

## Changes Coming to Medicaid Waiver Case Management

In July, 2021, Indiana's Division of Disability and Rehabilitation Services (DDRS) announced a new "Case Management Innovation (CMI)" initiative designed to improve Indiana's case management system for services provided through the Family Supports (FS) and Community Integration and Habilitation (CIH) Medicaid Waiver program. DDRS stated that the number of agencies providing these services would be reduced. Agencies interested in providing case management services were asked to submit a proposal to the Indiana Department of Administration. DDRS stated the new system will begin January 1, 2022.

On October 1, 2021 DDRS announced that the following agencies have been selected to provide Medicaid Waiver case management services for people receiving FS and CIH waiver services.

- **Indiana Professional Management Group (IPMG)**  
[gotoipmg.com](http://gotoipmg.com) 866-672-4764
- **Unity of Indiana**  
[unityofindiana.com](http://unityofindiana.com) 317-888-1481
- **Inspire Case Management**  
[inspirecm.com](http://inspirecm.com) 317-652-6928
- **Connections Case Management**  
[connectionsinc.com](http://connectionsinc.com) 317-710-7184
- **The Columbus Organization**  
[columbusorg.com](http://columbusorg.com) 800-229-5116
- **CareStar of Indiana**  
[carestar.com/case-management](http://carestar.com/case-management)  
800-616-3718

### What is Case Management Innovation (CMI)?

Case Management Innovation (CMI) is an effort to improve case management services based on requests from people with disabilities and their families. The state's goal is to ensure individuals receive high quality, consistent, person centered case management services that help them access waiver services and also help them find and access a variety of other services, support, and resources outside of the waiver.

### What case management companies are affected by CMI?

Many agencies use the term case management or case managers. CMI affects case management services provided through the Family Supports (FS) Waiver or Community Integration and Habilitation (CIH) Waiver. Current agencies providing Medicaid Waiver case management include: Advocacy Links, Carestar,

CICOA, The Columbus Organization, Connections Case Management, Futures Case Management, Inspire Case Management, Integrated Case Management Services, IPMG, and Unity of Indiana.

### Why is this happening?

While DDRS was gathering feedback about redesigning Indiana's Medicaid Waiver program, people with disabilities and their families repeatedly said they wanted changes to case management. Specifically, they wanted case managers who would be a "partner in the process" to help them find resources outside of waiver services to meet their needs. The goal of CMI is to help ensure case managers have more and consistent training and reduce the number of clients case managers work with so they can spend more time with each client. The goal of these changes is to provide better quality, more consistent, and more person centered case management services.

### What do I do if my current case management agency was not selected?

You will need to choose a new case management agency. Think about what you want in life or what you want for your loved one. Think about what you want in a case manager and what you value. Let that guide you as you look for a new agency. Visit the websites of the selected agencies and call them. If you're not sure what to ask case management agencies, contact The Arc of Indiana at 800-382-9100 and ask to speak with a family advocate.

### What is the deadline to choose a new case management agency?

December 14, 2021. If individuals do not choose a new case management company by December 1, the Bureau

of Developmental Disability Services (BDDS) may assign individuals to a case management company. However, individuals can always change their case management company at any time, for any reason.

### If my case management agency was not selected, can I follow my case manager to a new agency?

If you like your case manager and the agency they work for was not selected, ask if they will continue to be a case manager at another agency. If so, ask where they are going. You can choose that new agency if you wish.

### My case management agency was selected. Can I keep my case manager?

Most likely. Part of the improvements to case management services includes reducing caseloads to allow case managers to spend more time with clients. This may cause some people to be assigned to a new case manager.

### How were the case management agencies selected?

In July, 2021, the State of Indiana released a Request for Services, inviting any interested agency to submit a proposal to provide case management services. The state specifically wanted to choose agencies who could provide statewide person centered services, help clients find paid and unpaid services and support, and provide training on maximizing Medicaid health coverage benefits. The proposals were evaluated by an independent company to determine which agencies could provide the best quality case management services.

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## Self-Advocates of Indiana President's Corner

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



For most people, summer means a time to slow down, enjoy the sun, take a vacation, and soak up a little R&R, but it's been the total opposite for Self-Advocates of Indiana! Summer 2021 provided SAI a multitude of opportunities to strengthen our advocacy efforts and collaboration with new and exciting initiatives at the state level and with other public entities.

SAI's Monthly Issues forums continue, typically on the second Wednesday of the month at 4:00

p.m. Recent forums included conversations with Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch, Jeff Mohler, President and CEO of Special Olympics Indiana, and Melissa Justice, The Arc Master Trust's Chief Trust Officer. Check out SAI's YouTube Channel to view forum recordings.

Along with our Monthly Issues Forums, we continue working on our Community Connections

for People with Disabilities grant, along with our partners: City of Indianapolis, Village of Merici, Quillo, Indy Parks and other community organizations. The project features 60 second videos highlighting opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to navigate the community, engage in volunteer opportunities, explore Marion County and learn about self-advocacy. Quillo was founded by The Arc of Indiana's retired executive

director, John Dickerson. Learn more by visiting [myquillo.com](http://myquillo.com).

I've also had the excellent opportunity to represent SAI as part of the Supported Decision-Making Indiana State Plan (ACL-SDM) Advisory Committee. The advisory committee has been tasked with creating the tools needed to help people utilize supported decision-making as an alternative to guardianship.

SAI continues to work closely with the Division of Disability and Rehabilitation Services (DDRS) Advisory Council as they seek to have the voices of people with IDD be at the forefront of DDRS' decision making and planning process.

SAI looks forward to an even more exciting Fall with our September board meeting, November SAI Annual Meeting, board elections and most exciting to me – working to grow SAI's presence throughout the state by increasing the number of Self-Advocates of Indiana chapters.

Until next time!

## Charting the LifeCourse

Have you heard about *Charting the LifeCourse* and *LifeCourse Tools*? *Charting the LifeCourse* (CtLC) was created by families to help individuals and families of all abilities and all ages 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.

Individuals and families may focus on their current situation and stage of life but may also find it helpful to look ahead to think about life experiences that will help move them toward an inclusive, productive life in the future.

Although it was originally created for people with disabilities, this universally designed framework may be used by any person or family making a life plan, regardless of life circumstances, as well as professionals and organizations.

The Arc of Indiana and Self-Advocates of Indiana (SAI) fully support and are pleased that Indiana's Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services has been working for many months to integrate the CtLC philosophy into programs and services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The Arc of Indiana and SAI have committed to embracing CtLC in our programs, services, and strategic planning. Recently, several staff and board members from both organizations participated in the CtLC Ambassador training. Over the course of several months, participants were involved in a series of self-paced and group learning, utilizing recorded webinars, personal learning activities, and interactive coaching calls. The series provided a comprehensive overview of each of the foundational principles of the CtLC



***“Becoming a Charting the LifeCourse ambassador will help me in my work at The Arc and help me grow Self-Advocates of Indiana to become a more effective organization. It also helped me learn how I can use LifeCourse tools in my own life and that it is ok to take time to focus on myself.”***

Shawn Fulton, SAI president and The Arc of Indiana education and training coordinator.

framework and its accompanying decision-making and planning tools, as well as practice in applying each principle in personal and professional roles. The training wrapped up with staff and board members being certified as CtLC ambassadors. This will help all incorporate the CtLC framework both personally and professionally.

We encourage you to explore Charting the LifeCourse to explore how this program and its tools can be used in your life, the life of a loved one, with people you serve, and/or in your business or organization. Visit: [arcind.org/future-planning/charting-the-lifecourse](http://arcind.org/future-planning/charting-the-lifecourse) and [lifecoursetools.com](http://lifecoursetools.com)

### What can Charting the LifeCourse do for You?

- People are using it to communicate their needs.
- People are advocating for the supports they need to accomplish their goals.
- Parents are setting higher expectations for their children.
- Families are exploring the services and supports they need.
- Parents, siblings, and family members are sharing their ideas, hopes, and fears for the future.
- Case-managers are using it in planning meetings.
- Teachers are improving social skills at school, at home, and in the community.
- Students are learning how life experiences impact their career goals.
- Employment specialists are enhancing discovery and exploration that support career planning.

## Message from The Arc of Indiana CEO



Kim Dodson

In September we kicked off The Arc of Indiana's celebration of our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. It has been wonderful to stop and reflect back over six decades of achievements and challenges. I cannot help but stop and be so very grateful for all the families, board members, staff, self-advocates and partner organizations that have come through our lives over the years and I certainly know that our path is better and stronger because of all the wonderful people who have been a part of The Arc family.

The Arc of Indiana is one of nearly 700 state and local chapters in the country, and together we have a combined membership of over 140,000 people. Here in Indiana, with our 42 chapters and over 30,000 individual members, we are the second largest state chapter of The Arc. We are a model chapter for all we do from our Family Advocacy Network, our Master Trust, our public policy success and our connection with Self-Advocates of Indiana. We are an amazing organization that was built by families for families.

During the last few months I have had a chance to talk with board members, potential board

members, staff, chapters and potentially new chapters about what it means to be a chapter of The Arc and a part of this magnificent network. Quite honestly, it has stirred up a lot of emotion. Looking at the past treatment of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and seeing those stark pictures of people living in institutions and young children crammed into cribs along walls, one cannot help but be so very thankful that The Arc came along and said, "This can no longer be tolerated."

When I look back over landmark legislation that has provided people with IDD opportunities to live a good life, The Arc has been involved every step of the way. Federal laws, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Developmentally Disabled Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, and American Disabilities Act, have transformed how people with disabilities are treated. Here in Indiana major victories include requiring newborn screening tests, establishment of the First Steps early intervention program, mandated health insurance benefits and, of course, the creation of Indiana's Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waiver programs. Learn more about our history of advocacy and change on pages 4 and 5. We have

come so far, but we are not satisfied with where we are as we know things can always be better.

The past 18 months has tested us, and I have worried that it could cause us to take steps backward. Certainly many families grew scared and anxious about the health of their loved ones. Now they are slowly moving back into services and jobs in the community. People with IDD certainly felt their share of anxiety, isolation and depression. Those feelings don't go away overnight, and we are still working through many of those issues. Our family advocates continue to receive calls from families who often times do not know just what to ask but know they need help with *something* and trust The Arc to help guide them.

The past 65 years have been amazing. Whenever there was a challenge, we banded together and pushed through it, just as we did and are doing in the pandemic. There are great things on the horizon; I know we will all continue to push, and not accept the status quo. We may at times get frustrated about how long it takes to create change, but together we will make it happen.

Thank you for all you do, and please join us in celebrating 65 years of advocacy and change.

## Special Honors

### Marlene Lu Honored with Golden Hoosier Award

Marlene Lu, a long-time advocate for people with disabilities and a leader in The Arc movement at The Arc of Vigo County and The Arc of Indiana has been honored by Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch with the 2021 Golden Hoosier Award.

The Golden Hoosier Award was established to recognize outstanding older Hoosiers for service to their communities. The award often acknowledges unsung heroes who have represented a lifetime of dedication, ingenuity, perseverance, and compassion to positively impact the lives of others while building up their communities.

This award is sponsored by the Office of Indiana Lieutenant Governor in collaboration with the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration's Division of Aging.



Marlene Lu

### Hannah Carlock Recognized by IBJ's "20 in their 20's"

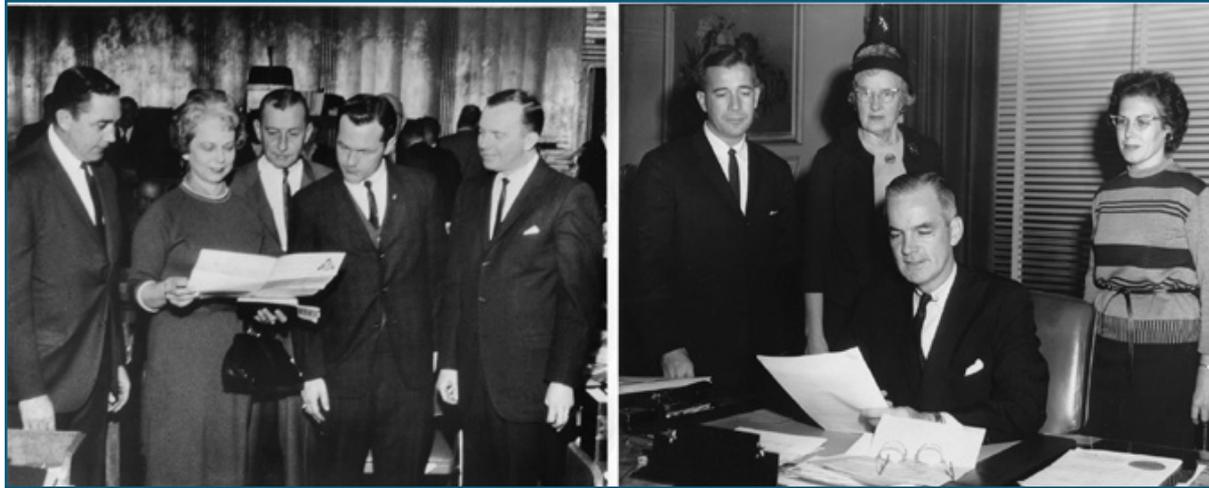
Hannah Carlock, The Arc of Indiana's director of public policy, was honored by the Indianapolis Business Journal's "20 in Their 20's" awards program which recognizes central Indiana's up-and-coming leaders whose achievements in business or the community stand out from their peers and excel beyond their years.

Prior to joining The Arc of Indiana, Hannah worked in radio, public relations and government. Her passion for helping those with disabilities comes from growing up with an older brother with autism, her experience with a cousin with Down syndrome who died at a young age, and now as an aunt to a step-niece with Down syndrome. During the past legislative session Hannah lead successful campaigns to increase direct support professional wages through \$80 million in new state funding to match federal Medicaid funds, provide \$200 million in increased funding for special education services and require licensure of ABA therapists.



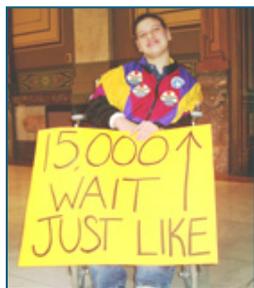
Hannah Carlock

# Celebrating 65 Years of Advocacy and Change



65 YEARS AGO on September 25, 1956, a small but mighty group of families came together to establish a statewide organization with the mission of creating a better world for their sons and daughters with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) in Indiana. While The Arc of Indiana's name has changed over those 65 years, that core mission has always been at the heart of The Arc at the local, state and national level.

The world for children and adults with IDD was very different 65 years ago. They were labeled as "retarded," "mongoloid," and "imbeciles." Doctors told parents to place their child in an institution and move on with their lives. No supports were offered to care for their loved one at home. Schools were dumbfounded if a family took their disabled child to a Kindergarten sign up day.



Throughout Indiana and the country, families said, "NO!" They began to come together in neighborhood kitchens, church basements, and community centers. They began to establish their own small schools and support networks. Those early local groups then joined together to form state associations and what is now The Arc of the United States to fight for their children to live, learn, work and participate in their own community – not stowed away and forgotten in a large institution. Two fearless women, Ilene Younger and Dorothy Burnside, put on their hats and gloves and went to the Statehouse

to share with legislators why their daughters and thousands of other loved children deserved to live as full citizens.

It's been a long road. On our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we take a moment to pause and reflect on just how much has been accomplished and know that there is still so much more to do moving forward towards the next 65 years of advocacy and change!

## The Arc of Indiana History Highlights

**1955** – Meeting held to establish a state association at I.U. Medical Center, Indianapolis. "... it is not where we stand, but where we are going that counts." – Joe Newman, Acting President, 1955.

**1956** – Indiana Association for Retarded Children (IARC) formally organized.

**1960** – IARC office opens at 615 N. Alabama, Indianapolis. Rent: \$1.50 per sq. ft. Dorothy Burnside and Ilene Younger become IARC's first volunteer staff and lobbyists.

**1961** – Legislation passed to establish the Division on Mental Retardation within the Department of Mental Health. Federal funds provided to determine "if persons with mental retardation can be more economically cared for in the community."

**1963** – Legislation passed to provide a local property tax to fund community programs – landmark legislation that allowed for the growth of local chapters of The Arc and eventually services around the state.



**1969** – Legislation passed mandating education for all school-age "handicapped" children beginning in 1973.

**1970** – 3-year Residential Services Project serves as a catalyst for development of community residential programs.

**1974** – Legislation passed repealing all remaining Indiana compulsory sterilization statutes, ending involuntary sterilization of women and men with disabilities.

**1980** – Legislation passed prohibiting local zoning ordinances from prohibiting establishment of group homes.

**1983** – Indiana commits funds to move people with IDD out of nursing facilities and planned growth of group homes begins.

**1984** – Name changed to Association for Retarded Citizens of Indiana.

**1987** – Local chapters of The Arc and the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities provide start-up funds to establish The Arc of Indiana Master Trust. The Arc Master Trust is now recognized as a leading special needs trust in the country.

**1987** – The *Indianapolis Star* publishes a series of articles on Marion County's restrictive zoning practices to keep group homes for people with IDD out of the county.



**1989** – Filed an amicus curia brief arguing constitutionality of state zoning law that restricts group homes.

**1990** – First meeting of Self-Advocates of Indiana – an organization lead by and for people with IDD.

**1991** – Legislation passed establishing Indiana’s First Steps/Early Intervention Program, providing an entitlement for infants and toddlers with disabilities or at risk of disability to receive early intervention services. Legislation also established special education pre-school services as an entitlement.



**1991** – Legislation (Senate Bill 30) passed, allowing parental income and resources to be disregarded when determining Medicaid eligibility for children under the age of 18 who are in a Medicaid certified facility or who are enrolled or in the enrollment process for a Medicaid Waiver. Prior to this in Indiana, parental income was counted as a resource when determining Medicaid financial eligibility for long term care services in a state institution or nursing facility.



Parents could be forced to give up custody of their children in order to get services. Passage of this legislation allowed Indiana’s Medicaid Waiver for home and community based services to be established, providing supports to children and adults with IDD in the family home or their own home.

**1993** – Name changed to The Arc of Indiana.

**1993** – Legislation passed prohibiting the death penalty for people with intellectual disabilities.

## HISTORY SPOTLIGHT

### Closure of all Indiana State Institutions



**1997** – Indianapolis TV station WISH/Channel 8 airs a series profiling resident abuse by staff at New Castle State Developmental Center. The movement to close state institutions begins, including New Castle (1998), Northern Indiana Development Center (1998), Muscatatuck (2005), Silvercrest Children’s Development Center (2006), and Fort Wayne (2007). Prior to their closure, nearly 46,000 children and adults were institutionalized in these facilities. Eventually large intermediate care facilities (essentially large nursing facilities) for people with IDD also closed.

The fight continues to move people with IDD from nursing facilities to homes in the community.

**1998** – The beginnings of The Arc Advocacy Network, our network of family advocates who provide information and support to families and individuals. They first worked with families whose loved ones were transitioning from state institutions to community residential programs.

**1999** – Governor Frank O’Bannon signs budget bill with \$39.3 million dollars to implement first phase of the 317 Plan, a comprehensive plan for home and community based services.

**2001** – HB 1122 establishing a mandate for insurance coverage of autism services, including Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy.

**2013** – Issue our Blueprint for Change, recommending strategies for use of public resources to support people with disabilities in the wake of financial downturn, including reform of Indiana’s Medicaid waiver program.

**2016** – The Arc of Indiana Foundation’s Erskine Green Training Institute opens and first group of students graduates on March 19.

**2017** – Indiana “Employment First” legislation passed, as the state joined 32 others promoting employment as the first goal for people with disabilities.

**2019** – Legislation passed to recognize Supported Decision Making Agreements as



an alternative to guardianship and requires Less Restrictive Alternatives (LRAs), including Supported Decision Making to be considered before the court will appoint a guardian.

**2021** – Achieve bi-partisan support for an \$80 million appropriation to increase DSP wages.

**2022 & Beyond** – As Joe Newman, our acting president said in 1955, “... it is not where we stand, but where we are going that counts.” We can’t wait to see what’s next!



**Page 4** The Arc of Indiana’s first volunteer lobbyists—Dorothy Burnside, upper left, and Ilene Younger, upper right.  
A self-advocate joins in a rally for our Campaign to End the Waiting List.  
Darcus Nims, founder of Self-Advocates of Indiana at SAI’s first picnic.  
**Page 5** Families joined in our campaign to establish the First Steps/Early Intervention program.  
Governor O’Bannon signs SB 317 into law, providing significant funding for home and community based services. Advocacy efforts have lead to the closure of Indiana’s state institutions and supports for families to care for loved ones at home.  
A self-advocate joins in the campaign to establish home and community based services.  
Governor Evan Bayh signs First Steps legislation into law.  
Governor Holcomb signs Supported Decision Making legislation into law.

## EGTI Serves as Launching Pad

When students attend any form of post-secondary school, the skills they develop through the experience are both professional and personal. These new-found skills serve as a launching pad to the next significant steps taken in life, and this is exactly what The Arc of Indiana Foundation's Erskine Green Training Institute (EGTI) has done for many of its graduates.



Following graduation from EGTI's Kitchen Cook program, Andrew Forler enrolled in JWU's culinary program.

Many students start their 10 or 13-week training program at EGTI with little confidence in their ability, which hinders their growth in all areas of life. Students are often timid, sitting back waiting to be prompted to take action. This is not

because someone in their life has purposefully done anything wrong, but simply because moving away from home forces you to do things that you once relied on your parents to do for you.

From day one at EGTI to graduation, students gradually begin increasing confidence in them-



EGTI graduate Abigail Fannin is now employed as a patient transporter at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital.

selves which allows them to begin taking charge of their actions. EGTI staff observe students become independent in waking up and arriving to their training site each morning, take lunches and breaks without school bells prompting them, use Muncie's public transportation to move through the community, make choices about how they



Josh Nemeth was thrilled to receive his driver's license after graduating from EGTI.

want to spend their free time, and so much more. This increase in confidence proves to each student that they *can* do so much, and it is evident that students come to believe this themselves.

Because of this, many students have used EGTI as a launching pad to achieve additional goals that may have once been seen as unachievable. After returning home, several graduates have enrolled in other postsecondary schools, such as Ivy Tech Community College and Johnson and Wales University, and pursued driver's education training. These large steps likely would not have happened if not for the confidence they obtained while attending EGTI.

## IU Health, EGTI Partnership Provides Path to Employment

IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital (IUHBMH) has played an integral role in the operation of Erskine Green Training Institute (EGTI) and the success of its students. In 2016, when EGTI opened its doors to the inaugural training class, the first student stepped into IUHBMH to begin training in Environmental Services. Since then, close to 100 students have trained onsite at IUHBMH in a variety of vocations: Nutrition Services, Kitchen Cook, Patient Transport, Environmental Services, and Inventory Distribution.

Not only has IUHBMH opened its doors to EGTI's staff and students by providing them the environment to teach and master vocational skills that will lead to successful employment, but hospital staff have also opened their hearts to the core mission of EGTI. Including EGTI students and staff in daily team huddles, stepping aside to allow students the opportunity to fully perform the job requirements, generously providing graduation gifts and cakes

to students, chipping in to purchase a new bike for a student, and providing designated office space for EGTI staff – just a few of the ways IUHBMH staff have fully embraced the presence of EGTI staff and students.

Being afforded the space to train and receiving buy-in from IUHBMH employees who play a role in training EGTI students – both of these are extremely important. However, the most important component is employment opportunities after graduation. EGTI is pleased to report that IU Health has hired nearly 25% of its healthcare graduates across seven IU Health hospitals: IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital,



Students enrolled in EGTI's Health Care Support program interned at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital and look forward to future careers in nutrition services, environmental services, and patient transport.

IU Health Arnett Hospital, IU Health Saxony Hospital, IU Health North Hospital, IU Health Methodist Hospital, IU Health University Hospital, and Riley Hospital for Children.

# Indiana's New Education Scholarship Account Program for Students Receiving Special Education Services

A new program to assist families who have a child enrolled in special education services will be available in the 2022-2023 school year. The Indiana Education Scholarship Account Program (INESA), managed by the state treasurer's office, will allow eligible parents/guardians to establish an education scholarship account (ESA) that can be used for their child's education expenses beginning in the 2022-2023 school year.

Parents/guardians who establish an ESA will receive 90% of the basic state tuition support allotted to their child. In addition, if their child receives special education services in a location outside of their geographically assigned school corporation, they will receive 100% of special education dollars allotted to their child.

## Who will be eligible?

To be eligible for an ESA account a student must:

- Have a disability that requires special education services and have an individualized education plan (IEP), service plan (SP), or a choice special education plan
- Choose NOT to enroll in a public school or receive an Indiana Choice Scholarship
- Meet the annual income qualification, currently 300% of the federal poverty limit, or receive free or reduced lunch

## Are current non-public school students eligible?

Yes, current non-public school students can apply to participate in the ESA program as long as they meet the eligibility requirements.

## Who will not be eligible?

Students enrolled at a traditional public or public charter school are not eligible for the INESA program. (However, eligible students can use their ESA account to buy services from a traditional public or public charter school.)



## What can the ESA funds be used for?

ESA funds must be used for pre-approved educational purposes only. Qualified expenses include:

- Educational services
- Tuition and fees at an approved non-public school, public school, or other participating entities, such as private tutoring
- Physical, occupational, speech, and ABA therapy
- Paraprofessionals or educational aides
- Additional services or therapies as prescribed by the student's physician
- Tuition and fees to attend training programs and camps focusing on vocational, academic, life, independence, or soft job skills
- Services contracted for and provided by the school corporation, charter, magnet, or non-public school, such as individual classes, extracurricular activities, or additional programs, resources, or staffing as part of the student's individualized learning plan
- Transportation fees
- Fees for certain student assessments
- Fees for the management of the ESA account

## Does every non-public school accept the ESA program?

No. Only non-public schools that have applied for and been approved to be an ESA accepting school can participate in the program. A list of approved schools will be available soon.

## What is the difference between the Indiana Choice Scholarship and the INESA Program?

An Indiana Choice Scholarship can only be used to cover tuition and fees at non-public, voucher-accepting schools. An ESA can be used to cover tuition and fees at a non-public, INESA-accepting school. Any remaining funds after the cost of tuition and fees can be used for pre-approved educational expenses.

In addition, instead of using ESA funds at a non-public school, parents/guardians can opt to customize their child's education through the use of tutors, therapies, services, and other pre-approved educational expenses.

## What if services I want are not listed on the list of pre-approved expenses?

You can submit requests for services that are not pre-approved to the state treasurer's office.

## How will ESA funds be distributed?

Indiana's state treasurer will contract with a third party to administer ESA funds via an online portal. Funds will be distributed quarterly to the ESA. You will have access to an account for each eligible child in your household.

## How do I apply for the INESA program, and what is the deadline?

You can apply via an online portal once it becomes available in early 2022. Applications will be due by April 1, 2022.

## Does an ESA last the entirety of my child's education?

No. An application must be submitted each year and you must continue to meet eligibility requirements.

## Watch for continued updates.

The Arc of Indiana is a part of a stakeholder group facilitated by the state treasurer's office. This group of stakeholders is developing guidance for schools and families accepting and utilizing these accounts. The Arc of Indiana is urging legislators and the treasurer's office to form an advisory council with special education expertise to provide additional guidance as it relates to students utilizing special education services.

We will continue to share information on these newly established accounts. You can also find information on the state treasurer's website at [in.gov/tos/inesa](http://in.gov/tos/inesa).

## Public Policy Wrap Up

### Study Committees

Even though the Indiana legislative session ended in the spring, legislators have been at work over the past several months studying various topics that may lead to legislation in the 2022 legislative session.

The Public Health Interim Study Committee, chaired by Senator Ed Charbonneau (R-Valparaiso) and Representative Brad Barrett (R-Richmond), developed bi-partisan recommendations regarding the state's plan to move long term care services into risk-based managed care:

- Ensure there is adequate and trained workforce throughout the spectrum of long-term care services and supports.
- Urge FSSA to continue to review and address the impact on intergovernmental fund transfers related to the transition to Medicaid managed care for long-term care services and supports.
- Urge the creation of a Medicaid long-term care services and supports ombudsman for the transition and implementation of managed care.
- Urge FSSA to implement and fund an outreach plan for Structured Family Caregiving.
- Urge FSSA to strengthen, expand, promote and prioritize self-direction in the development and implementation of a managed care program.
- Urge FSSA to continue to hold meetings with stakeholders regarding the transition to managed care.
- Urge FSSA to provide monthly reports to the Public Health Committee concerning the transition and implementation of managed care.

### Redistricting

Legislators headed back at the Statehouse at the end of September to utilize population data from the 2020 Census to redraw state and federal district maps. This redistricting process takes place every 10 years. As Indiana's population shifts, so do state and federal districts. This may lead to changes in who represents you at the state and federal level. Because Indiana's population has not shifted too much, the state will continue to have nine congressional leaders representing Indiana in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The Arc of Indiana will be analyzing the final redrawn maps to see what legislators may retire or not be at the statehouse any longer due to redrawn district lines.

To see the finalized maps, visit <http://iga.in.gov/>.

### DSP Resolution Presentation

The Arc of Indiana thanks all of our chapters, families and self-advocates that took the time to connect with their legislators and thank them for investing in the direct support professional (DSP) wage increase in the biennial budget. A special thank you to Carey Services, The Arc in Grant and Blackford Counties; Stone Belt Arc, The Arc in Monroe County; ADEC, The Arc in Elkhart County; New Star; The Arc of Vigo County; Noble/ The Arc of Greater Indianapolis and The Arc of Southwest Indiana for hosting legislators and The Arc of Indiana at their agencies to present House Concurrent Resolution 46 recognizing the work DSPs did to keep Hoosiers with intellectual and developmental disabilities safe and healthy during the pandemic.



Over the past few months, we traveled throughout the state to thank legislators who signed onto Concurrent Resolution 46, honoring direct support professionals (DSPs), for keeping Hoosiers with intellectual and developmental disabilities safe and healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic. One visit took us to New Star in Northwest Indiana.

Thanks to Senator Karen Tallian and Representatives Mike Andrade, Pat Boy, Julie Olthoff and Hal Slager for your support of DSPs; and thanks to New Star President/CEO Dan Strick and the New Star team for your advocacy on behalf of people with IDD.

New Star serves over 650 children and adults with disabilities in and around the Chicagoland area and Northwest Indiana and supports The Arc of Indiana's advocacy efforts as a Mission Circle member in our Circles of Support initiative.

## The Arc Master Trust Growing to Serve Trust Beneficiaries

The Arc of Indiana and The Arc Master Trust recently welcomed two new trust account managers, Shalise Lee and Melissa Alger, to The Arc Master trust team.

Trust account managers work hard every day with beneficiaries and their key people to facilitate purchases and disbursements from their trust accounts.

Trust I, established in 1988, helps families provide for the financial future of their loved one without

affecting eligibility for government benefits. Trust II, established in 1995, allows individuals to save their own resources, beyond the government's \$2,000 resource limit, and then use those resources for qualified disability expenses as well as personal expenses, entertainment and even monthly bills while maintaining eligibility for Medicaid, Medicaid Waivers and SSI.

In addition to new staff members, Laura Gadberry has been promoted

to senior trust manager. With more than five years of experience on The Arc Master Trust team, Laura brings invaluable knowledge and skills to this new roll that will help the entire trust department continue to deliver quality trust services to beneficiaries and their families.

If you would like to learn more about The Arc Master Trust, please visit [thearctrust.org](http://thearctrust.org) or call 317-977-2375 to schedule a complementary phone or in-person consultation.

## Impact Awards/65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Please join us at  
The Arc of Indiana  
& Self-Advocates of Indiana  
2021 Impact Awards Luncheon

**November 12, 2021**  
**Horizon Conference Center**  
**Muncie, Indiana**

**John Dickerson**, Founder/CEO Quillo & The Arc of Indiana Retired Executive Director will provide a special presentation in celebration of our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and SAI's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Learn More & Register  
[arcind.org/event/impact-awards-luncheon](http://arcind.org/event/impact-awards-luncheon)