

Advocacy Efforts Lead to Victory in Campaign to Increase Direct Support Professional Wages

The Arc of Indiana achieved its top legislative priority for the 2017 state legislative session – to secure funding in the state biennial budget to increase wages for Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) providing Medicaid Waiver Home and Community Based Services. Thanks to the efforts of DSPs, families, self-advocates, providers, and legislators who supported the effort, \$20 million in new funding was provided in the state biennial budget to allow for an increase in Medicaid rates to address the critical issue of DSP wages. A study conducted by INARF, a partner in The Arc's DSP wage campaign, found that this investment could lead to a \$1,700 a year wage increase for DSPs who support some of our most vulnerable Hoosiers.

Other key legislation and funding approved in the 2017 legislative session includes:

The **Achieving a Better Life Experience Act (ABLE)** program in Indiana received funding needed through the State Treasurer's office to begin marketing Indiana's ABLE program and to have Treasurer Kelly Mitchell serve as chairperson of the ABLE Board. ABLE accounts are tax-advantaged savings accounts for individuals with disabilities that can be used for qualified disability expenses.

The **Indiana Adult Guardianship Program** through the Indiana Supreme Court received an additional \$500,000 each fiscal year to assist the volunteer advocates for seniors and incapacitated adults programs around state.

First Steps, Indiana's program for infants and toddlers with disabilities or at risk of disability, received additional funding in the state budget.

Senate Resolution 44 – Supported Decision Making – urging the Legislative Council to assign the study of supported decision making as an alternative option to adult guardianship to an interim committee.

SB 61 – School Resource Officers/ Seclusion and Restraint – Requires a school resource officer to report all incidents of seclusion and restraint involving the school resource officer. Requires the commission on seclusion and restraint in schools to adopt rules concerning reporting requirements for the use of seclusion and restraint by school resource officers.

SB 390 – Employment of Individuals with Disabilities – Provides that the policy of the state is to promote competitive, inte-



Governor Eric Holcomb met with self-advocates, families and providers at The Arc of Indiana's annual Valentine's Day at the State House event. Valentine's created for legislators and state officials shared the message, "DSPs, the Heart of it All."

grated employment, including self-employment as the first and preferred option when providing services to individuals with disabilities.

SB 475 – Developmental Delay – Requires the state board of education to amend its rule establishing developmental delay as a disability category to provide that, beginning July 1, 2018, developmental delay is a disability category solely for students who are at least three years of age and less than nine years of age. Adds developmental delay as a category for mild and moderate disabilities for purposes of determining special education grant amounts.

HB 1102 – Task Force to Assess Services – Establishes a seventeen (17) member task force for assessment of services and supports for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.

The new American Health Care Act (AHCA) guts over \$800 billion from Medicaid. The proposed per capita caps and cuts will have devastating and deadly consequences for people with disabilities. The president's budget cuts an additional \$610 billion in Medicaid. Learn more about this important issue, and what you can do to share your Medicaid story with members of Congress, on page 6. #JoinOurFight



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Self-Advocates of Indiana President's Corner

**Kelsey Cowley, President
Self-Advocates of Indiana**



It doesn't seem possible that it is already summer. Self-Advocates of Indiana and our chapters have been busy raising awareness, educating our communities, visiting chapters and being active in this year's legislative session.

As this year's legislative session recently ended, we would like to thank all of our members for all they did to advocate for the important policy issues this session at the local, state and federal levels. We had one of our largest turnouts in recent years at our annual Valentine's Day at the State House event, with over 150 individuals showing

up to raise awareness about Direct Support Professional wages. Your efforts paid off as the budget bill including increased reimbursement rates was passed. That bill will provide funds to increase wages for direct support professionals.

We also had the privilege of taking six SAI board members to Washington D.C. in March for the 2017

Disability Policy Seminar. These self-advocates had the chance to meet with our federal representatives and discuss the importance of Medicaid to individuals with disabilities. SAI was also involved with advocating for the passage of Employment First legislation and a resolution to study Supported Decision Making.

We would like to thank all of our chapters who participated in March Disability Awareness Month. Chapters held art shows, set up information booths

in their communities, made presentations to local community members, and one chapter even helped produce a radio ad that aired on their local radio station throughout the month.

Currently, we are busy planning the 2017 Self-Advocates of Indiana Annual Picnic, which will take place at a new location this year. This year's picnic will be held on Friday, July 14 at The Charleston Pavilion at Hummel Park in Plainfield, Indiana. Registration for the picnic is now open. You can register online at www.saind.org/picnic. Cost is \$15 for SAI Members, personal care assistants and chapter advisors, and \$20 for non-members.

Also, remember to save the date for SAI's annual conference. It will take place in partnership with The Arc of Indiana on Wednesday, November 15 at the 502 East Event Center in Carmel, Indiana. This event will be our last statewide meeting of the year and include our board elections.

As president of SAI, I thank all for their advocacy efforts and look forward to seeing self-advocates from around the state at our picnic on July 14.

State Seeks to Move to "Order of Selection" for VR Services

Indiana's Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) is seeking federal approval to implement a process called "order of selection" for Indiana's Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program. Once approved and implemented, this means that VR will prioritize individuals with the most significant disabilities to receive VR services.

The change is taking place, according to BRS, due to federal requirements that state VR agencies implement an order of selection when it anticipates that it will not have sufficient fiscal or personnel resources to fully serve all eligible individuals. Part of the issue is the lack of VR counselors to effectively move people through the VR process. BRS anticipates implementing order of selection by the end of the current federal fiscal year, September 30, 2017, pending approval from the U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration. Indiana would be the 35th state to implement this process.

As part of our public comments regarding the change, The Arc of Indiana noted, "The Arc of Indiana has a deep commitment to help people with I/DD have access to jobs and careers. When we talk with families and self-advocates, jobs are the top priority of what they want in order to have as much independence as they can. The services available from BRS play a critical role in assisting people with disabilities entering the workforce. For that reason and certainly others, The Arc of Indiana is concerned about the impact of implementing order of selection in Indiana... Over the last several years, The Arc of Indiana and its chapters have worked tirelessly to raise awareness to employers about the untapped labor pool people with disabilities provide. We have seen an increase in interest from perspective employers to learn more about hiring people with disabilities as they have learned the positive impact people

with disabilities can have in their workforce. We are concerned that now that we have opened this important line of communication, we will not be able to meet the demand for employees that Hoosier employers have."

The following suggestions were offered as alternatives to moving to the order of selection process:

- Work with the state legislature and/or state budget agency to provide additional funding to VR to draw down more (federal) funds with an effort to reclassify VR counselors to a higher rate of pay.
- Host a series of job fairs reaching out to this specific market. Consider hiring people with disabilities to fill open positions. Consider using contractors to provide some necessary services.

- Recruit for open VR positions with Community Rehabilitation Providers (CRPs). Streamline the onboarding process for VRCs.
- Look for efficiencies within BDDS and BRS staff.
- Look at training process and find ways to offer intensive training during onboarding and continue with ongoing training throughout their first year.

The Arc anticipates that the request to move to order of selection will receive federal approval. We will continue our efforts to work with BRS to work towards a solution that will allow BRS to serve all people with disabilities in need of vocational rehabilitation services. Watch for information and updates on our website, our weekly e-newsletter, and in future issues of *The Arc News in Indiana*.

A View from My Window

Hosted by Michelle Fischer

Visit www.arcind.org/podcasts to listen to the latest edition and past podcasts of A View from My Window, including these recent shows:

A View into the ABLE Act with State Treasurer Kelly Mitchell

A View into the Impact of ACA Repeal and Medicaid Cuts

A View into The Arc Master Trust

A View with Debra Ruh

A View with Cathy Pratt, Indiana Resource Center for Autism

A View into #MembershipMatters

Like *A View from My Window with Michelle Fischer* on Facebook

Follow Michelle's Blog – *My Life and Stories Behind the Mic*

Join Michelle on Twitter – @MFView





Kim Dodson

Executive Director's Column

Participating in and observing the legislative process at the national and state level over the past few months has been interesting, to say the least. There is a sharp contrast between the process in Indiana and in Washington D.C. Personally, I prefer the state legislative process. Even back when I was fresh out of college and working for a United States Congressman, I quickly asked to be moved to the district office after getting started in Washington D.C., as I wanted to be closer to the people we were working to help. When my career took me to the Indiana State House and the Indiana House of Representatives, it felt good to talk each day to local constituents and work with people who legislators knew personally from their district.

Throughout this past legislative session, the importance of local politics was alive and well. Every single legislator knew a family who would benefit from our efforts to increase Medicaid waiver rates to allow for increased wages for direct support professionals. Many legislators knew DSPs that would benefit from even a small bump in their wages. Legislators were eager to talk with self-advocates at our annual Valentine's Day event to hear about their relationships with their DSPs and how important it is to stop constant staff turnover caused by low wages. Their commitment to this issue came through with an investment of \$20 million to help those who provide such important, critical care.

Compare that experience with what families and advocates encountered with the US House of Representatives action to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Rather than working to

understand how this issue impacts real people in their districts, many congressmen and congresswomen refused to attend town hall events, did not answer phone calls, and even turned off fax machines.

When The Arc of Indiana's delegation to the national Disability Policy Seminar met with members of Congress in March, prior to a vote to delay action on the bill, a congressman actually stated, "Say what you must, but I am voting 'yes' regardless." It was the first time meetings felt tense rather than respectful, even if we agreed to disagree. The US House of Representatives went on to vote to cut over \$800 billion from the Medicaid program which serves not only people with disabilities, but also low income children and seniors.

I love the political process, I really do. I understand the games that must be played and don't mind playing a few myself. I *get* politics and how

political contributions work; it is expensive to run for office. I get that all politics is local, and at the end of the day, constituents do matter. Constituents vote—not nearly enough, but they do vote.

We must not back down in our fight. We cannot quit trying to educate policymakers about our issues. We must take every opportunity to attend public meetings with elected officials and make sure we voice our concerns. There are plenty of people upset and angry at the vote that took place on the Affordable Care Act. I hope people stay angry. I hope they stay engaged, and I hope they exercise their right to vote next year.

We must continue to work together. I want to thank all the advocacy groups for being engaged, and the wonderful families who are making their voices heard. Together we can make, and must make, a difference.

Celebrating Chapters of The Arc

The following stories exemplify how programs and services provided through local chapters of The Arc enrich the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Noble/The Arc of Greater Indianapolis *The Arc in Marion and Hamilton Counties*



Every Wednesday, Randy Bell and Noble Community Guide Kelvin Solares work out at the Jewish Community Center. After a five-minute warm-up on the exercise bike or treadmill, they move through a series of weight-lifting machines that Randy is using to achieve his fitness goals. When they started coming to the JCC over a year ago, Randy could only do 5 pounds at the

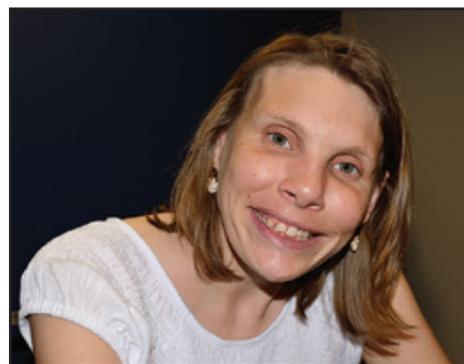
Chest Press. He's now up to 35—and pushing himself to do more. After finishing weight-lifting, they head over to the basketball court to shoot hoops before starting their one-hour volunteer shift folding towels.

The Arc of LaGrange County



Andy and Kyndra Landgraff, parents of Elliott and Ellerie, own their own financial planning firm. As such, they understand the importance of the Able Act, not only for their own children, but also for those they assist in making financial decisions. This is one of the reasons they took time out of their busy schedules to advocate for its passage at the national and state level. Andy and Kyndra also donate their time to The Arc of LaGrange County.

The Arc of Vigo County



Beneath her contagious smile, Joy Unverzagt loves adventure in her life. A favorite adventure is climbing aboard Holiday World's *Thunderbird* roller coaster in Santa Claus, Indiana. Joy also enjoys quiet adventures of the imagination. She is an avid reader, enjoying a wide variety of genres. One of her dreams is to attend a storytelling and a reading festival.

Through the Arc of Vigo County's Community Work Services program, Joy is seeking employment. She already knows that she would like to save some of her income towards purchasing a device that will help her read all kinds of books.

The Arc of Greater Boone County



The Arc of Greater Boone County provides supports for Jim to live by himself in his own apartment. As a diabetic, he needs help monitoring his blood sugar levels and sugar intake. His Community Membership Specialist, Tony, set up a tracking form for Jim to record his blood sugar and food intake. He also assists Jim with finding recipes for diabetics, shopping for ingredients, and cooking meals each week. Thanks to Tony's assistance, Jim's blood sugar levels have stabilized.

#WeAreTheArc2017



ADEC, The Arc in Elkhart County



Stone Belt, The Arc in Monroe County



Brandon Boas

in our newsletter, along with his message that we need to let people know that Culver's believes in hiring people with disabilities. "It's all about employment, employment of people with disabilities, and people need to know," Brandon said.

It was fitting to have this encounter during our #WeAreTheArc2017 travels, for it is the many years of advocacy by many people at chapters of The Arc throughout the state that made a simple moment possible – a man, who happens to have Down syndrome, serving lunch on a beautiful late spring day. Find more photos from #WeAreTheArc2017 by searching for the hashtag on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

in the lives of the individuals they serve and their families.

A favorite story from our visits was a chance encounter with a friend of The Arc, Brandon Boas – a long time self-advocate and accomplished photographer. While traveling home from a visit at The Arc of Jackson County, The Arc of Indiana's executive assistant, Jenny Good, stopped for lunch at Culver's in Columbus. To her surprise, Brandon delivered her food to her table. Brandon agreed to have his photo taken, if we would agree to share the photo



Fountain County ARC

Throughout the month of May, The Arc of Indiana and The Arc Master Trust staff traveled Indiana, visiting our 43 local chapters of The Arc. From large providers of services to people with developmental disabilities – like Noble / The Arc of Greater Indianapolis; Stone Belt Arc, The Arc in Monroe County; and ADEC, The Arc in Elkhart County; to smaller "advocacy only" chapters like The Arc of Shelby County, The Arc of Bartholomew County, and Fountain County ARC – our local chapters, volunteers, leaders and hardworking direct support professionals make a difference every day



The Arc of Bartholomew County



Noble / The Arc of Greater Indianapolis



The Arc of Shelby County

The Arc of Indiana Programs and Services

Whether you are a family member, a person with a disability, or a professional connected to the world of disabilities – we're here to help through 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, has served Hoosiers of all disabilities for over 25 years. Trust I allow families to establish a trust to provide for their loved one's future. Trust II allows a person with a disability to establish his or her own trust. Trust staff is available for individual meetings and to exhibit and conduct presentations. www.thearctrust.org

The Arc Advocacy Network

The Arc Advocacy Network provides information, referral, and advocacy in the areas of understanding and applying for Medicaid Waiver services and other government programs, employment, natural and community supports, guardianship

and alternatives, transitioning from a nursing facility or group home to a home in the community, and self-advocacy and Self-Advocates of Indiana.

The Arc Advocacy Network staff is available to exhibit and conduct presentations.

Through the **Insurance Advocacy Resource Center**, we assist families in navigating their private health insurance policies and increase knowledge of basic health insurance issues, including the Affordable Care Act.

The Arc's **Utility Support Program** can provide heating and cooling assistance to low income families with a dependent child under the age of 18 and one or more residents in the household with a disability.

Family and Caregiver Training Services

The Arc's Family and Caregiver Training Services Program can help facilitate the process of utilizing Medicaid Waiver funds for family and caregiver training.

Erskine Green Training Institute

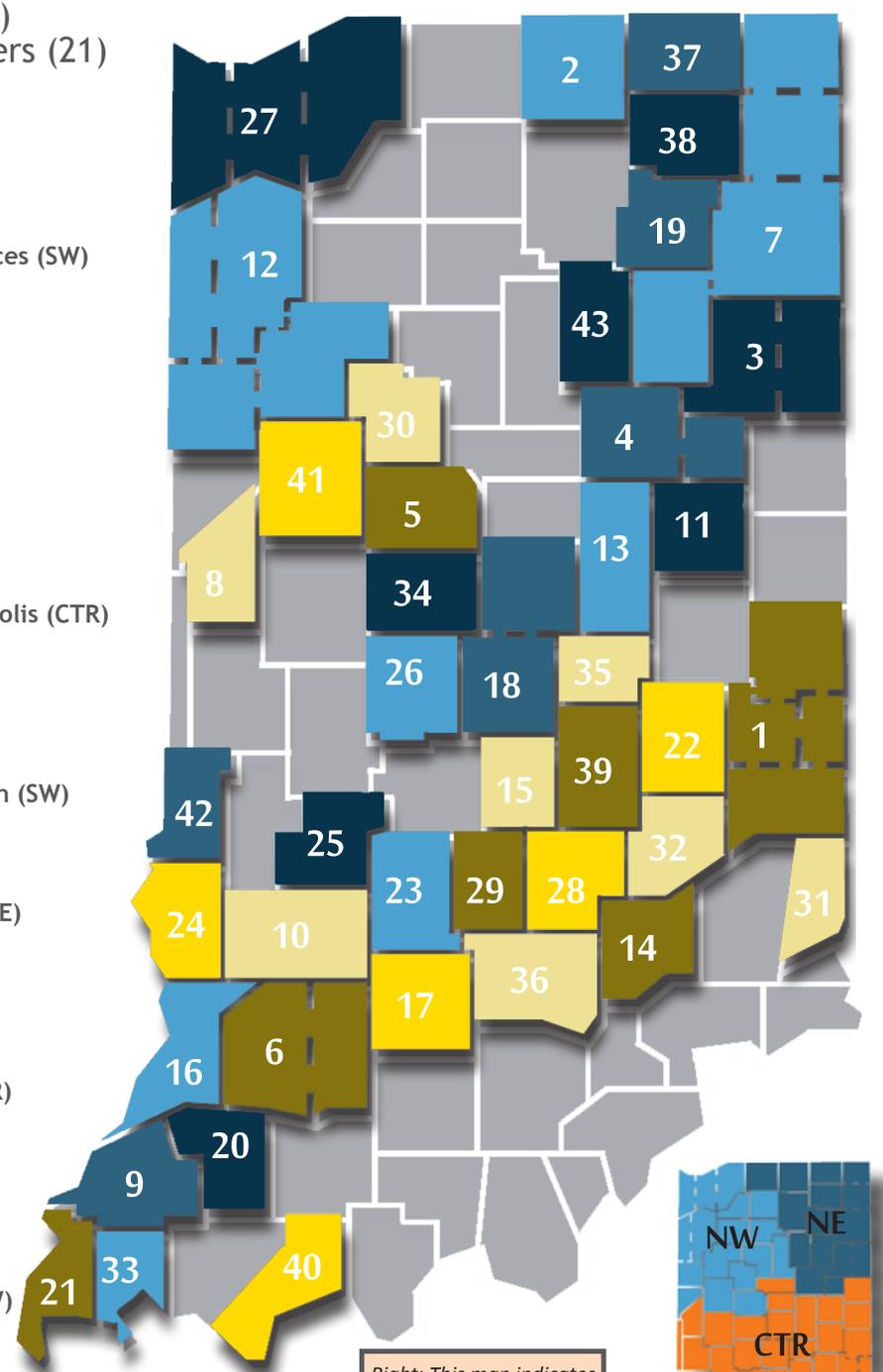
Erskine Green Training Institute, established by The Arc of Indiana Foundation, provides post-secondary training for employment in hospitality, food service and health care. After receiving training, skills are applied through internships at the Courtyard Muncie at Horizon Convention Center, Thr3e Wise Men restaurant, and IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital. www.erskingreeninstitute.org

The Arc of Indiana Provider & Advocacy Only Chapters

The following map identifies the 43 chapters making up The Arc of Indiana.

- Provider Chapters (22)
- Advocacy Only Chapters (21)

- 1: Achieva Resources (CTR, SE)
- 2: ADEC, Inc. (NE)
- 3: Bi-County Services (NE)
- 4: Carey Services, Inc. (NE)
- 5: Clinton County Arc (NW)
- 6: Daviess-Martin Rehabilitation Services (SW)
- 7: Easter Seals Arc of NE Indiana (NE)
- 8: Fountain County ARC (CTR)
- 9: The Arc of Gibson County (SW)
- 10: Greene County Arc (SW)
- 11: Hillcroft Services (CTR)
- 12: Hoosier Prairie Arc (NW)
- 13: Hopewell Center, Inc. (CTR)
- 14: Jennings County Arc (SE)
- 15: Johnson County Arc (CTR)
- 16: KCARC (SW)
- 17: The Arc of Lawrence County (SE)
- 18: Noble/The Arc of Greater Indianapolis (CTR)
- 19: Passages, Inc. (NE)
- 20: The Arc of Pike County (SW)
- 21: Posey County ARC (SW)
- 22: The Arc of Rush County (CTR)
- 23: Stone Belt Arc (SE)
- 24: Sullivan County Area Rehabilitation (SW)
- 25: Sweet Owen Industries Arc (SE)
- 26: Sycamore Services (CTR)
- 27: The Arc Northwest Indiana (NW)
- 28: The Arc of Bartholomew County (SE)
- 29: The Arc of Brown County (SE)
- 30: The Arc of Carroll County (NW)
- 31: The Arc of Dearborn County (SE)
- 32: The Arc of Decatur County (SE)
- 33: The Arc of Evansville (SW)
- 34: The Arc of Greater Boone Co. (CTR)
- 35: The Arc of Hancock County (CTR)
- 36: The Arc of Jackson County (SE)
- 37: The Arc of LaGrange County (NE)
- 38: The Arc of Noble County (NE)
- 39: The Arc of Shelby County (CTR)
- 40: The Arc of Spencer County (SW)
- 41: The Arc of Tippecanoe County (NW)
- 42: The Arc of Vigo County (SW)
- 43: The Arc of Wabash County (NE)



Right: This map indicates The Arc of Indiana's five geographic regions; Northwest (NW), Northeast (NE), Central (CTR), Southwest (SW) & Southeast (SE)



The Arc of Indiana Making a Difference

#TheArcAction

- ★ Over the past 22 months The Arc of Indiana has assisted over 9,100 families and individuals with disabilities through The Arc Advocacy Network.
- ★ We have participated in over 100 events and have had over 3,800 self-advocates involved in our activities.
- ★ Our Utility Support Program has assisted over 2,350 families and individuals with heating and cooling costs.
- ★ Our membership has grown to over 27,000 members though our 43 local chapters.
- ★ Organizational Members have grown to 34, including 6 new organizational members.

President's Budget and Health Care Cuts Devastating for People with Disabilities

In late May, the Trump Administration released its first ten-year budget proposal, and the numbers are devastating for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families. On top of the more than \$800 billion in Medicaid cuts already approved by the House of Representatives, the Trump Administration is planning for \$610 billion in cuts to Medicaid; \$72.4 billion in cuts to Social Security's disability programs; and hundreds of billions more in cuts to other effective federal programs that are vital to people with I/DD.

Peter Berns, CEO of The Arc, issued a statement following the release of the budget proposal:

"Where we invest our federal dollars is a measure of our values as a nation. Today the Trump Administration showed its cards, and coupled with the devastating Medicaid cuts already approved by the House of Representatives in the health care bill, the deck is stacked against people with disabilities.

"In the last few weeks, I've traveled to chapters of The Arc in Maryland, North Carolina, Wisconsin and even Alaska. Chapters of The Arc sprang up in these communities and across the country decades ago because people with disabilities and their

families were appalled by the segregation of people with disabilities in inhumane institutions, and they were determined to make progress. And we have fought for rights, closed institutions, opened up the community and classroom and paved the way to employment. Two effective programs built on bipartisan policy over the years – Medicaid and Social Security – have been essential to this progress. Medicaid provides health care and long term supports that help make a life in the community possible for many people with disabilities, and Social Security is far too often the only thing keeping the lights on and food on the table for a person with a disability.

"This budget – this Trump card – along with the health care cards being played in Congress as we speak, will dismantle decades of progress for people with disabilities and their families. So, I'm calling on all advocates to do what they have done for decades, band together to put a face on these cuts. Share your story in your community and with your elected officials, and tell them to reject these cuts, before we go back in time to an era of discrimination and isolation."

Visit www.arcind.org/our-programs/public-policy-advocacy/ to find contact information for Indiana's congressional delegation.



Tell Your Senators: NO Cuts to Medicaid

In the beginning of May, the House of Representatives narrowly passed a Medicaid and health care bill, known as the American Health Care Act. The bill repeals the Affordable Care Act and will have a devastating impact on people with disabilities and their families if passed by the Senate unamended. The bill includes over \$800 billion in cuts to Medicaid, and would open the door to repealing major health care protections like coverage for people with pre-existing conditions. Visit www.arcind.org/our-programs/public-policy-advocacy to find links to information and updates.

The Senate is now debating similar legislation. **Indiana's Senators, Senators Todd Young and Joe Donnelly, must understand the importance of Medicaid in the lives of people with disabilities and their families, so bad health care legislation can be stopped for good.** Senators are currently looking at placing caps on how much states can spend on Medicaid services. Experience shows that over time these caps would mean devastating cuts to services.

For the past 52 years, Medicaid has provided healthcare and long term services and supports to millions of adults and children with disabilities. These 10 million participants with disabilities, and often their families, depend on the critical services that Medicaid provides for their health, functioning, independence and well-being.

Visit <http://disabilityadvocacynetwork.org> to use The Arc of the United States simple tool to send a message to Senator Todd Young and Senator Joe Donnelly. Tell them:

I am a person with I/DD (or a family member of someone with I/DD, or a professional in the disability field).

I (or my family member) depend(s) on Medicaid

long term supports (or home and community supports) to live in my/our community.

Please OPPOSE any legislation that will cut or cap Medicaid.

These types of cuts would be devastating to me/us and other people with disabilities and their families.



A delegation of 30 leaders of The Arc in Indiana, families, and self-advocates attended The Arc of the United States Disability Policy Seminar in March. Advocates spent time learning about critical federal issues facing people with disabilities and their families, including efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act and make significant cuts to Medicaid. The final day of the seminar was spent meeting and talking with Indiana's congressional delegation, including Senator Todd Young.

Study Committee to Review Supported Decision Making

Several months ago, The Arc of Indiana, in conjunction with the National Resource Center for Supported Decision Making, researched Indiana's environment regarding Supported Decision Making – a process that empowers individuals with disabilities who are capable of making decisions to use available supports to make their own choices. The study resulted in the publication of the report, "Supported Decision Making in Indiana – Guardianship, Civil Rights and the Case for a Less Restrictive Alternative."

During the 2017 session of the Indiana General Assembly, The Arc worked with State Senator Eric Koch to pass a resolution urging the Legislative Council to assign the topic of Supported Decision Making to a summer study committee. The resolution was adopted, approved by Legislative Council, and assigned to the Interim Study Committee on Courts and Judiciary. The study will allow The Arc to share key information about Supported Decision Making with decision makers, including how it can be a useful tool for individuals with disabilities.

The study will allow The Arc to share key information about Supported Decision Making with decision makers, including how it can be a useful tool for individuals with disabilities.

In addition, The Arc of Indiana successfully supported the Indiana Supreme Court grant request from the American Bar Association to begin a Supported Decision Making model project with Achieva Resources, The Arc in Wayne County. The Arc of Indiana looks forward to watching the pilot project move forward and to sharing the difference the project makes in individuals lives.

Updates regarding Supported Decision Making will be shared by The Arc throughout the summer. If you are interested in more information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Supported Decision Making Facts

- All people use Supported Decision Making to make important life decisions for such things as financial decisions, buying a house or car, car repairs, education or choices in medical treatments.
- Supported Decision Making empowers individuals with disabilities who are capable of making decisions, to use available supports to make their own choices and live self-directed, independent lives.
- Even if a person with a disability needs extra help to make significant life decisions, their right to make their own choices should not be taken away (such as guardianship) without exploring all options and less-restrictive alternatives.
- Supported Decision Making does not replace more formal substitute decision making legal structures, such as Advanced Health Care Directives, Powers of Attorney, or guardianships.
- Supported Decision Making is one more alternative, another tool in the toolbox, and would be the least restrictive option, enabling people to use their own support systems and family to obtain information and make decisions instead of having someone else make decisions for them.
- Supported Decision Making agreements formalize the use of these support structures to obtain and assess information to make decisions.
- Supported Decision Making agreements would be less costly to both the State and the consumer by avoiding expensive court processes and unnecessary legal fees.

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Creating employment opportunities for people with disabilities



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For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

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We are excited to share the launch of The Arc of Indiana's "new and improved" website. Please visit www.arcind.org and explore information and resources for families, people with disabilities, providers and advocates. We hope that you will find the new website easier to navigate and more pleasant to view on mobile devices and tablets.

On the website, you can find links to information about The Arc, including chapters in your area; resources available through our programs and ser-

vices, including "Help for Families" through The Arc Advocacy Network; and assistance through our Utility Support Program and Insurance Advocacy Resource Center. "Supports and Services" will take you to information on resources for milestone age areas – infants and toddlers, early childhood, school age, transition from school, and adults. Look for quick links to information on Public Policy Advocacy, Medicaid Waivers, recent news, helpful publications, and our podcast, "A View from My Window." Links on the lower half of the

page will take you once again to Help for Families, The Arc Master Trust, Erskine Green Training Institute, and Self-Advocates of Indiana. And, you will find links to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram; as well as easy links to sign up for our e-newsletter and action alerts.

We welcome your feedback on the website, including suggestions for additional resources and information. Contact us at thearc@arcind.org or simply use the "Contact Us" form on the new website.

UPCOMING EVENTS


www.arcind.org


www.erskingreeninstitute.org


www.thearctrust.org


www.sai.org



28TH GOLF TOURNAMENT & GOLF BALL BOUNCE

Friday, June 16
Eagle Creek Golf Club • Indianapolis, IN



SELF ADVOCATES OF INDIANA PICNIC

Friday, July 14
Hummel Park • Plainfield, IN



CRUISING FOR DREAMS A BENEFIT FOR EGTI

Saturday, September 16
Horizon Convention Center • Muncie, IN



THE ARC US 2017 NATIONAL CONVENTION

Wednesday–Saturday, November 1–4
San Diego, CA



STATE CONFERENCE & IMPACT AWARDS LUNCHEON

Wednesday, November 15
502 East Event Centre • Carmel, IN