Questions
3. Current or planned living arrangement
 - living at home with family
 - living with 2 others in a shared 3-person setting
 - living in an Adult Foster Care home

A portion of the overall funding allocation will be reserved for day services that are tied to the needs of the person—allowing more resources to be available to those with the most significant needs. Behavior Management services will also be reserved within the allocation based upon the needs of the individual.

The Arc of Indiana is pleased to see that the hard work and discussions have led to the approval of a process to move people off of waiting lists and into Medicaid waiver services.

For continued updates on OASIS and Medicaid Waivers, visit our web site at www.arcind.org



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

The Arc of Indiana Master Trust

Indiana's Premier Special Needs Trust
Serving Hoosiers of all disabilities and their families since 1988

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
or visit us at www.arcind.org

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



The Arc Hosts Guardianship Web Site

www.arcind.org/iags

The Arc of Indiana is pleased to host the web site of the Indiana Adult Guardianship Services Project (IAGS) *within* The Arc of Indiana web site.

To visit the IAGS web site, go to: www.arcind.org/iags. The IAGS web site includes information on:

- IAGS Projects and Activities
- Helpful Resources and Data
- Guardianship and Alternatives
- News and Events

The IAGS's web site on Guardianship and Alternatives includes information on many helpful topics.

Many families have questions about guardianship. The section on Guardianship and Alternatives includes information on:

- What is a Guardianship?
- What is a Guardian *Ad Litem*?
- What is Co-Guardianship?
- What is Limited Guardianship?
- What is a Health Care Representative?
- Who is an Adult?
- Who is an Incapacitated Person?
- Who is a Protected Person?
- Types of Guardianship
- What is a Power of Attorney? What are the Differences Between Guardianship and a Power of Attorney?
- When Do You Need a Guardianship for Someone Over 18 Years of Age?
- What are the Differences Between a Temporary/Emergency Guardianship and a Permanent Guardianship?
- What is the Process for Becoming a Guardian?
- Issues Considered at Guardianship Hearings
- Considerations for Appointing a Guardian
- Priorities among Possible Guardians
- What are the Duties of a Guardian to the Court?
- What are the Powers of Guardians?
- Some Common Issues Regarding the Rights of the Protected Person
- What Type of Recordkeeping is Required for a Guardian?
- What Type of Liability Does the Guardian Have?
- What Rules Exist About Guardian Fees?
- How Does a Guardian Resign?
- How is a Guardianship Terminated?
- Guardianship of a Minor
- Indiana Probate (Guardianship) Code

The Indiana Adult Guardianship Services Project is a program of The Arc of Indiana, funded by the Indiana FSSA, Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services.

THE ARC OF INDIANA 2009 CONFERENCE & APPRECIATION DINNER, from page 1

report showing how self-advocates, families, and professionals voted on each question.

The information gathered, in both the large voting session as well as the discussion session, will be shared with disability stakeholders throughout the state and will be used to help shape future decisions. The goal of this event is to provide information and open a dialog that leads to greater collaboration.

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

Registration is now open for this exciting event, which will be held at the Indiana Convention Center, Exhibit Hall D, 100 S. Capitol Ave. The Conference will begin at 9:00 am and conclude at 4:30 pm. Free parking and shuttle service will be provided from the Indianapolis Zoo, 1200 W. Washington Street.

Registration fees include electronic voting equipment, lunch and parking.

Self Advocates __ \$15.00
Family Members __ \$19.00
Professionals __ \$35.00

For more information or to register, please visit our website, www.arcind.org or call 317-977-2375; or mail in the registration form provided here.

NEWS YOU CAN USE, from page 3

at a younger age than ever before. The activities involved in the Young Athletes program are designed to help young people develop motor, social and cognitive skills through sports training and competition. Learn more about it by going to the Special Olympics video, "Young Athletes," at: <http://soindiana.org/video-magazine.html>.

Self-Advocates Invited to Join National Conversation on Healthy Relationships

Self-Advocates are invited to participate in teleconferences featuring real talk between self-advocates, family members and healthcare providers about intimate relationships, personal safety and advice from peers. The teleconfer-

ences, hosted by the Human Services Research Institute (HSRI) will tackle tough questions that are on a lot of people's minds but many are afraid to talk about.

The teleconferences will start at 3:00 pm, Eastern Time, and will be facilitated by self-advocate Julie Petty. During each call, speakers

will have time to talk with one another and then will answer questions from people on the teleconference. The registration fee for each teleconference is \$25. You can listen on your own or bring people together around a speaker phone. The teleconferences are for self-advocates, but parents and staff are

invited too.

The September 1st teleconference focused on the topic, "Do individuals with developmental disabilities have the right to someone special in their life, such as an intimate relationship?"

Plan now to join the teleconferences scheduled for October 5th

and November 2nd.

October 5th—Issues of sexuality, personal safety and safe sex.

November 2nd—Dear Abby. For more information, visit: www.theriotrocks.org and follow the links on the Home page, or call HSRI and ask for Jennifer Negus at 503-924-3783 ext. 10.

our **Voice...**
our **Vision...**
our **Future...**

a gathering for people
committed to positive change

The Arc of Indiana

**2009 Conference &
Appreciation Luncheon**

Thursday, October 1, 2009

**Indiana Convention
Center
Exhibit Hall D
100 S. Capitol Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46225**

**Registration: 8 am – 9 am
Events: 9 am – 4 pm**

**Appreciation Lunch with
Keynote Speaker
Tom Pomeranz
12:00 pm – 2:30 pm**

Free Parking is available at the Indianapolis Zoo Parking Lot with free shuttle service to and from the Indiana Convention Center.

Special Hotel Room Rates
are available for \$94 at
Crowne Plaza,
123 W. Louisiana St, Indianapolis
under The Arc
Call 317-631-2221 for
reservations.

**Please complete the registration
form and return to:**

The Arc of Indiana
107 N. Pennsylvania St, Suite 800
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Questions? Call 800.382.9100

**or register on-line at:
www.arcind.org**

The Arc of Indiana wants *you* to be part of an exciting gathering for people committed to positive change: *Our Voice...Our Vision...Our Future.*

Let your voice be heard!

Each participant will use a hand held device to confidentially record their position on critical issues facing people with developmental disabilities and their families. This collaborative information will be used to shape future decisions.

Don't miss this chance to make a difference!

Learn more at www.arcind.org

Event Registration

Please provide your contact information. Make additional copies as needed.

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Dietary needs: _____

Please select your registration type:

- ☐ **Self-Advocate \$15 per person.** Assistants to self-advocates must register as a 'Professional' (below) if they wish to participate in the morning session and have their voice be heard. Assistants may register for 'Lunch Only' if they do not wish to participate in the morning session.
- ☐ **Family Member \$19 per person**
- ☐ **Professional \$35 per person**
- ☐ **Appreciation Lunch ONLY \$19 per person**

Payment Information

Amount: _____

☐ Check Enclosed

☐ MasterCard

☐ Visa

☐ American Express

☐ Discover

Name on Card: _____

Billing Address: _____

(if different than listed above)

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CID # _____