



The Arc of Indiana and Self-Advocates of Indiana

Annual Conference and Impact Awards Luncheon

November 15, 2017

Welcome

from The Arc of Indiana Executive Director



Welcome to The Arc of Indiana's 2017 Conference, Impact Awards and Annual Meeting!

What a year it has been! We appreciate all of you for joining us today as we discuss important topics and take a few moments to reflect back on the major issues that have kept us all very busy.

Whether you are a self-advocate, a family member, a chapter leader, or staff -- you have played a major role in our successes this past year and we look forward to recognizing a few of you at our Impact Awards Luncheon.

We are facing interesting times both at the state and federal level as we discuss the future of services and supports for people with disabilities. Today, you will be hearing from one of the best. Sharon Lewis is a national leader on disability issues and her perspective as a family member makes it very interesting to learn just what potential changes are being discussed and the impact they could have.

On behalf of The Arc's Board of Directors and staff, we thank you for being with us today and hope you take the opportunity to gain valuable information, network to make new friends and celebrate with us as we recognize those who have done extraordinary things to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families.

Sincerely,
Kim Dodson



and Self-Advocates of Indiana President



Dear Self-Advocates,

The Self-Advocates of Indiana Board of Directors and I would like to welcome you to our annual conference and meeting. We are excited to be partnering with The Arc of Indiana this year.

It's going to be a busy day filled with speakers, workshops, exhibits, and board elections. This year we will have many breakout sessions focused on advocacy, employment, planning for your future and more! We are excited to have both Sharon Lewis and Zach Anner as our special guests, both nationally recognized speakers. Don't forget to join us at 2:30 PM for SAI's Annual Meeting and Board Elections.

I hope that you have a fun time by connecting with other self-advocates and leaders from around the state, learning new things and leave here prepared to utilize your ability as a self-advocate in your community.

Many thanks to our sponsors, speakers, and exhibitors for helping make this event possible and thank you to our members for making Self-Advocates of Indiana such a strong advocacy organization!

Sincerely,
Kelsey Cowley



Schedule of Events

- 8 am - 3 pm Exhibit Booths Open
- 9 - 9:50 am Opening Plenary *featuring Sharon Lewis*
Monon and Wabash Ballrooms
- 10 - 10:45 am Breakout Session 1
- 11 - 11:45 am Breakout Session 2
- 12 - 2 pm Impact Awards Luncheon *featuring Zach Anner*
Monon and Wabash Ballrooms
- 2 - 2:45 pm Zach Anner Book Signing

Hi, I'm Michelle Fischer,
and welcome into A View from My Window



As the host of A View from My Window, Michelle Fischer is living her dream of being a broadcast journalist.

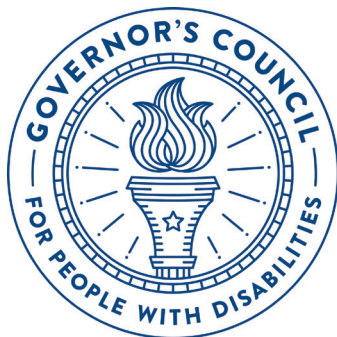
Join Michelle as she gives you a view into key issues effecting Indiana and the disability community.

Listen to Michelle's show
at arcind.org/podcasts



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Sharon Lewis



Sharon Lewis is a nationally lauded expert in disability policy spanning home and community-based services (HCBS), education, employment, independent living supports, and person-centered services. At Health Management Associates (HMA), she works with federal partners, states, providers and consumer advocates to advance opportunities for people with disabilities to fully participate in all aspects of community, across the lifespan. Sharon is a collaborator and consensus builder with a natural ability to put policy into practical perspective.

Sharon came to HMA having served in presidentially appointed leadership roles at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) including Principal Deputy Administrator of the Administration for Community Living, Senior Disability Policy Advisor to the HHS Secretary, and Commissioner of the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. At HHS, she improved access to quality integrated home and community-based services across multiple programs and funding sources in collaboration with states, stakeholders and other federal agencies. At HHS, Sharon co-founded the Administration for Community Living, established in 2012 to maximize the independence, well-being and health of older adults and people with disabilities, their families and caregivers. As part of the executive leadership team, she helped manage \$1.9 billion in national, state and local programs. Sharon championed investments in preventative home and community-based supports and social services, reducing reliance on unnecessary facility-based care. In collaboration with CMS leadership, Sharon led significant reforms in Medicaid HCBS policy and regulations to ensure community integration and increase person-centered services. She also increased investment in research and development in HCBS quality metrics.

As Senior Disability Policy Advisor to the U.S. House Committee on Education and Labor, and as a Kennedy Public Policy Fellow for the U.S. Senate HELP Subcommittee on Children and Families, she advised members on legislative strategy and disability-related policy issues in education, employment and health care, including passage of amendments to the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Affordable Care Act. At the state level in Oregon, Sharon led public policy, legislative strategy and grassroots organizing for multiple non-profit advocacy organizations (including The Arc) and coalitions for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Sharon's personal passion is ensuring that the perspectives of people with disabilities, and their families, are central to the development of policies and programs that affect their lives. As a parent to three wonderful daughters, one who experiences intellectual and developmental disabilities, she hopes to help build accepting, diverse and inclusive communities for all.

Breakout Session 1

10 am - 10:45 am

Breakout Session 1

10 am - 10:45 am

Sharing Our Story

Location: Eller

In our fast-paced and social media-driven society, it is crucial that we use our voices to reach people across many different platforms. Learn how to advocate for important issues and share your story. Hear from chapters of The Arc and family members on how individuals and organizations can make an impact through their social media, video, and direct communications.

Presenters:

- *Linda Margison, Stone Belt Arc*
- *Michelle Sokol, ADEC*
- *Beth DeHoff, Parent*

Community Action and Advocacy

Location: Sycamore

We often try to create change from the top down, but our advocacy efforts must start in our communities. How do you make your voice heard and create change at the local level? Gain hands on knowledge from veteran self-advocates on grassroots-level community advocacy.

Presenters:

- *Betty Williams, The Arc of Indiana*
- *Kelsey Cowley, Self-Advocates of Indiana*
- *Amanda Circle, The Arc of Indiana and Self-Advocates of Indiana*

Exploring Avenues to Employment

Location: Greyhound

Do you have questions about Indiana Vocational Rehabilitation's Order of Selection? Hear from experts and explore avenues to employment from Vocational Rehabilitation and beyond. Learn about Indiana's Ticket to Work program, employment incentives, and Indiana's WorkOne programs.

Presenters:

- *Kristina Blankenship, Vocational Rehabilitation*
- *Thomas Summerville, Easterseals Arc of Northeast Indiana*
- *Kelly Land, Center on Community Living and Careers, Indiana Institute on Disability and Community*

Sexual Abuse: Steps to Awareness, Prevention, and Intervention

Location: Carey

Studies consistently demonstrate that people with intellectual disabilities are sexually victimized more often than others who do not have a disability (Furey, 1994). In this workshop you will receive critical information on best practices for providers and knowledge for families and self-advocates on identifying, preventing, and approaching the topic of sexual abuse, as well as the importance of teaching about healthy relationships.

Presenters:

- *Cierra Olivia Thomas-Williams, Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence*
- *Danielle Pitmon, ICADV Consultant on Disability*
- *Diane Pitmon, ICADV Consultant on Disability*

Breakout Session 2

11 am - 11:45 am

Breakout Session 2

11 am - 11:45 am

The Critical Healthcare Debate

Location: Eller

Healthcare has been at the center of conversation over the past year. Come get up to date information on the critical health care debate and what it means for you and your family. Hear more from our opening plenary speaker Sharon Lewis, a national health care policy advocate, as well as insurance expert, Michele Trivedi, who oversees The Arc's Insurance Advocacy Resource Center.

Presenters:

- *Kim Dodson, The Arc of Indiana*
- *Michele Trivedi, The Arc Insurance Advocacy Resource Center*
- *Sharon Lewis, Health Management Associates*

Building a Strong DSP Workforce

Location: Carey

The ability to hire, train and retain quality staff is vital to the sustainability of quality services for people with I/DD. High turnover and employee vacancy rates that most providers experience place people with disabilities at risk because they depend on DSPs for a range of critical services. Join a discussion on innovative ways to hire and maintain quality direct support professionals.

Presenters:

- *Donna Elbrecht, Easterseals Arc of Northeast Indiana*
- *Michelle Percy, Carey Services*
- *Courtney Clark, Self-Advocate Board Member*
- *Jason Meyer, Passages, Inc.*

Preparing for Life's Transitions

Location: Greyhound

People with disabilities and their families face many transitions across the lifespan. Learn how to navigate these transitions and plan for the future. Equip yourself with information on critical issues such as guardianship, supported decision making, special needs trusts, and ABLE accounts.

Presenters:

- *Jill Smith, The Arc of Indiana*
- *Melissa Keyes, Indiana Disability Rights*
- *Betty Williams, The Arc of Indiana*
- *Jill Ginn, The Arc Master Trust*

Connecting to Your Community

Location: Sycamore

Take a look beyond traditional services to learn how individuals can experience a full life by connecting to their community and natural supports. Learn more about The LifeCourse Framework, a tool you can use to plan your vision for a full, good life.

Presenters:

- *Julie Reynolds, Division of Disability & Rehabilitative Services*
- *Kim Opsahl, Division of Disability & Rehabilitative Services*
- *Ann Robertson, IPMG*
- *Shawn Rector, Self-Advocate*

Zach Anner

“When Life Gives You Wheelchair, Make Lemonade”

Zach Anner is an award-winning comedian, show host, and public speaker. In 2011, he won his own travel show on the Oprah Winfrey Network, Rollin’ With Zach. He explored world religions in Have A Little Faith, started a conversation on climate change in Earth Your While, and presented good news stories in Top of the Monday, shows produced with Rainn Wilson’s media company SoulPancake; he tried his hand at sports and fitness on his YouTube series Workout Wednesdays; and he journeyed across the country with the help of Reddit in his travel program, Riding Shotgun. His videos have over 100 million views over social media platforms.



Zach has been a guest star, and is now a full-time writer on ABC’s hit family sitcom Speechless. He’s an Ambassador for the Cerebral Palsy Foundation and has worked with UCPLA Wheels for Humanity, which supplies wheelchairs to people in developing countries.

Zach’s memoir, If at Birth You Don’t Succeed: My Adventures with Disaster and Destiny, is a hilariously irreverent and heartfelt memoir about finding your passion and your path even when it’s paved with epic misadventure. Zach lives in Los Angeles, CA, and spends most of his spare time in his underwear, thinking about how he can change the world.

Impact Award Winners

Education Impact Award	Wayne High School <i>Fort Wayne, IN</i>
Employment Impact Award	Finish Line
Cathleen Clark Professional Service Impact Award	Jacqueline Cox <i>Noble/The Arc of Greater Indianapolis</i>
Outstanding Professional Achievement Impact Award	Katie Griffin <i>Aktion Club Kiwanis International</i>
Outstanding Self-Advocate Impact Award	Kim Milas
President’s Award	Indiana IEP Resource Center
Executive Director’s Award	Stone Belt Arc
Sycamore Award	David Mank
Membership Traveling Trophy Winners	KCARC, The Arc in Knox County Noble/The Arc of Greater Indianapolis
Executive Policy Investment Grant Recipients	Jason Meyer Jim Allbaugh



GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

What We Do:

Systems Change Grants

GCPD strategically funds projects to effect systems change, improve existing policies and practices, and demonstrate new approaches to solving problems.

Improving Public Policy

GCPD ensures that policymakers in Indiana have the information that they need to make informed decisions and that the interests of people with disabilities are considered during policy, legislative, and budget deliberations.

Empowering Advocates

GCPD trains individuals with disabilities and their family members in self advocacy, self-determination, and leadership, along with other areas related to the Council's goals and objectives.

We Change Lives by Changing Systems

The Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities (GCPD) improves the lives of people with developmental and other disabilities in Indiana by strategically funding grants, influencing public policy, and training people with disabilities and their family members to more effectively communicate and advocate for themselves and their communities. GCPD works to ensure that people with disabilities can live independent and productive lives in the community with the supports and services that they need to maximize their potential. The following is a snapshot of just some of the work that GCPD has done in the past five years:

GCPD awarded over \$5 Million dollars grants and contracts and leveraged an additional \$4.25 Million dollars in non-federal funds, including projects that:

- Increase the availability of accessible housing in Indiana
- Increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities
- Improve transportation coordination and access
- Empower people with disabilities to protect themselves from abuse, neglect, and exploitation
- Registered 11,022 individuals with disabilities to vote
- Recruited 28,867 individuals with disabilities to join Indiana's statewide disability advocacy coalition

Over 130 policies and programs were created or improved through Council activities and collaborations, including policies that:

- Provided greater and safer access to the community for people with disabilities through the adoption of municipal ordinances and regulations
- Helped open the doors for individuals with developmental disabilities to attend colleges and universities around the state
- Assisted with the statewide adoption of "Employment First" which makes integrated community employment at competitive wages as the first and preferred outcome for all people with disabilities

Nearly 21,000 individuals were trained to enhance their leadership skills, increase their knowledge, and more effectively communicate with policymakers.

- People with disabilities and families are members of boards and leadership coalitions and remain active in grassroots advocacy since receiving training
- In the words of one recent trainee: *"For me, this has been a life changing experience. I now feel that I CAN be the change I want to see in the world."*



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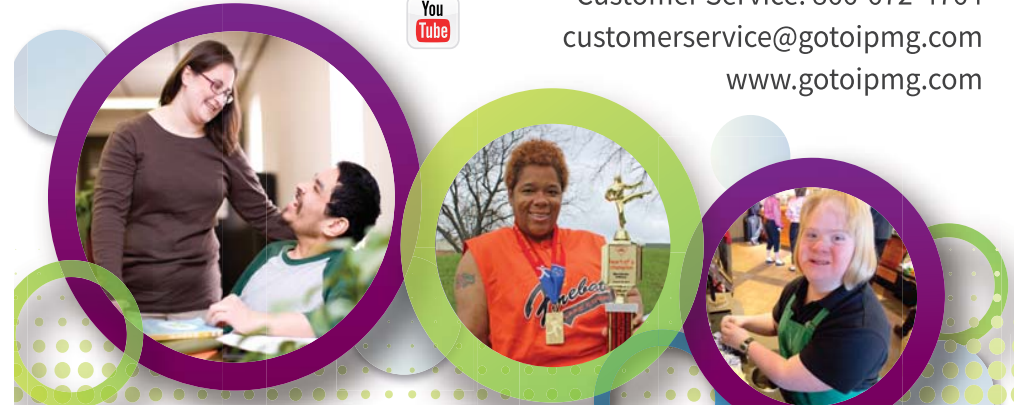


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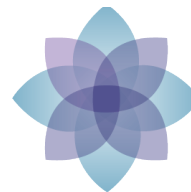
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- Denied Claim Report
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