

## Medicaid Waiver Redesign Process Underway

Indiana's Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) began a two year project in April to redesign Indiana's Medicaid Waiver program for home and community based services.

As stated by DDRS, a key goal of the project is to encourage enhanced community integration through supports that are purposeful and meaningful to individuals being supported with developmental disabilities waivers, currently the Family Supports Waiver and Community Integration and Habilitation Waiver.

DDRS has contracted with the Human Services Research Institute (HSRI) to assist in waiver redesign efforts. HSRI is a nonprofit, mission-

driven organization that provides research, evaluation, consulting, and data support services to assist health and human services agencies to improve the quality and availability of programs and services.

Along with HSRI, partners on this effort will include the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services, the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community, the Institute for Human Development at University of Missouri at Kansas City, the Consortium on Innovative Practices, local and statewide provider organizations, organizations for people with disabilities, and advocacy organizations, including The Arc of Indiana.

### Initial goals for the waiver redesign process include:

- Increase person-centered planning
- Improve coordination of care
- Increase community engagement
- Enhance member experience
- Maintain qualified providers
- Ensure federal compliance
- Promote efficiency

The goal is to have full implementation of a new waiver system by March 2021.

### Living Well Initiative

As part of the process of redesigning the waiver program, DDRS has been awarded a *Living Well* grant, funded through the Administration for Community Living, to "increase meaningful community integration and independence of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and to improve the quality of home and community-based services." DDRS will utilize the grant to look at how the quality

of Medicaid Waiver services can be improved and how the current system for monitoring the safety, health and well-being of individuals with I/DD can be enhanced.

### Objectives include:

- Partner with self-advocates, families and other stakeholders in the development of practices, policies and procedures that will enhance waiver services
- Develop and implement an improved process for analyzing data from waiver providers that will increase the quality of and access to services
- Develop and test toolkits for providers, individuals and their families that will allow for improved monitoring of the health, safety and well-being of individuals while also reducing risk factors for abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Identify, develop and implement an innovative approach to increase the amount of paid and non-paid community supports

### Be Part of the Process

Both HSRI and DDRS have noted that feedback from people with disabilities, families, providers, and advocates will be critical to the success of redesigning Indiana's Medicaid Waiver program. The Arc will work throughout this process to share information, including opportunities for input.

As a start, DDRS encourages individuals, families and providers to share stories of success that can be built upon, ideas regarding how to improve waiver services, and recommendations on how to best monitor safety, health and well-being. Stories, ideas and recommendations can be emailed to: [ddrsuccessstories@fssa.in.gov](mailto:ddrsuccessstories@fssa.in.gov). Please also share with The Arc of Indiana at: [thearc@arcind.org](mailto:thearc@arcind.org)

### Charting the LifeCourse

DDRS took a first step toward their goal to improve Indiana's Medicaid Waiver program with the adoption of the *LifeCourse Framework*, a program developed by families for families to help individuals and families of all abilities, ages and stages of life develop a vision for a good life, think about what they need to know and do, identify how to find or develop supports, and discover what it takes to live the lives they want to live.

Guides that focus on early childhood, school age, transition, adulthood, and aging are available at [www.lifecoursetools.com](http://www.lifecoursetools.com). Each guide includes information to help families and those with disabilities think about life domains – daily living, community living, safety and security, healthy lifestyles, social and spirituality, and citizenship and advocacy – at various stages of life and includes questions to ask to move toward a vision for a good life that incorporates these domains.

If you receive waiver services, talk with your case manager about how to use the LifeCourse tools as part of the process in planning your individual waiver program. While LifeCourse tools can be used as part of the planning process for those receiving waiver services, it can be used as a planning tool to help anyone think about their life, not just those known by the service system.

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## Self-Advocates of Indiana President's Corner

**Shawn Fulton, President  
Self-Advocates of Indiana**



Self-Advocates of Indiana has been very busy over the last several months. We spent time during the legislative session advocating for important legislation like the Hate Crimes bill, DSP wages and Supported Decision-Making. We are excited to

have Supported Decision-Making become a legal option for individuals with disabilities in Indiana. We have also been out spreading the word about SAI at transition fairs and talking to potential new chapters about starting a local self-advocacy group.

We spent the month of April traveling around the state and holding three regional meetings for our chapters. We held meetings in Indianapolis, Michigan City and Jeffersonville. This is always a great time to visit our members around the state and provide updates about SAI.

SAI is also leading a statewide Employment Workgroup. This workgroup was a recommendation from the 1102 Taskforce to increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities. We have gathered a group of self-advocates, family members, providers and employers. We will be meeting with them over the next several months. We are excited not only to be a part of this workgroup but to be the ones leading it.

Our 2019 Picnic is coming up on Friday, July 19 at Hummel Park in Plainfield, IN. Registration is now open, and you can register at [www.saind.org](http://www.saind.org). If you are interested in supporting the picnic financially or as a volunteer, please contact me at [saipresident@arcind.org](mailto:saipresident@arcind.org).



### Sexuality Matters Program

Do you, your family member or individuals you provide services to have a question about relationships and sexuality?

Want to know what a healthy relationship looks like?

Have questions about different types of relationships?

Self-Advocates of Indiana's team of educators is available to speak to groups.

#### Topics include

Types of Relationships  
Public vs Private

What it means to be in a relationship

Decision making in relationships

Identifying abuse and unhealthy relationships

What consent means

For information or to schedule a training, contact Amanda Circle at [acircle@arcind.org](mailto:acircle@arcind.org) 317-977-2375

## Employment Work Group Studying Employment Options, Transition from Sheltered Work

An Employment Workgroup, chaired by Shawn Fulton, Self-Advocates of Indiana President, has come together to discuss the use of 14C Certificates, a federal program that allows people with disabilities to receive sub-minimum wages, and develop strategies to assist provider agencies to transition their sheltered workshop employment programs. The group is also looking at ways to offer an array of work opportunities and options that provide for growth, respect, preferences and interests.

Members of the Employment Work Group include leaders of self-advocate chapters, family

members, Indiana APSE (an organization focused on community employment outcomes of choice for all people with disabilities), The Arc of Indiana, INARF (representing providers of services to people with disabilities), provider organizations, case management agencies, employers and representatives from the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA).

The workgroup is charged with making recommendations to FSSA by August 31, 2019 as part of the Medicaid Waiver redesign process.

### SAI Speakers Bureau

Self-Advocates of Indiana is available to speak to your organization or group. Our trained presenters can conduct workshops, training, and panel discussions on the following topics:

- Self-Advocacy & Self-Determination
- Achieving Your Employment Dreams
- Guardianship & Alternatives, including Supported Decision-Making
- Disability Awareness & Communication

Contact Amanda Circle, [acircle@arcind.org](mailto:acircle@arcind.org) or 317-977-2375 to learn more or to schedule a presentation to your group or organization.



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 Instagram, @MFView.





Kim Dodson

## Executive Director's Column

Where does the time go? I seriously have no idea where the months of April and May have gone. And sadly, I think the whole summer may feel that way too. There is so much going on, and at such a fast pace at the state and national levels, regarding issues important to people with I/DD and their families that there is barely time to stop and strategize about what is coming next.

What bothers me the most about the fast pace is wondering how families and people with disabilities are keeping up with all the changes on the horizon? A lot is going on — a lot of really important things, which may have great impact on the services and supports for people with disabilities.

I am optimistic that the changes will be good, but I remain worried about whether or not people with disabilities and their families are having opportunities to play a role in making the changes and being informed about those changes.

We spend a lot of time doing outreach to families and self-advocates. The Arc sends out numerous pieces of communication, in various forms, hoping that we are getting information to everyone we can. I know the state and other organizations send out communications as well, but it seems that only the same families and self-advocates are the ones getting engaged and providing input. Don't get me wrong, I am glad for these persons' valuable input. But what about those not already connected? How do we motivate them to provide

their thoughts on the changes currently being proposed? How do we help the families of school age children who are already overwhelmed, and just looking for even five minutes to get caught up on things at home? Because we seem only able to reach those who are already engaged, I worry that we are overlooking major concerns of those who are not. Unfortunately, when we hear from some families, it is when they are in crisis. They didn't know resources were available or how to access them.

I have run into too many families recently who are not familiar with the term *LifeCourse* or have any idea that Medicaid Waivers are going through a redesign process. They don't realize that their soon-to-be high schooler now needs to complete graduation pathways to earn a diploma; and YES, there is an alternative to guardianship

through Supported Decision-Making that can provide supports, without requiring full, legal guardianship.

Here it is 2019, with so many means and avenues to communicate and share information, but yet so many people are still not receiving it. Please help us share information. If you receive information that you think may be useful to someone else, pass it on. Whether it be sharing a post on Facebook, sharing information about a local or state meeting, or just sharing *The Arc in Indiana* newsletter, please help us spread the word. Help us get information to people who need it, and help us connect with those who need to be part of the process — the vital process of shaping and reshaping the services and supports their loved ones need.

## National Programs of The Arc

The Arc of the United States implements several national programs that are funded by grants from government, private foundations or other dedicated sources. Following are highlights of a few of these programs. Find more at [thearc.org/what-we-do/programs-and-services](http://thearc.org/what-we-do/programs-and-services)

### Autism NOW: The National Autism Resource and Information Center

The Arc's Autism NOW Center provides a central point of access to high-quality resources and information for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), their families, professionals, and other key stakeholders. The website is unique in that all of the content has been created or reviewed by people with autism. [autismnow.org](http://autismnow.org).

### Center for Future Planning™

The Arc's Center for Future Planning™ aims to support and encourage adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families to plan for the future. The Center provides reliable information and practical assistance to individuals with I/DD, their family members and friends, professionals who support them and other members of the community on areas such as person-centered planning, decision-making, housing options, and financial planning. <https://futureplanning.thearc.org>

### National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability®

The National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability (NCCJD) serves as a clearinghouse for information and training on the topic of people with I/DD as victims, witnesses and suspects or offenders of crime. NCCJD's goal is to

build the capacity of the criminal justice system to respond to gaps in existing services for people with disabilities, focusing on people with I/DD who remain

a hidden population within the criminal justice system with little or no access to advocacy supports or services. <https://www.thearc.org/NCCJD>

### The Arc@School

The Arc@School, The Arc's National Center on Special Education Advocacy, builds the capacity of chapters to provide individual advocacy that helps students with I/DD and their families navigate the special education system. The Arc@School's Online Resource Center, [www.thearcatschool.org](http://www.thearcatschool.org), provides information about services available to students with disabilities, as well as a directory of special education advocates in each state.

### The Arc@Work™

The Arc@Work™ provides chapters of The Arc, corporations, and government agencies across the country with an array of products, services, and support to effectively transition individuals with I/DD into the U.S. workforce in community-based jobs at competitive wages. <https://www.thearc.org/thearcatwork>

### HealthMeet®

The Arc's HealthMeet® program works to reduce health disparities and increase the longevity and quality of life for people with intellectual disability. To achieve this, HealthMeet® deploys



free community-based health screenings and individualized referrals for individuals with I/DD; provides training and education to individuals, their families, direct service professionals, medical providers, and medical students; and raises public awareness of health issues that impact people with I/DD across the country. [www.thearc.org/healthmeet](http://www.thearc.org/healthmeet)

### Family Support Research and Training Center

The Arc is proud to work with the Family Support Research and Training Center (FSRTC) at the University of Illinois at Chicago. FSRTC is a collaboration of researchers and organizations focused on synthesizing and generating knowledge about the needs and experiences of families who provide support to children and adults with disabilities across the life course. As a part of this project, The Arc supports local and state chapters to develop family support state coalitions, hosts webinars on family support issues, provides input on other FSRTC efforts, and shares products and practices identified and developed by this project. [www.thearc.org/what-we-do/programs-and-services/the-arc-fsrtc](http://www.thearc.org/what-we-do/programs-and-services/the-arc-fsrtc)

### Wings for Autism®

Wings for Autism® is an airport "rehearsal" specially designed for individuals with autism spectrum disorders, their families and aviation professionals. Wings for Autism® is designed to alleviate some of the stress that children with autism and their families experience when traveling by air. <https://www.thearc.org/wingsforautism>

## 2019 Indiana General Assembly Legislative Wrap Up

The 2019 session of the Indiana General Assembly ended the evening of April 24. Throughout this budget making session, The Arc of Indiana staff, local chapters of The Arc and volunteers worked hard to ensure the voice of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals serving people with I/DD were heard. Following is a summary of key legislation and funding issues addressed by legislators.

### State Biennial Budget

A victory was achieved in gaining over \$10 million in increased funding for Indiana's First Steps, early intervention program. First Steps, which provides critical services to infants and toddlers with disabilities or at risk of disabilities, has been underfunded for nearly a decade and has witnessed many rate cuts dating back to the early 2000's. Fifty percent of the new funds will provide for increased rates/funding to providers of services. Forty percent will go to the SPOES (System Point of Entry) that evaluate and direct eligible children to services. The remaining ten percent will go towards improving the First Steps infrastructure.

Although Indiana's vocational rehabilitation program received a bump in increased funding, adequate funding was not provided to ensure appropriate VR staffing needs and to provide services to those who no longer meet VR's priority to serve people with the most significant disabilities under their "order of selection" policy.

Most significantly, funding was not provided to increase Medicaid Waiver rates to allow for wage increases to Direct Support Professionals (DSPs). Continued education and advocacy with legislators is needed to work towards increased funding to address this critical issue.

### Supported Decision-Making

A major victory was achieved with the passage of Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 380, which puts Supported Decision-Making into statute as an alternative to guardianship for

people with disabilities as well as those who are elderly. Supported Decision-Making allows individuals to receive guidance and support without losing their rights under full, legal guardianship.

### Bias Crimes

In determining what sentence to impose, SEA 198 gives courts the power to consider if a crime was committed because of certain perceived or actual characteristics of the victim, including color, creed, disability, national origin, race, religion or sexual orientation. Legislators did not approve language that would have included age, sex or gender identity in the bias crimes law.

### 1102 Taskforce Recommendations

House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1488 allows the Task Force for the Assessment of Services and Supports for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, also known as the 1102 Task Force, to continue to meet at least bi-annually to receive updates from the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) regarding implementation of the

taskforce's recommendations. It also calls for the establishment of a crisis management system for people with disabilities, revises priority categories for Medicaid Waivers, allows for some expansion for people with I/DD to transition out of their family home, and calls for moving Vocational Rehabilitation services out of Order of Selection – the policy which requires VR to serve people with the most significant disabilities first.

*A major victory was achieved with the passage of Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 380, which puts Supported Decision-Making into statute as an alternative to guardianship for people with disabilities.*

### Medicaid Waiver Priority Status for Military Children

Families applying for Indiana's Family Supports Medicaid Waiver currently are waiting approximately

18 months to be targeted to receive waiver services. HEA 1296 allows military families to move to the top of the waiting list. Without this type of prioritization, many people with I/DD go without much needed services simply because military families often move frequently.

### Government Programs Financial Eligibility

HEA 1216 makes the system of qualifying for government programs more efficient by stating that families who qualify for TANF, SNAP or Medicaid do not need to show proof of income more than once. It also requires FSSA to define "missed" and "cancelled" appointments and would provide more flexibility when it comes to making up appointments.

### Anatomical Gifts and Individuals with Disabilities

SEA 112 prohibits health care entities from discriminating against a potential transplant recipient solely on the basis of a disability.

### Special Education Dispute Resolution Workgroup

HEA 1629 creates an education dispute resolution workgroup through the State Board of Education to discuss the issue of shifting legal fees to parents involved in a dispute resolution process.

### State Advisory Council

HEA 1641 specifies that a representative of The Arc of Indiana should be on the State Advisory Council on the Education of Children with Disabilities.

### Seizure Preparedness

HEA 1089 requires schools to have a seizure action plan.



The Arc of Indiana and Self-Advocates of Indiana annual Valentine's Day at the Statehouse event.

### Stay Informed

Sign-up to receive Action Alerts, Legislative Memos and our weekly e-newsletter at [www.arcind.org/get-involved/sign-up](http://www.arcind.org/get-involved/sign-up)



## Supported Decision-Making Now Legally Recognized Option

With the passage of Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 380, Supported Decision-Making is now recognized in Indiana law as an alternative to guardianship for people with disabilities as well as those who are elderly.

### What is Supported Decision-Making (SDM)?

We all make decisions differently and we all use different kinds of support at some point during the decision-making process. However, when a person with a disability has difficulty making decisions independently, people may assume that he or she is unable to make any decision and use that as a reason to seek guardianship.

People may also think the only way to protect a person with a disability or to help participate in their life is to get a guardianship. This is not true. There are many options available to help someone with a disability, to support them in living their life, while maintaining the least restrictive intrusion into their independence. One tool that is available is Supported Decision-Making.

Supported Decision-Making (SDM) is a way people with disabilities can use available supports to make their own choices and direct their own lives. It is also a way to exercise and improve decision-making skills. SDM is flexible and can change as the needs of the person change in order to provide more opportunities for independence.

*SDM is a way people with disabilities can use available supports to make their own choices and direct their own lives.*

In SDM, the person with a disability chooses a group of people (*supporters*) who help the person make decisions. The person with a disability, however, makes the final decision. The relationship between the person and his or her supporters can be written in a Supported Decision-Making Agreement. The agreement can then be used to show other people (such as schools, doctors, or service providers), who can be involved in the decision-making process. It also helps to make sure

that the person's supporters are all on the same page about how to best support them.

### What is a Supported Decision-Making Agreement?

A Supported Decision-Making Agreement has information to help guide the relationship between the person and his or her supporters. SDM agreements allow the person to:

- Specify the areas where help is needed or desired (e.g., employment, finances, community living, health)
- Determine who will serve as a supporter
- Decide how the person wants help to be given

Supporters sign a consent and the agreement is typically notarized. SDM agreements do not require involvement with or oversight by a court and can be changed by the person at any time.

### How is Supported Decision-Making Different than Guardianship?

Guardianship is a legal proceeding to appoint a person to take care of someone who the court has determined is not capable of taking care of themselves. It is legally substituted decision making. Under guardianship, the guardian makes all the important decisions, including

where the person should live and what medical treatment they will have. The guardian might make other decisions too, like who the person spends time with or whether they can have a job. In SDM, the person with a disability retains the ultimate right to make decisions and have those decisions legally recognized. SDM is also different from general agency agreements like power of attorney where someone else is given the legal authority to make decisions in certain areas or at certain times. The

principles of SDM can also be used in existing guardianships as a way to practice decision-making skills that may lead to greater independence.

*Information provided from the Working Interdisciplinary Networks of Guardianship Stakeholders (WINGS)*

*Supported Decision-Making Family Fact Sheet.*

Questions? Contact The Arc of Indiana at 317-977-2375 and ask to speak with Jill Smith, or email Jill at [jsmith@arcind.org](mailto:jsmith@arcind.org)

## Interim Legislative Committees

During the summer and early fall, The Arc of Indiana will monitor the following interim study committees at the Indiana General Assembly.

### Education

Study the workload of school corporation's career counselors, the impact of having multiple graduation pathways on a career counselor's workload and the impact on a school corporation's ability to provide adequate career counseling to students.

### Insurance/Health

Monitor the various drivers of health care cost increases, including mandating insurance coverage for Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders associated with streptococcal infections.

### Fiscal Policy

Study Medicaid expenditures, cost drivers, and pilot opportunities for a value-based health care system to reduce health care costs and enhance price transparency and outcomes, including for long-term care. Study reimbursement for Medicaid-covered services for children who are treated outside the state; monitor taxation of CBD oil and vaping products; and study tax credits and other issues related to workforce housing and affordable housing.

### Health

Monitor health factors contributing to the growth of health care costs, including:

- Current trends in health care delivery and Indiana's progress in implementing new approaches
- Access to health care in rural areas
- The impact of Indiana's poor health status, the social determinates of health, and the rate of the uninsured on health care costs
- Prescription drug pricing and access
- Trends in insurance benefit design and the potential impact that changes are having or may have on consumer out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs

### Probate Code

Assignments of guardians and protection of assets, and changes to trust code and statutes affecting the administration of a decedent's estate, guardianship or trust.

# Indiana's Medicaid Waiver Program for Home and Community Based Services

The Arc of Indiana recently updated its guide to Indiana's Medicaid Waiver program. You can find the guide on our website at: [arcind.org/our-programs/publications](http://arcind.org/our-programs/publications). Following is key information about the waiver program.

People with disabilities are exactly that – people first – who want to live a full, active, engaged and inclusive life. Every individual and family has a vision of what constitutes a good life. Home and Community Based Services can be used as part of an overall plan to help achieve that vision.

Medicaid Waivers, sometimes called Home and Community Based Services, allow Medicaid to fund supports and services for children and adults with disabilities in their family homes or communities instead of institutions. Medicaid Waivers allow an individual to use the traditional Medicaid State Health Plan along with the additional services available through the Medicaid Waiver program.

Indiana's Medicaid Waiver program includes:

- Family Supports (FS) Waiver
- Community Integration and Habilitation (CIH) Waiver
- Aged & Disabled (A&D) Waiver
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Waiver

## Eligibility

The **FS Waiver and CIH Waivers** provide services to children and adults who have an intellectual or developmental disability, or a related condition that was diagnosed before age 22 that is expected to continue indefinitely and meet the level of care that would otherwise be provided in an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ICF/IIDD).

In addition, for consideration for the **CIH Waiver** the individual must meet priority criteria:

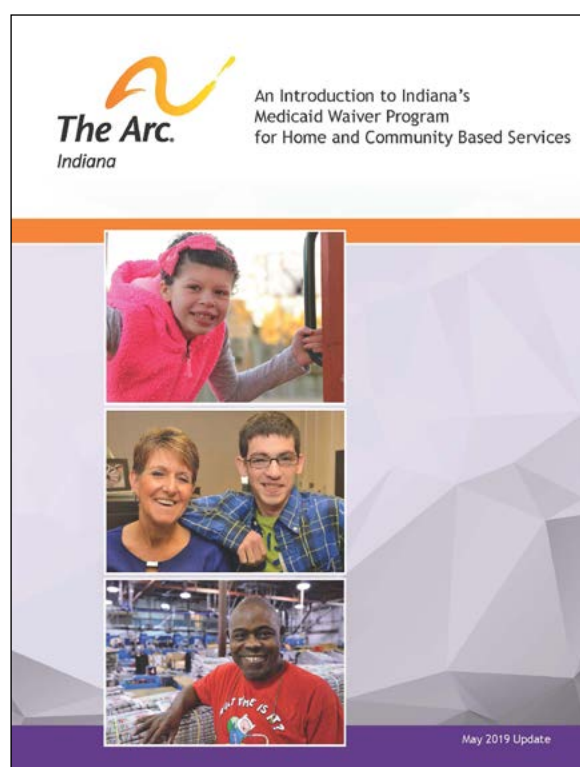
- Death of the primary caregiver with no other caregiver available
- Living with primary caregiver age 80 or older with no younger caregiver available
- Aging out of a residential placement for children through Department of Child Services or Indiana Department of Education
- Extraordinary health and safety risk
- Moving from an institutional setting, including a nursing facility or group home when it is determined that the individual no longer needs/ receives active treatment in the group home, or when the individual chooses to leave an institutional setting
- Evidence of abuse, neglect or exploitation

Individuals between the ages of 18 and 24 who have completed high school can request priority status to receive the **FS Waiver**.

The **A&D Waiver** provides services to Medicaid-eligible persons age 65 and older and persons of all ages who have a substantial disability who would otherwise be admitted to a nursing facility.

The **TBI Waiver** provides services to individuals who have a diagnosis of traumatic brain injury who would otherwise be admitted to a nursing facility or, if diagnosed before age 22, an intermediate care facility for individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability.

It is important to note that unlike the state's Medicaid program, parental income and resources for



children under 18 are NOT considered when determining financial eligibility for the waiver program. The income and resources of an adult or child (under 18) receiving waiver services ARE considered in determining financial eligibility.

## Where do you apply?

To apply for the FS or CIH waiver, obtain the number for your local Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services (BDDS) office by calling 800-545-7763.

To apply for the A&D or TBI Waiver, obtain the number for your local Area Agency on Aging by calling 800-986-3505.

If you have questions and/or need assistance in completing the application, contact The Arc of Indiana at 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100 and ask to speak to a Family Advocate.



## Community Connections

In addition to applying for government funded services, including the Medicaid Waiver program, it is also important to explore “natural supports” or “community connections.”

Community connections are the relationships that occur in everyday life. Natural supports usually involve family members, friends, co-workers, neighbors and acquaintances. Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities often need help in developing these connections, but once they do, these “natural systems of support” become an important part of their life in the community.

For example, being involved in a YMCA swimming program, community center arts class or worship services are great ways to become more connected to your community and may lead to friendships and connections that last far beyond the actual event. Overtime, these connections can help an individual build a strong community network and support system.

A life planning program called *Charting the LifeCourse* offers tools and information to help focus on community connections and other supports that may help an individual achieve their vision of a good life.

The program, developed by families for families, can help individuals and families of all abilities, ages and stages of life develop a vision for a good life, think about what they need to know and do, identify how to find or develop supports, and discover what it takes to live the lives they want to live. To see the wide range of tools, videos, and information available, visit [lifecoursetools.com](http://lifecoursetools.com).



## The Arc Master Trust – Helping Make Dreams Come True

The Arc Master Trust, a pooled special needs trust, offers families and people of all disabilities an experienced, professional option for special needs trust administration at an affordable price, allowing resources to be saved and easily used for qualified disability and personal expenses.

The Arc Master Trust I allows families to create a trust to provide for their loved one. Trust II allows a person with a disability to establish a trust with their own funds.

Trust funds can be used not only for day to day and month to month expenses, but also for extra special experiences.

Recently, Hope Lane, trust account manager for Sandy Gaskins, enjoyed the opportunity to help Sandy take her first vacation ever to Nashville, Tennessee.

Sandy has received services from Stone Belt Arc, The Arc in Monroe County, since 1989 and has worked at the Monroe County Clerk's office since 2013. But, at the age of 77, Sandy had never taken a vacation.

When Sandy shared that she would love to take a trip to Nashville and go to the Grand Ole Opry, Shannon McCann, a staff member at Stone Belt Arc, and Hope worked together to make it happen.

Sandy, along with support staff Nicole Thompson, enjoyed several

*"Thank you again for all you and The Arc continue to do so our clients can have these amazing opportunities... With The Arc Trust accounts, the world is their oyster, and so many opportunities await because of the amazing service you provide."*

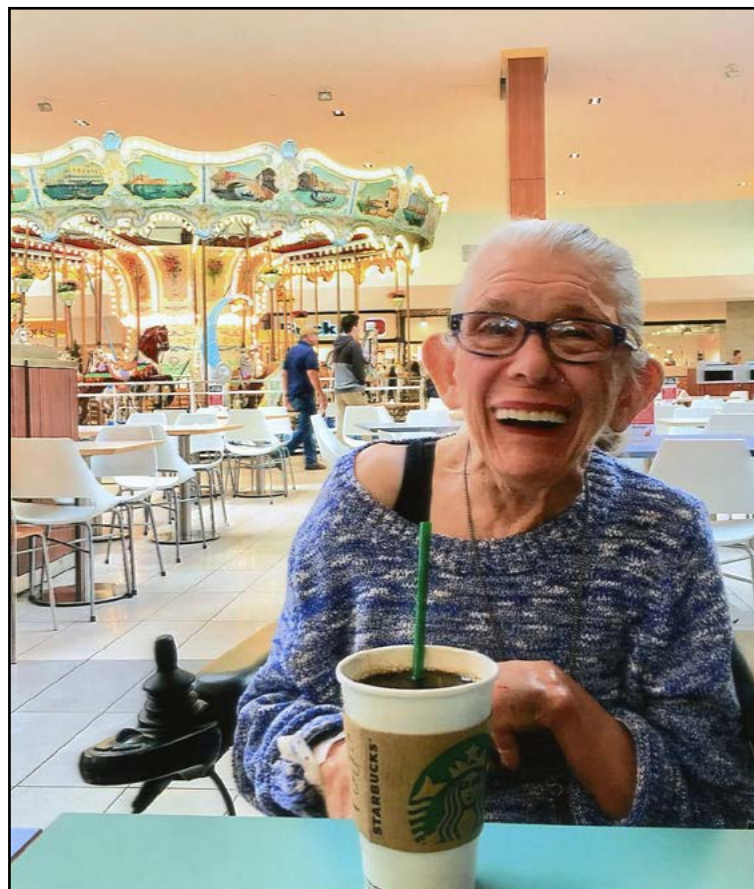
*~ Shannon McCann,  
Stone Belt Arc*

days in Nashville, including a night at the Grand Ole Opry. Thinking about the trip, Sandy shared, "It was nice. It was good, real good. It was a lot of fun."

Next up? Sandy says she would love to go to California.

### Learn More

Learn more about The Arc Master Trust by visiting [thearctrust.org](http://thearctrust.org) or call 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100. Jill Ginn, assistant trust director, is happy to provide a complimentary consultation at your home, a location in your community, or at The Arc Master Trust office in downtown Indianapolis. Jill is also available to provide presentations to organizations or companies.



*"Sandy was able to save her own funds for this trip of a lifetime through her Trust II account. Seeing the smiles afterwards and knowing you got to be a part of a lifelong dream is such a rewarding part of my work at The Arc Master Trust."*

*~ Hope Lane,  
The Arc Master Trust*



The Arc Master Trust can pay for disability related and non-disability related expenses. Following are examples of how individuals can utilize their trust to purchase goods and services.

### Goods

Furniture • Personal Care Items • Clothing • Mattress/Box Springs • Vehicles • Television/Stereo, etc. • Eyeglasses/Contacts • Toys • Vacations • Hobby Supplies • Gasoline • Essential Dietary Needs • Computers/Software • Pets/Pet Supplies • Games • Washer/Dryer • Guitar, Musical Instrument, etc. • Household Products and Supplies • Kitchen Appliances/Tools • School Tuition • Household Appliances • Outdoor Grill • Prepaid Funeral Expenses

### Services

Cell Phone Services • Internet • Cable TV • Hair Care • Transportation • Auto and Renter's Insurance • Eye and Dental Care • Entertainment Expenses • Tuition to Camps, Classes, etc. • Athletic or Recreational Fees • Auto Repair/Maintenance • Attendant Care • Rehabilitation • Pet Grooming/Veterinarian Bills • Tickets to Concerts, Movies, Sporting Events, etc. • Music Lessons • Maid Services • Home Modifications/Improvements • Field Trips, Day Trips, Vacations • Therapeutic Massage • Vehicle modifications to make accessible • HVAC Services • Attorney/Accountant/Financial Planning • Seminar/Training/Conference Expenses



## We are The Arc!

The Arc of Indiana was established in 1956 by parents of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) who joined together to build a better and more accepting world for their children.

Unlike many organizations that have local, state and national offices, The Arc was built from “the bottom up,” starting with those families who came together and formed our

original chapters. Next came the state association, The Arc of Indiana, and next the national organization, The Arc of the United States. Today, we are proud to have 43 chapters, including chapters that provide a wide array of services, and our “advocacy only” chapters that do not provide direct services, but do offer strong supports through information, referral and advocacy.

The combined strength of local Arcs, state Arcs and The Arc of the United States makes The Arc the largest national community-based organization advocating for and serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

Throughout May, The Arc of Indiana and The Arc Master Trust staff traveled across the state to meet with our

chapter leaders, staff and the families and people with I/DD they serve. We cannot thank them enough for the difference they make each and every day. Together, *We are The Arc!*

Chapters are always looking for new members, volunteers and individuals to serve on their board. To find a chapter in your area, visit [www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/local-chapters](http://www.arcind.org/about-the-arc/local-chapters).



The Arc of Greater Boone County provides a wide variety of programs and supports including employment through the production of Mr. Canary bird feeders, day programs offering art activity, a book club and more. The chapter includes two wonderful therapy dogs and an active AKtion Club that raised funds to allow the sheriff’s department to have a new dog join their ranks. The dog is named Arco in honor of their efforts.



Stone Belt Arc, The Arc in Monroe County, not only provides employment, residential, day programs and Medicaid Waiver supports, it also features an outstanding arts program and a strong focus on advocacy. During the past legislative session, staff, self-advocates and volunteers frequently met with legislators to share information on the importance of funding programs and the need for increased funding for direct support professionals.



The Arc of Pike County has transitioned their sheltered workshop into an arts program. Each week, participants can choose which days they want to be at the art program or work at the sheltered work program at The Arc of Gibson County. Participants in the art program enjoy painting, needlework, and sewing. Some creations include stuffed llamas, purses, tote bags and pocket pets which are available for sale.



Ella Boyd (top), Executive Director of The Arc of Bartholomew County and Melanie O’Neal (below), Planning Coordinator for The Arc of Jackson County, keep these “advocacy only” chapters of The Arc going strong. While they do not provide direct services to people with I/DD, they provide strong supports through information, referral and advocacy.



KCARC, The Arc in Knox County, developed a unique and innovative community center in 1972 that welcomes people throughout the area to enjoy the facility and also provides a home for their day program services. Their Structured Family Caregiver Program pairs adults with I/DD with area families. Billy recently enjoyed a trip to Mexico with his family.