

Blueprint Moves to Next Stage

The Arc of Indiana's *Blueprint for Change*, unveiled at our November 2011 conference, sets forth a transformational plan to build a successful system that empowers people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families to shape their own future, nurture and create natural systems of support, and strengthen the foundation of publically funded services for those who need supports.

Guiding the implementation of the Blueprint is now the task of The Arc's Blueprint Steering Committee.

The Blueprint is guided by five key principles to shape the direction of system reform and change:

- Building Career Pathways for All
- Discovering and Realizing Individual Gifts
- Supporting Resourcefulness of Individuals, Families and Communities
- Using What You Need
- Shifting the Power to What Works

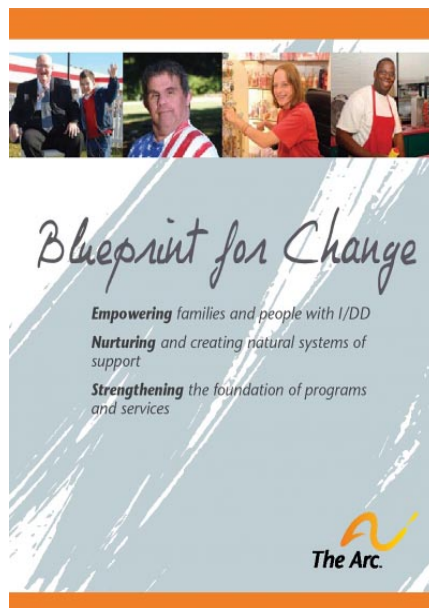
These guiding principles set forth major new directions in how the system is structured and the culture of how we look at government funding, employment, community and natural supports.

Chaired by The Arc's Vice President, Laura Vieck, Vincennes, the Blueprint Steering Committee is hard at work prioritizing the extensive recommendations included in the Blueprint report regarding how to begin to change not only the structure of Indiana's services, but also the very culture that has developed around this system. Changing that culture is equally as critical as making changes to the system itself.

This need was exemplified by a call The Arc recently received from a parent whose 14-year-old daughter was transitioning from the Support Services (SS) Medicaid Waiver to the Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver. While the SS Waiver is capped at providing up to \$13,500 per year in services and supports, the DD Waiver does not have a similar cap. The dad called because he was concerned that much of the meeting to plan for services under the DD Waiver was spent talking about how to spend all the "new money" his daughter now had available. He shared that he was concerned that they were focusing too much on what she could get, rather than what she needed.

The heart of this discussion goes to one of the Blueprint's guiding principles, "Using What You Need." A key cultural change that needs to

take place is changing the focus of that first discussion when case managers, families, individuals with I/DD and providers first begin to plan how a Medicaid Waiver can



best be used to meet the needs of the individual receiving waiver services.

The transformational change called for in the Blueprint also needs to be communicated and shared with our self-advocacy network. SAI is working to translate the Blueprint into discussion points for the over 40 self-advocacy groups that make up SAI, as well as partner groups across the state.

The Arc has shared the *Blueprint for Change* report with legislators, leaders at the Family and Social Services Administration, and other organizations representing people with disabilities to begin the process of making the change envisioned in the Blueprint a reality.

If you would like a copy of the full Blueprint report, please contact us at 317-977-2375, 800-382-9100 or thearc@arcind.org. A summary of the Blueprint report can be found by visiting us at www.arcind.org, click on "News and Events."

Welcome New Members

If you are receiving *The Arc News in Indiana* for the first time, "Welcome to The Arc." More than 8,000 new members are receiving the newsletter, and we welcome each and everyone one of you.

As a member of The Arc, you help us empower people and inspire change.

This issue of *The Arc News in Indiana* will provide a broad overview of The Arc of Indiana, including our programs, services, chapters, board of directors and our work at the Indiana General Assembly. You will find highlights of our 2011 achievements, including the *Blueprint for Change*, and information on the work of The Arc Network, The Arc Master Trust, and Self-Advocates of Indiana.

Be sure to check out the back page where you will find ways you can stay connected and informed, as well as events we hope to see you at in 2012.

In addition to our quarterly newsletter, your membership includes The Arc of the United States newsletter, *Empower*. Please be assured that The Arc never sells our membership list to others.

Thank you for your interest in The Arc, the largest community-based organization in the country supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. Your membership makes The Arc's powerful voice even stronger in Indiana and throughout the country.

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Self-Advocates of Indiana President's Corner

Melody Cooper

President, Self-Advocates of Indiana

Happy New Year from Self-Advocates of Indiana! As we start a new year, here are some of the things that Self-Advocates of Indiana is looking forward to in 2012.

We have several committees, and they are working on different things throughout the year.

- On February 14, we will visit the State House to do our annual visit to our legislators.
- The picnic committee is working to plan our annual picnic, scheduled this year for Friday, July 20.
- We have a Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) Committee that is working to plan a fundraiser for the 2012 SABE conference, scheduled for August 30–September 2 in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Highlighting employment opportunities will be a focus this year as well, so that people with disabilities



Melody Cooper

will be able to work and feel like they are more independent.

For people with disabilities, it is important for us to know that we are treated with respect. We have an opportunity and a chance to contribute and make a difference. It is

good to know that our relationships with The Arc of Indiana, The Governor's Council for People with Disabilities, Indiana Institute on Disability and Community, FSSA, and many other groups continue to grow. These groups work hard to look out for and advocate on behalf of people with disabilities, and we are honored to have their support.

We hope you will get excited for what SAI is planning in 2012. Find us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/saIndiana, follow us on Twitter, @SelfAdvocatesIN, and keep an eye out for our newsletters. We have a lot of work to do, and we are ready to get busy!

Election 2012 - Be Involved!

We have already heard about or even watched many of the GOP Debates for the Presidential candidates, but 2012 is an important election for many reasons in addition to the Presidential race. In Indiana we have an election for one of our United States Senators, the Governor, and House and Senate races. This will be an important year in deciding the focus of policies for the next four years.

Be sure you are ready to cast your vote. The Arc of Indiana will be collaborating with other groups this year to make sure we do what we can to "Get the Vote Out" for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We will help voters be informed on who supports and who does not support issues important to people with developmental disabilities and their families. The Arc will be hosting meetings throughout the state this summer to allow people to meet candidates and hear their thoughts on policies impacting the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Your first step is to make sure you are registered to vote

- Apply in person at the voter registration or county clerk's office, any BMV license branch or public assistance office.

- Register to vote online by visiting www.indianavoters.com. Indiana residents with a valid Indiana driver's license or Indiana state-issued identification card will be able to use this tool to submit a new voter registration application or to update an existing voter registration record.
- In addition to registering to vote online, indianavoters.com provides Hoosiers with the

ability to validate their voter registration status, find their polling place location, look into their provisional ballot status information, find county contact information, and determine "Who's on My Ballot?" for an upcoming election.

For additional voter registration information, visit www.in.gov/sos/elections/2403.htm.

Important dates to keep in mind:

April 4, 2012 – Voter Registration Closes for the Primary Election

May 8, 2012 – May Primary Election

October 9, 2012 – Voter Registration Closes for the General Election

November 6, 2012 – General Election



A View from My Window

Hosted by Michelle Fischer

The Arc of Indiana welcomes you to listen in to *A View from My Window*, our audiocast hosted by Michelle Fischer.

Visit the "Media Gallery" or "News and Events" on our website, www.arcind.org, to listen to the latest edition and past broadcasts of *A View from My Window*, including these recent shows:

A View from John Quinn, Author of *Someone Like Me – An Unlikely Story of Challenge and Triumph Over Cerebral Palsy*

A View into My Blog!

A View into Fetal Alcohol Syndrome – A Father's Perspective

A View into the 2012 Indiana General Assembly

A View from Michelle

A View into Next Steps for the Blueprint for Change with John Dickerson

A View into Building My Career Pathway and the Blueprint for Change

Executive Director's Column



John Dickerson

The Arc is there because you care

It may be a new year, but when the phone rings at The Arc the calls are remarkably the same as they were nearly 30 years ago when I became the Executive Director.

This is what happened today:

- A young father, whose wife recently died unexpectedly, called because he does not know how he will keep his job and take care of his seven-year-old daughter with a disability.
- A woman who works in our building talked with me on the elevator to find out if there is something we can do to help her son who has a serious learning disability.
- An elderly man called, determined "not to be a drain on anyone," but, because his wife is in the hospital and his daughter in her 50's needs him, he cannot leave the house to see his wife unless some kind neighbor is willing to help out.

- A state senator called to discuss what happens if a group home provider moves all of the people they serve to a new day program, without giving them any choice.
- A local Arc executive director called to get information about programs in another part of the state.
- One of our self-advocates stopped in to tell us, and to celebrate, that she and her husband have moved into a new home.

And this is all before noon!

And then there is email and the Internet – something we definitely did not have thirty years ago. Today we communicate so quickly in so many ways. Many families find information and resources on our website; others use our website to connect with us through our "Contact Us" form. Others find information through our Facebook page or updates on Twitter.

Perhaps our challenges are still the same as they were when I came to The Arc, but our ability to help is greater. In 2011, 1,177 children and adults with I/DD were targeted to begin receiving home and community based supports

through the Medicaid Waiver—all this during the "Great Recession." Each week we are now getting updates from FSSA on people beginning to receive services – but more are waiting.

Last year our Waiting List Task Force worked hard to make recommendations on how to address the waiting list when resources are scarce – without having to make Solomon-like decisions. We are pleased to report that those recommendations were well received by FSSA, and we hope to see progress on this difficult task soon.

Through The Arc Network, we have staff ready and able to help connect families to programs, services, information and resources – including natural supports and community connections.

On the education front, The Arc, which advocated for the establishment of a public education for *all* children, remains a critical voice in education reform. Through the leadership of our Education Committee Chairman Jeff Huffman and Associate Executive Director Kim Dodson, we now meet regularly with State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Bennett.

All of this is made possible by you, our members and chapters. We are

thrilled to be celebrating the largest membership increase in our history – The Arc grew by over 8,000 new members at the end of 2011, bringing us to over 19,000 members statewide. This is not just a number, but a bridge. There are thousands of families who have loved ones with a developmental disability, and people with developmental disabilities themselves, who don't know about The Arc—but perhaps through you they will. There are hundreds of aging parents out there in their 80s and 90s who need help and don't know where to turn, but through you they may learn that The Arc is here to help. And there is someone out there feeling alone, but they aren't because The Arc is here to answer the phone, respond to an email and send out a newsletter with information and resources. We are here to be on the floor of the statehouse, email a member of Congress, answer a reporter's call or meet with staff from FSSA. The Arc is there because *you* care.

2012 will be a big year. Thanks to you we are larger than ever before in our history—more families involved, more self-advocates connected and more concerned Hoosiers informed and active. Thank you.

The Blueprint for Change

Celebrating Those Who are Making it Work

The *Blueprint for Change* is guided by key principles to shape the direction of system reform and change:

- Building Career Pathways for All
- Discovering and Realizing Individual Gifts
- Supporting Resourcefulness of Individuals, Families and Communities
- Using What You Need
- Shifting the Power to What Works

Throughout 2012 we are sharing the stories featured in our 2012 calendar that exemplify the good work that is happening throughout the state to help individuals with I/DD build career pathways and use their unique gifts—and illustrate how we can all work together, to look beyond what others say can and cannot be done, to find a way to make things work through determination and resourcefulness.

KCARC

Local chapter of The Arc in Knox County



Ron Devine has been employed by Dove Manufacturing, operated by KCARC, for over six years. Dove Manufacturing provides individuals with disabilities the opportunity to work side-by-side with individuals without disabilities to create valuable products.

Through the leadership of President Mike Carney, KCARC works to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities through programs and services designed to improve self-sufficiency and independence.

In addition to his work, Ron enjoys the role he plays as an advocate for people with disabilities. During the first session of the 112th Congress, Ron, along with Mike, met with 8th District Congressman Larry Bucshon and aides to Senators Richard Lugar and Dan Coats to share his story and discuss issues of concern to people with disabilities.

Stone Belt Arc

Local chapter of The Arc in Monroe County

Anndrea Isom has a job at a world-class employer because she excelled in Project SEARCH, a work experience program for young adults, operated by Stone Belt Arc in partnership with Cook Incorporated, Ivy Tech Community College, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Indiana University.

For the nine months Anndrea was involved in Project SEARCH, she learned about the world of work by rotating through three different internships within Cook and IVY Tech,



and then reinforced what she was learning through computer assisted classroom instruction.

Anndrea's excellent work skills and her outgoing personality helped to land her a dream job, full-time with benefits, within Cook's cafeteria when she completed the Project SEARCH program.

Stone Belt Arc is one of eleven Project SEARCH sites in Indiana—part of a program started at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and now replicated nationwide.

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2012 "Short" Session Promises to be Long

The Indiana General Assembly reconvened on January 4, 2012, for the short session that must adjourn by March 14, 2012.

Things started off quite heated when the Governor released an Executive Order just days before the start of the session regarding public access to the State House. Though the order was targeted towards the thousands of Right to Work protestors that promised to be at the State House every day during the session, it proved to be problematic for all who work and visit the State House. Fortunately, the Executive Order, which called for much tighter security, limited public access and a written list of expected visitors, did not even last until noon on the first day of session.

However, the increased security and large crowds remain at the State House and should be taken into consideration if you plan to visit the State House this session.

Due to the Right to Work legislation being introduced and set on a fast course of passage, the House Democrats caucused each day during the first three days of the session, not allowing a quorum to be reached to conduct business. But, as we go to press, little seems to stand in the way of its passage.

One bill that The Arc is closely following would impact public mass transit.

It is hard to dispute that this issue will be the focal point of the session, making it difficult for other important issues to be addressed.

With that being said, there are still hundreds of bills that have been introduced on numerous other issues and many of them will get committee hearings and discussion.

One bill that The Arc is closely following would impact public mass transit.

HB 1073 provides a method for the public to express their support for transit funding through a local referendum to provide a method to partially fund mass transit through the flexibility to increase a local

option income tax to become a dedicated funding source. The passage of the bill is important to people with disabilities who depend upon public transportation to get to and from work, to get to medical appointments and to patronize local businesses in their community.

SB 32, sponsored by Richard Bray (R-Martinsville), allows a guardian of a minor who has not been adjudicated an incapacitated person to petition the court to extend the guardianship beyond the date the minor attains 18 years of age. The bill requires the guardian and minor to sign the petition in the presence of at least two witnesses and authorizes the court to extend the guardianship, but not beyond the protected person's twenty-second birthday, if the court finds that extending the guardianship is in the best interests of the protected person.

Education remains a hot topic for many, and dozens of bills have been introduced on the issue that The Arc is monitoring. House Bill 1318 would establish standards for the use of seclusion and restraint in schools, and require parents to be notified when seclusion and/or restraint is used. It would also create reporting requirements for schools and require staff training in the use of positive behavior interventions and supports.

Stay in touch with what is happening at the State House through The Arc of Indiana's Legislative Action Center. We send out updates every week, and Action Alerts as needed, on important issues that may affect people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. It is quick and easy to sign up. Just go to: www.arcind.org and click on "Public Policy Advocacy" to find the link.

We also hope that you will participate in our annual Valentine's Day Event.

Learn more about the event in the accompanying article.

Although this session is categorized as a short legislative session, make no mistake; this will be a *loooooong* session!

Annual State House Valentine's Day Event February 14

Do you draw, paint, write poems, photograph? Be creative and create valentines for your members of the Indiana General Assembly that incorporate this year's message:

Roses are Red
Violets are Blue
We Love the Blueprint (for Change)
And Know You Will Too

Join us at the State House on February 14th to deliver your valentines (We will have folks there to help.) or mail your valentines to:

State Senator/State Representative
Indiana House of Representatives
or Indiana State Senate
200 W. Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2786

This annual event helps keep legislators aware of The Arc's mission, and helps people throughout the state connect with their legislators in a unique and positive way. You might include a short note with your valentine, letting your legislators know you are a constituent who has a loved one with a developmental disability, you have a disability, or you serve people with disabilities.

Please feel free to use the sug-

gested message or create your own. The goal is to share your own personal valentine in a creative way that makes your legislators feel special and reminds them that people with developmental disabilities and their families throughout the state are real people with real aspirations and needs.

If you plan to come to the State House, be sure to visit us at www.arcind.org for up-to-date information on this special event.



Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman Kerry Fletcher and her daughter Lindsey at the 2008 Annual Valentine's Day Event at the Statehouse

DDRS Reports Positive Progress in Moving People into Waiver Services

Indiana's Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) reports that in 2011, 1,177 people were targeted to receive Medicaid Waiver services from the Developmental Disabilities (DD), Support Services (SS) and Autism Medicaid Waivers. At the end of the year, a total of 12,769 people were receiving services from these waivers. Medicaid Waivers provide home and community based services to help support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in their family home or in small residential programs in the community.

In December 2011, 113 new people began receiving waiver ser-

vices. This includes 44 people new to the Developmental Disabilities Waiver, 13 people new to the Autism Waiver and 56 people new to the Support Services Waiver.

In the first three weeks of January 2012, 76 new people began receiving waiver services. This includes 23 people new to the DD Waiver, 11 new to the Autism Waiver, and 42 people new to the SS Waiver.

While this continued progress is positive news, it is important to note that as of December 2011 the unduplicated number of people waiting for a DD, Autism or Support Services Waiver was 19,613.

Local Chapters of The Arc of Indiana

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For 56 years The Arc of Indiana has stood as a beacon of hope for individuals with disabilities and their families. We were able to touch countless lives in 2011 because of the incredible generosity of our donors. Thank you for helping us help others.

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The Selective Group Foundation

Memorials

During 2011, The Arc of Indiana received memorial donations for the following individuals. While nothing will ease the loss suffered by family and friends, these memorial gifts serve as a tribute to these very special people.

Chris Barr
Leslie Beverly
Vickie Collins
Carol L. Corwin
Paul Cunningham
Dale Davis
Agnes Failey
Helen French
Sharon Gary

Our Donors

Jerry Guilinger
Sharon Holland
Tom Kinzer
Miriam Knauff
George Lynch
Wesley Martin
Mary McGrayel
Joan L. McLoughlin
Max Owen
William Pettine, Jr.
Doris (Wilcox) Scott
Arnold Stammis
Diane Walker
Wendy

Honorariums

In 2011, The Arc of Indiana received donations in honor of the following individuals.

Scott Abbott
Curtis Allen
April Beck
Hannah Rose Carpenter
Jennifer Christenson
Mike & Rochelle Cohen
Michael Collins
John Dickerson
Kim Dodson
Tom Ewbank
Jeff Fisher
Sara Marie Freeland
B. Beth Garrell
Jonathan Hossler
Steve Howell
Kathryn Ireland
The Honorable Sheila Klinker
Thomas Levy
Tiffany McCrary
Jill Olson
Max Owen
Edward J. Payne
Amy Pettigrew
Frederick Rockey
Tom Roy
Mike Stoner
Quentin Travers
Teddy Vandenberg
Tony Veegh
Cindy Wagner
Suzette Whightsel

The George Rowlas Endowment Fund

Carla & Terry Ault
Jeff & Sue Bassett
Kim Dodson
Susan Hansen
Mark & Chris Kevitt
Robert Krug

2011 Calendar Sponsors

Bi-County Services, Inc.
BRIDGES Development Foundation, honoring The Arc of Northwest Indiana
Carey Services
Easter Seals Arc of Northeast Indiana
Janus Developmental Services
KCARC
Milestones Clinical and Health Resources, a division of Stone Belt Arc
Noble of Indiana
Passages, Inc.
Rest Assured
The Arc of Greater Boone County
The Arc LaGrange County
Transitional Services, Inc., a partner of the Mentor Network

4th Annual Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament

Event Sponsors

Insights Consulting
Hold 'em or Fold 'em Poker
T&T Sales and Promotions

Raffle Sponsors

Caesars Entertainment
Buffalo Wild Wings

Steve Green's 22nd Annual Golf Tournament

Title Sponsor

The Arc of Indiana Master Trust

Event Sponsors

Media Sponsor – Liberty of Indiana
Practice with a Pro Sponsor – IPMG
Lunch Sponsor – The National Bank of Indianapolis
Cart Sponsor – Team Green Dentistry
Cart Sponsor – Indiana Pacers
Cart Sponsor – Mdwise
Cart Sponsor – Fusework Studio
Beverage Sponsor – Monarch Beverage
Beverage Sponsor – North Vernon Beverage
19th Hole Sponsor – Ice Miller

LLP

Printing Sponsor – Fineline Printing Group
Promotional Sponsor – Blackburn & Green
Photo Sponsor – Insurance Management Group
Closest to the Pin Sponsor – Rest Assured
Longest Drive Sponsor – Blackburn & Green
Sign Sponsor – Instant Signs & Graphics
Hole-In-One Sponsor – Burd Ford

Gold Sponsors

Blackburn & Green
Bradley & Associates
BRIDGES Development Foundation
Browning Investments
CarDon & Associates, Inc.
ent:imlcr CPA
ICEArc
JA Benefits, LLC
KCARC
Stone Belt Arc
The Arc LaGrange County

Hole Sponsors

Achieva Resources
Damar Services, Inc.
Hackman Hulett & Cracraft LLP
Hamilton Center, Inc.
INARF
Jeff, Jan & Nash Huffman
Katz Sapper & Miller
Patrick & Mindy Howe
Summit Realty Group
The Manloves / The 24 Group

Specialty Drink Sponsors

Flat12 Bierwerks
Heartland Distillers
Indiana Vodka
Sun King Brewery

Autism NOW Summit

Gold Sponsors

Answers for Autism
Hands in Autism
The Arc Master Trust

Bronze Sponsors

Applied Behavior Center for Autism
Indiana Protection & Advocacy Services

Partner Sponsor

Indiana State University – Blumberg Center

2011 Conference & Appreciation Luncheon

Gold Sponsors

Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services
Indiana Institute on Disability and Community

Bronze Sponsors

Hands in Autism
INARF
Rest Assured

Conference Partners

Bridges of Indiana
Four Rivers Resource Services
Rule 4
Tangram

Online Auction Donors

AAA Hoosier Motor Club
Arc Artisans at The Arc of Greater Boone County
ARC of Wabash County
Architectural Antiques
Barcelona Tapas
Becky Cogley
Bi-County Services
Bloomington Convention & Visitors Bureau
Bradley & Associates
Carey Services
Carla Ault
Carol-Anne Hossler
Carole Guess
Chelsea Piers
Claire Petersen
Climb Time Indy
Clowes Memorial Hall
ComedySportz Indianapolis
Conner Prairie
Corporate Touch Massage
Crackers Comedy Club
Dance Kaleidoscope
Dr. Phil Show
Easter Seals Arc
Eiteljorg Museum
Etc Skin and Body Salon
Footlite Musicals
Gas America
Greatimes Family Fun Park
Harry & Izzy's
Hendricks County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Holiday World & Splashin' Safari
Hollyhock Hill
Indiana Institute on Disability & Community
Indiana Fever
Indiana Ice
Indiana Pacers
Indiana Repertory Theatre
Indiana University Athletic Department
Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra
Indianapolis Colts
Indianapolis Indians
Indianapolis Museum of Art
Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra
Jan & Jeff Huffman
Jill Ginn
John Dickerson
Kay Fleck
KCARC
Kerry Fletcher
Kim Dodson
Kopper Kettle Inn
La Raza Pizza, Inc.
Lloyd Crowe
Maggie Stark, Caldwell Banker Shook Agency
Mallow Run Winery
Mark Hisey
Marlene Lu
MCL Restaurant and Bakery
Mike Degler
Mike's Express Carwash
Mitchell's Fish Market
New York Yankees
Noble of Indiana
Otter Box
Panera Bread
Paoli Peaks
Parkview Health
Passages
Paul C. Diebold
Perfect North Slopes
President Benjamin Harrison Home
Puccini's Smiling Teeth
Purdue Convocations
QuantumFit
Ramada Inn Indianapolis Airport
Rick's Cafe Boatyard
Russ Pine
Shedd Aquarium
St. Elmo Steak House
Texas Roadhouse, Lafayette
The Arc of Jackson County
The Arc of Northwest Indiana
The Center for the Performing Arts
The Children's Museum of Indianapolis
The Daily Show with Jon Stewart
The Doctors
The Leavenworth Inn Bed & Breakfast
Theatre on the Square
Trudy Reynolds
United Cerebral Palsy
Walt Disney World
WFYI
Windsor Jewelers
WTIU Public Television from Indiana University
X-Site Laser Tag
Yellow Rose Carriage Company

A Look Back at The Arc's 2011 Achievements

2011 was a busy year for The Arc of Indiana. Through our work in public policy, The Arc Master Trust, The Arc Network, and our collaboration with Self-Advocates of Indiana and other organizations, we are proud of the many accomplishments that were achieved throughout the year. We hope that through this work The Arc continues its history of making a difference in the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families throughout the state.

Blueprint for Change

The *Blueprint for Change*, the most significant plan to address the needs of Hoosiers with I/DD that The Arc has ever undertaken, was launched in November 2011—setting a direction for the future that is both exciting and challenging.

Waiting List Task Force Report

In response to Indiana's growing waiting list for Medicaid Waiver services, The Arc formed the Waiting List Task Force in May 2011. Their work resulted in the *Waiting List Task Force Report*, which includes recommendations on how to manage waiting lists, eligibility criteria – both to be on the waiting list and to receive waiver services, strategies to help those waiting for services, and how to best utilize funds and other resources to those receiving waiver services.

Rebranding



In March, 2011, The Arc of Indiana, along with The Arc US and local chapters throughout the state and country “rebranded” through the adoption of a new logo and new tag line. The rebranding effort is designed to promote that The Arc speaks with a clear, strong, unified voice that invites all to “*Achieve with us.*” To celebrate the new message and look, The Arc of Indiana staff traveled throughout Indiana in a statewide blitz in April to thank our local chapters and share the message, “Where in the World is The Arc? *In Indiana!*”

Public Policy

The Arc continued its strong presence at the Indiana General Assembly, working in the 2011 legislative session on crucial legislation, including Medicaid Waiver funding and reform, First Steps co-payments, and public mass transit. Through our Governmental Affairs Committee and our local chapters, we developed relationships with the over 30 newly elected members of the Indiana General Assembly and strengthened relationships with continuing members to assure the voice of children and adults with I/DD is heard in the Statehouse and on Capitol Hill.

Education

Through regular meetings with Superintendent of Public Instructions Dr. Tony Bennett, and the work of the Education Committee, The Arc has renewed its role in being a leader in the disability community to address education reform and critical issues of concern to families of children receiving early childhood and special education services. The Arc also continued its work to improve post-secondary education opportunities through our work on the Indiana Post-Secondary Education Coalition.

The Arc Master Trust

The confidence of families resulted in The Arc Master Trust growing to over 2,000 open trusts and over \$3.6 million in disbursements to beneficiaries. Total deposits in The Arc Trust grew to over \$42 million as of December 31, 2011. *Circle of Friends* was launched to assist people enrolled in the trust who no longer have loved ones to assist them. \$30,000 was provided to fund the Winter Heating Assistance Program, allowing 300 individuals with disabilities to receive \$100 in winter heating assistance.

The Arc Network

The Arc Network wrapped up their second two-year grant cycle in June 2011 with more than 2200 individuals and families assisted and more than 1300 presentations in the final year. Funding for the grant was renewed for another two years. The project has been redesigned and will focus on employment, community connections and natural sup-

ports, self advocacy and general advocacy for individuals with I/DD and their families

Self Advocacy

Self-Advocates of Indiana (SAI) grew to over 40 local chapters and funding was secured for SAI to hire Rebecca Scherpelz as their first SAI administrator. A plan was put into place to aggressively pursue SAI's number one goal of increasing employment opportunities for people with I/DD. 500 people attended the SAI annual picnic and state-wide conference in Indianapolis.

Membership

Through the work of our Membership Committee and local chapters of The Arc, we realized the single greatest increase in member-

ship in The Arc of Indiana's history, with over 8,000 new members joining The Arc to bring our total membership to over 19,000 members.

Development

Despite the continued economic downturn, through the support of generous sponsors, donors and participants in events, The Arc was successful in meeting our development goals—critical to continuing our work.

COVOH Decision Lab

Planned growth was realized in the use of the COVOH Decision lab by other organizations who utilized this innovative system that provides an electronic meeting format and linked computers to facilitate

Continued on page 9

Achieve with us

The Arc of Indiana Programs and Services

The Arc of Indiana was established in 1956 by parents of children with intellectual and 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.

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

The Arc Network provides information, referral and advocacy to assist and guide individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in the areas of:

- Community Connections and Natural Supports
- Community Employment, Career Pathways and Vocational Rehabilitation

- Self Advocacy and Self-Advocates of Indiana
- Understanding and applying for government programs, including Medicaid, Medicaid Waivers, SSI and Vocational Rehabilitation
- Policies and procedures of state and federal programs, including rights and appeals

COVOH Decision Lab

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

Family and Caregiver Training

The Family and Caregiver Training Program allows The Arc to pay the cost of approved training for individuals and families receiving services through a Medicaid waiver.

Membership

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

For information call us at 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100, or visit us at www.arcind.org.

The Arc of Indiana Strategic Plan 2012–2015

The Arc of Indiana's 2012–2015 Strategic Plan is organized into six visions that reflect the overall vision of The Arc and where we need to go. Each vision is expanded upon by several themes. These themes will be further developed to include strategies, timelines and measurable objectives to achieve each vision during the three-year time period of the strategic plan. The strategic plan was developed to compliment the guiding principles and goals of the *Blueprint for Change*.

Vision 1: *The Arc of Indiana leads in maximizing individual potential of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.*

Themes:

Developing a career pathway for everyone and realizing individual gifts are critical to the development of community for all.

Quality of life is promoted by enhanced individual initiative, personal choice, and self-directed supports; this includes natural supports, not just paid supports.

Resources are available for a comprehensive community of professionals, including teachers, direct-support staff and caseworkers, health care professionals, finance and legal professionals, and others to support individuals and their families.

Every individual with a disability has an advocate, guardian, or personal support network.

Vision 2: *The Arc of Indiana helps all individuals and families receive necessary services and supports in a timely fashion.*

Themes:

The waiting list must become an effective way to connect people to resources and supports, both paid and natural, that connects them to the community.

Individuals with I/DD and their families immediately receive information and support.

True person-centered plans and informed choices—that truly involve the person—are the basis of building a life in the community that

utilize both paid and natural supports.

Vision 3: *The Arc of Indiana promotes quality inclusive education for all students with an intellectual or developmental disability.*

Themes:

Children born with an intellectual or developmental disability receive quality early intervention services, including both natural and paid supports, with a transition to public schools.

Every student with an intellectual or developmental disability has a quality, inclusive education in the least restrictive environment.

Every student with an intellectual or developmental disability has an effective school-to-work transition as well as opportunities for continued lifelong learning.

Vision 4: *The Arc of Indiana leads in influencing public policy to promote and protect the rights, self-sufficiency and independence of individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability.*

Themes:

The Arc will educate public officials and inspire them to be champions of positive policy for individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability.

Public policy promotes opportunities for individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability to learn, live, work and play in inclusive communities.

Vision 5: *The Arc of Indiana leads in increasing public awareness of the potential of individuals with I/DD.*

Themes:

The public recognizes the abilities, accomplishments and inherent value of individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability. Public awareness is increased in every county.

The Arc's name and mission is recognized

statewide.

Vision 6: *The Arc of Indiana continues to develop the capacity to promote collaborative, community-owned organizations at the local and state level.*

Themes:

The Arc facilitates membership growth and diversity in the community, that build on natural supports.

The Arc diversifies and strengthens its funding strategies to ensure resources to accomplish its mission.

Collaborations and partnerships with other organizations enhance the mission of The Arc.

Building Pathways with Membership Help Us Build a Stronger Voice

At our Annual Meeting on November 1, 2011 the local chapters of The Arc called on The Arc of Indiana and *all* of Indiana's local Arc chapters to "Increase the membership and visibility of The Arc in Indiana." Brent Cardin, Chairperson of Indiana's Member and Chapter Committee, called on all of our local chapters to double local membership, and issued a challenge to double our statewide membership from 10,000 to 20,000.

During October and November 2011, 21 chapters reported 8,192 new members to The Arc, the largest single year recruitment effort in our history. But we are not finished; the membership drive continues through March, Disability Awareness Month.

The campaign "Building Pathways with Membership" was developed using the *Blueprint for Change* – and its Guiding Principles to align and grow The Arc's membership in each and every Indiana community. Chairperson Cardin explained that, "We want to have lots of voices as we move forward with the *Blueprint for Change*...We need lots of voices...We need people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, families, interested citizens, professionals...We need Members!"

We invite you to help! Ask a relative, friend, neighbor or co-worker to join The Arc. You can contact your local Arc chapter, or you can have them join online at www.arcind.org.

Grassroots support can only be sustained and furthered by having more voices heard and more people involved. We hope you will help to grow The Arc's membership.

Achievements from page 8

group decision making.

Autism Summit

In partnership with The Arc of the United States, we hosted the first Midwest Region Autism Now Summit, bringing together people from 11 states to learn and share information about the latest trends and direction in autism.

Collaboration with Down Syndrome Network

Through collaboration with Down syndrome organizations throughout the state, we worked to

bring the Governmental Affairs Committee of the Down Syndrome Network timely information from the Statehouse, as well as coordinate with their national efforts to support initiatives important to all Hoosiers.

Service to Individuals and Families

Thousands of contacts were made with Hoosiers across the state by staff, volunteers and self-advocates from The Arc of Indiana and The Arc Master Trust, offering help, support advocacy and information.

The Arc Seeks Health Care Innovation Challenge Grant

Working with a talented team of professionals in the disability field, The Arc of Indiana has applied for a Health Care Innovation Challenge Grant through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. If the grant is received, the funds will be used for a statewide demonstration project to develop a new funding/service delivery system for children and adults who have a Medicaid Waiver. This new model will enhance the personal outcomes of individuals in all areas including joining the workforce, increased use of natural supports and enhanced connections to non-Medicaid funded supports.

The model for the new system has been developed in connection with the *Blueprint for Change*. The goal is to develop a system that provides what individuals and families want and need, while utilizing savings which can then be used to serve individuals on the waiting list.

Almost 7,000 organizations have applied for the Challenge Grant. While the competition is high, The Arc believes in this new system and will seek additional funding if needed. The grant will be awarded at the end of March.

The Arc Network—We're Here to Help

Over the last several months, The Arc has launched a new phase of The Arc Network project. Continuing under the guidance of **Jill Ginn**, Manager and **Betty Williams**, Coordinator of Consumer Education and Training, the renewed focus of The Arc Network is to provide information, referral and advocacy to assist and guide individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in the areas of:

- Community Connections and Natural Supports
- Community Employment, Career Pathways and Vocational Rehabilitation
- Self Advocacy and Self-Advocates of Indiana
- Understanding and applying for government programs, including Medicaid, Medicaid Waivers, SSI and Vocational Rehabilitation
- Policies and procedures of state and federal programs, including rights and appeals

Jill Smith, Family Advocate Specialist, is working with the many families and individuals who contact The Arc of Indiana seeking information and help. Jill is available by phone and email to assist families with Medicaid Waiver, Medicaid and SSI applications, as well as to provide information and referral on many topics including special education, rights and appeals, and policies and procedures of state and federal programs.

Willaine St. Pierre-Sandy, Community Con-

nections Specialist, enjoys working with families throughout Indiana on making use of community connections and natural supports. Willaine assists individuals in finding community resources and activities that can enhance their lives and help develop natural connections and supports.



Mark and Fred became good friends when Fred began renting a house within walking distance of Mark's car repair shop. Their friendship led Mark to become an advocate for Fred, simply because he wanted to look out for his friend. The good work of staff at ADEC, local chapter of The Arc in Elkhart County, helped foster this connection. Helping families and individuals discover community resources and develop a network of natural supports is part of the new mission of The Arc Network.

Melody Cooper and **Rebecca Scherpelz**, Employment Advocates, are actively working throughout the state with local self-advocates groups as well as other groups and individuals who have developmental disabilities, on the benefits of integrated community employment. In addition, **Ken Oguss**, Storyteller and Videographer, has joined the employment team to produce a series of videos about community employment for a variety of audiences.

Michelle Fischer, Host of The Arc's "A View from My Window" audiocast, is continuing her work with The Arc Network. Michelle interviews a variety of people connected with disability issues on her dynamic audiocasts. Current and past audiocasts can be found by visiting www.arcind.org and clicking on "News and Events" or "Media Gallery." You can also get updates and links to audiocasts by liking Michelle's Facebook page, "A View from My Window with Michelle Fischer."

The Arc Network continues to have a strong focus on promoting and supporting self-advocacy and Self-Advocates of Indiana. SAI was pleased to hire Rebecca Scherpelz as their very first Self-Advocates of Indiana Administrator this year. Rebecca's role is to advise, counsel and support Self-Advocates of Indiana and help the organization in administering and implementing its long-range plan and activities.

The Arc Network advocates look forward to helping all individuals and their families in any way possible. If you need assistance or information, please contact us at 317-977-2375, 800-382-9100, thearc@arcind.org or by clicking on the "Contact Us" button at www.arcind.org. We're here to help!

Celebrating those who are making it work, from page 3



Wabash Center an Associated Organization of The Arc

Shawn Rector is one very busy man.

Shawn works full time at Greenbush Industries, a division of Wabash Center in Lafayette, Indiana; and serves on the board of directors of The Arc of Indiana, The Arc of Tippecanoe County and Self

Advocates of Indiana. Shawn also is Buddy Director for the Best Buddies chapter at Purdue University and President of the local Aktion Club.

Aktion Club is a service club for adults with disabilities, with more than 9,000 members worldwide. Kiwanis clubs, composed of like-minded, service-oriented people, serve as club sponsors.

State Representative Sheila Klinker helped found the Aktion Club in Lafayette over ten years ago, during her term as President for her Kiwanis club. Senator Ron Alting is a long time supporter of Best Buddies International, and made a point to meet with Shawn when he became Buddy Director.

Shawn's leadership and commitment to improving the lives of people with disabilities is making a difference locally and statewide, and through his Aktion Club service work he is making a difference for all in the community of Lafayette.

The Arc's COVOH Decision Lab is an innovative system that provides a streamlined meeting format designed to enhance the productivity level of group meetings.

The lab offers the use of "Think Tank" for group collaboration and decision making, and also offers video conferencing equipment. The lab is available for use by organizations and businesses. If you would like more information, or would like to schedule a demonstration, contact Jill Vaught at jvaught@arcind.org or 317-977-2375.



Future Planning Guardianships

If you are a parent of a child with a disability, sooner or later you will need to decide if guardianship is right for your child. It is a big decision, and while not something that *cannot* be changed once put into place, it is not an easy change.

In order to obtain guardianship there must be a court hearing to determine whether or not the person known as the "protected person" is incapacitated. Generally the courts require that an attorney be obtained to represent the person. If it is determined that the person is incapacitated (or unable to make decisions regarding their person and/or their finances) then a guardian is named to manage their affairs. The basis for determining whether someone is incapable of managing their affairs is based on insanity, mental illness, "mental deficiency," physical illness, infirmity, habitual drunkenness, excessive use of drugs, incarceration, confinement, detention, duress, fraud, under the influence of others or any other incapacity, or a developmental disability.



There are currently three forms of guardianship: Guardian of Person, Guardian of Estate and Guardian of Person and Estate.

Guardian of Person: This guardianship provides legal authority for the guardian to make decisions in regard to medical and health care. It also provides the authority to determine placement (living situation).

Guardian of Estate: This type of guardianship gives the guardian authority and control over the property of the protected person, including bank accounts, real estate, annuities or any form of asset owned by the person.

Guardian of Person and Estate: This type of guardianship includes all of the duties listed above. Guardian of Person and Guardian of Estate can be split between co-guardians.

At the court hearing, the person seeking guardianship must present information to show the incapacity of the individual. This can be estab-

lished with a Physician's Report and the testimony of others close to the person, as well as the person themselves. If the court determines that guardianship is required, then Letters of Guardianship will be issued stating which type of guardianship has been awarded, and who the guardian or co-guardians are. This Letter will also state if Successor Guardian(s) have been named.

If you would like more information on guardianship, please contact us at 317-977-2375, 800-382-9100, thearc@arcind.org or visit www.arcind.org.

2011 Report from The Arc Master Trust

The Arc of Indiana Master Trust was founded in 1988. Trust I is The Arc of Indiana's original trust. The intent of Trust I is to provide parents with a reliable way to supplement government benefits their children receive, such as Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income (SSI), when they are no longer there to provide for them.

Trust II was established in 1995 in response to a law passed by Congress in 1993 allowing individuals receiving government benefits to fund their own trust.

In 2011, 44 new people enrolled in Trust I and 201 new people enrolled in Trust II.

As of December 31, 2011 there were 2,084 open trusts with The Arc of Indiana Master Trust. Of those, 1,405 people are actively receiving distributions from either their Trust I or Trust II accounts. 155 accounts are funded but are not currently receiving distributions, and 524 Trust I accounts have not yet been funded.

Trust I Investments had a positive rate of return in 2011 of +.12%. This fund is conservatively invested and very closely monitored to ensure the safety of our beneficiaries' trust money. The Arc Master Trust invests beneficiaries' money as if they have retired and this is their retirement money.

The following table profiles investments as of December 31, 2011:

Mutual Fund – Int. Government/Bond	\$13,052,952	44.38%
Mutual Fund – Large Cap Equity	\$8,134,607	27.66%
Miscellaneous Cash Equivalents – Taxable	\$2,451,488	8.33%
Mutual Fund – Foreign Stock	\$1,926,593	6.55%
Mutual Fund – Small Cap Equity	\$1,699,903	5.78%
Mutual Fund – Domestic Hybrid	\$786,344	2.67%
Other	\$1,360,226	4.63%

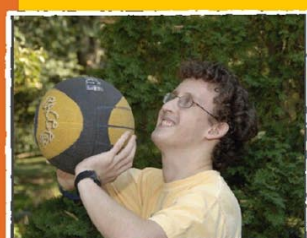
The total on deposit at The National Bank of Indianapolis for Trust I and Trust II at December 31, 2011 was \$42,814,720.

Learn more at www.thearctrust.com

Tom Ewbank Joins The Arc Trust as Senior Trust Officer



The Arc warmly welcomes Tom Ewbank to The Arc of Indiana Master Trust team. Tom, a founder of The Arc Master Trust, joins The Arc as our Senior Trust Officer following his recent retirement from Krieg Devault's Estate Planning and Administration Practice Group. He previously served Merchants National Bank & Trust Company as Senior Vice President and Senior Trust Officer. In total, Tom brings over forty years of Estate Planning experience to The Arc Master Trust.



The Arc Master Trust

Trust I

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

Trust II

Established in 1995, Trust II allows people with disabilities to fund their own trust - often with funds received through an inheritance, back payment from a social security or a personal injury settlement - allowing them to maintain eligibility for government benefits.

www.thearctrust.org • 800-382-9100

Stay Connected

We want The Arc of Indiana to be your source for news, information and resources. There are many ways to stay connected and stay informed.

Visit us at www.arcind.org. There you will find information "About The Arc," "News & Events" and "The Arc Master Trust." You will find a wealth of resources, categorized by the age of the person with a disability, in "Help for Families," as well as information for Self-Advocates.

In the special *Blueprint for Change* section of our website you can talk with each other in "Forums" and share videos, photos and stories in "Innovation." In our "Media Gallery" you will find a series of videos that will inform you About The Arc, About Self-Advocacy, Next Steps When You Learn Your Child has a Disability, Planning for the Future, and Medicaid Waivers.

"Media Gallery" also includes links to download and listen to our audio cast "A View from My Window," hosted by Michelle Fischer. You will find over 50 audio casts on a wide range of issues of importance to people with I/DD and their families.

Shuffle Up and Deal to Help The Arc

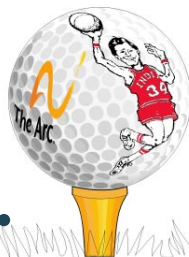


The 5th Annual Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament will be held on February 26, 2012 at the Rathskeller in downtown Indianapolis. Money raised from this fun-filled day

will be used to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families throughout the state.

In addition to the main tournament, there will be second chance tables, pull tabs, 50/50 drawings and a silent auction. The Red Bull girls will also be making a stop at this year's event. So whether you play regularly or are just learning, this tournament has something for everyone. A workshop for beginners will be held at noon. The event will begin at 1:00 PM and we will be ready to shuffle up and deal at 1:30.

To register for the tournament or for more information, please visit us at www.arcind.org, click on "News & Events."



Save the Date....

Steve Green's 23rd Annual Golf Outing to Benefit The Arc of Indiana will be June 15, 2012. This year's tournament will once again be held at the Eagle Creek Golf Club in Indianapolis. Please be sure to mark your calendar and plan now to play. Registration will begin on April 1. To register or for more information, please visit us at www.arcind.org, click on "News & Events."

We are currently looking for organizations to sponsor this event. If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities, please contact Jill Vaught at 317-977-2375 or jvaught@arcind.org.



You will also find links to:

- Sign up to receive our E-Newsletter
- Sign up to receive Legislative Memos & Action Alerts
- Join us on Facebook
- Follow us on Twitter

Stay Informed

- View videos on YouTube
- Shop at The Arc Store

And, of course, we are always just an email or phone call away. If we can be of assistance to you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us at 317-977-2375, 800-382-9100 or thearc@arcind.org.

2012 Calendar of Events

February 14

Self-Advocates of Indiana
State Meeting
Indianapolis

February 14

The Arc of Indiana
Annual Valentine's Day Event
Indiana State House
Indianapolis

February 25

The Arc of Indiana
Board of Directors Meeting
Indianapolis

February 26

The Arc of Indiana 5th Annual
No Limit Texas Hold'em Poker
Charity Event
The Rathskeller
Indianapolis

March 15

Self-Advocates of Indiana
Board of Directors Meeting
Indianapolis

April 18

Self-Advocates of Indiana
State Meeting
Indianapolis

April 23-25

The Arc of the United States
Disability Policy Seminar
Washington D.C.

May 19

The Arc of Indiana
Board of Directors Meeting
Indianapolis

June 14

Self-Advocates of Indiana
Board of Directors Meeting
Indianapolis

June 15

Steve Green's Annual Golf
Outing to Benefit The Arc
Eagle Creek Golf Course
Indianapolis

July 20

Self-Advocates of Indiana
Annual Picnic and State Meeting
Eagle Crest Picnic Area
Indianapolis

July 25-29

National Conference of
Executive Directors of Arcs (NCE)
Summer Leadership Institute
Indianapolis

August 25

The Arc of Indiana
Board of Directors Meeting
Indianapolis

August 30-September 2

Self-Advocates Becoming
Empowered National Conference
Minneapolis

September 13

Self-Advocates of Indiana
Board of Directors Meeting
Indianapolis

September 25

The Arc of Indiana 56th Anniversary

October 3

The Arc of Indiana Annual Conference,
Appreciation Luncheon and Annual
Meeting
Marriott East
Indianapolis

October 17

Self-Advocates of Indiana
State Meeting and
Board of Directors Election
Indianapolis

October 24

The Arc Master Trust
24th Anniversary

October 25-29

The Arc of the United States
National Convention
Washington D.C.

November 1

The Arc of Indiana
2013 Winter Heating
Assistance Program
Opens (pending board approval)

November 14-28

The Arc of Indiana
Annual Online Auction
www.arcind.org

December 10-11

Self-Advocates of Indiana
Board of Directors Meeting
Indianapolis