

Directory of Benefits, Services, and Discounts for Chapters of The Arc
Updated: March 6, 2019

Welcome to The Arc! Congratulations on joining the nearly 650 state and local chapters of The Arc that, along with you, are dedicated to promoting and protecting the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively supporting their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.

An important advantage of affiliation is the substantial number of benefits, services, and discounts available to chapters of The Arc. Whatever your chapter's size, location, or scope of work, these benefits will save you time, resources, and complement your own materials and activities. Our goal is simple: to support your chapter's ability to carry out our joint mission.

This primer includes an overview of the key benefits, services, and discounts for chapters of The Arc. Please note that some of the links will open only when you are logged in to the 'For Chapters' section of website.

We're pleased to serve all state and local chapters of The Arc. Please contact Karen Wolf-Branigin, Senior Executive Officer, Chapter Growth and Affiliate Relations (wolf-branigin@thearc.org) with any questions and recommendations.

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Important Documents

- The Arc's Mission and Values (<http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/mission-and-values>) communicate what The Arc stands for and guide our work with people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families.
- The Bylaws (<http://www.thearc.org/document.doc?id=3987>) define The Arc's purpose and requirements for membership, as well as describe the officer's titles and responsibilities.
- Standard Terms and Conditions for Affiliation (<http://www.thearc.org/document.doc?id=3986>) describe the way in which chapters of The Arc and The Arc conduct business.
- The Arc's A Clear Path Forward: Strategic Framework for the Future of The Arc 2010-2019 (<http://content.yudu.com/Library/A1vvgf/StrategicFrameworkNe/resources/index.htm>) outlines the goals and strategies to reach the goals of The Arc.
- The Arc's Diversity Strategic Action Plan 2016-2020 (http://www.thearc.org/file/documents_diversity/2016-2020-Diversity-Strategic-Action-Plan.pdf).
- The Arc's 2017 Annual Report (<https://www.thearc.org/file/Annual-Report-2017.pdf>)
- What The Arc Does (http://www.thearc.org/file/documents_general-resources/17-023.08-What-The-Arc-Does-Brochure.pdf) is our general brochure, available to chapters in .pdf format.
- Driven by Opportunity (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fBHq0X_J4ak) and The Arc Across A Lifetime (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0fBbMTC-EHk>) are two popular videos that tell our story.

The Arc's Team

The Arc of the United States has nearly 50 people working in six practice groups to support our chapters nationwide:

1. Executive

2. Chapter Growth and Affiliate Relations
3. Development, Marketing, and Communications
4. Operations, Finance, and IT
5. Program Innovations
6. Public Policy and Legal Advocacy

We encourage you to take a few minutes to familiarize yourself our names, faces and biographies. Our vibrant, mission-driven team members are here to assist and our emails are included in our [profiles](http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/staff) (<http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/staff>).

The Arc's Website

The Arc's website (<http://www.thearc.org/>) is where you will find consolidated, updated information related to supporting people with I/DD and their families. The website has information about The Arc's mission, history, policy initiatives, program innovations, and other relevant information to assist you in carrying out your mission.

In addition, the website has a portal called For Chapters (<http://www.thearc.org/for-chapters-new>). As a service to chapters only, your board of director members, paid staff and members can create accounts to access a plethora of exclusive information. Information about chapter discounts and benefits, learning, and grant opportunities and the National Council of Executives are in this portion of the website.

Board members and paid staff interested in using resources in For Chapters (<http://www.thearc.org/for-chapters-new>) page must register and create a profile.

To do this:

1. Go to www.thearc.org and click on USER LOGIN on top of the page
2. Click on New User Registration when prompted
3. On Chapter Involvement: select *Employee of a chapter or Chapter Volunteer*.
4. Complete the form and click Submit

Once your profile is approved by The Arc (usually within 24 hours) you will be able to access the pages.

The Membership Portal

The Arc has a second section called the membership portal (<https://membership.thearc.org/login/>). This is a private site, also exclusively for chapters. This portal gives you the ability to manage contact information for paid staff and your members. You can add, edit, and download your members contact information at your convenience. You can also see the balance on your affiliation fee amount. As per the Standard Terms and Conditions for Affiliation, you are required to update your membership list once a year.

To access the membership portal:

1. Go to <http://www.thearc.org/>

2. Click “Login” at the top of the page
3. If the user knows their username and password, they can enter them here and click “Login,” which will allow them to access the For Chapters pages
4. If the user doesn’t know their username and password, they can click the “Forgotten User ID/Password” link underneath the login button
5. The user will be directed to a page to “Request a Password Reminder”
6. The user can enter their email and click “Submit”
7. The user should check their email and follow the instructions to change their password

Once you are on the membership portal you will have access to the help page where you can find one-minute videos on how to use the portal.

Doing so assures that those on the list will:

- Receive a copy of Empower via e-mail
- Receive a copy of Fusion via e-mail
- Receive information about benefits such as Mutual of America insurance
- Provide you with an updated mailing list of your members

The Arc’s Executive Group

Peter V. Berns (<https://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/media-center/peter-v-berns>)

Chief Executive Officer, leads the development and implementation of The Arc’s mission and long-term strategy. As a public interest lawyer, Peter came to The Arc with a track record of successes in nonprofit management, governmental relations, and advocacy. Peter’s knowledgeable perspective informs The Arc’s federated association structure allowing him to lead The Arc’s multifaceted partnerships.

Shira Wakschlag is The Arc’s Director, Legal Advocacy & Associate General Counsel (wakschlag@thearc.org).

The Arc’s Board of Directors (<http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/board-of-directors>) includes 24 people, most which are people with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) and family members. . Members serve without compensation, meet at least four times per year and steer The Arc towards a sustainable future. Chapters benefit from the foresight provided by these recognized leaders.

There are several Standing and Special Committees and Advisory Councils designed to assist the board in carrying out their responsibilities. Serving on these committees

gives chapter staff the opportunity to contribute to The Arc's growth and work closely with board members. A list of committees and councils and how to apply to serve on them is in Attachment 1 at the end of this document.

The Arc's Chapter Growth and Affiliate Relations Group

This knowledgeable team encourages, assists, and supports local and state chapters of The Arc to implement their mission. Our knowledge assists us in aiding chapters facing challenges, celebrating innovative chapters, recruiting stellar organizations to join our network, and inviting national organizations serving people with I/DD and their families to join The Arc as associate members.

While much of this team's work is individualized as per the chapter's situation, these benefits and services are available to all chapters of The Arc.

The National Conference of Executives (<http://www.thearc.org/nce/about>) is an organization (<http://www.thearc.org/file/15-049-NCE-Brochure.pdf>) for chapter Executive Directors and management personnel. The NCE provides a forum for member support and mentorship and organize professional education and development programs to support chapter leaders. This short video, Introduction to the NCE (<https://www.thearc.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=186&bm=472425622>) provides an overview of this dynamic organization, a major benefit of membership in The Arc. (note: you must be logged in to view this page). There are Google Groups for both state and local executive directors that allow chapter leaders to share information and communicate with each other and national staff. When chapters notify The Arc about a new executive director they will be signed up to the group by The Arc. If a local executive director hears about the group and is not signed up contact Dawn Cooper (cooper@thearc.org). State executive directors can contact Shira Wakschlag (wakschlag@thearc.org). If your chapter notified The Arc that a new Executive Director is in place, we will automatically subscribe the individual to these lists.

The Arc's Diversity Strategic Action Plan 2016-2020

http://www.thearc.org/file/documents_diversity/2016-2020-Diversity-Strategic-Action-Plan.pdf) and 2016 Annual Report (http://www.thearc.org/file/16-066-The-Annual-Report_web.pdf) lay out The Arc's vision and commitment to intentionally assuring that all aspects of our work lead us towards becoming more culturally competent organizations. If your chapter is interested in learning more about what you can do to be a leader in diversity in the disability community, contact [Dawn](#)

[Cooper](#), Director, Diversity, Chapter Leadership and Professional Development, [Cultural Diversity](#) (cooper@thearc.org).

[The Arc Connection](https://www.thearc.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=186&bm=-118578237) (<https://www.thearc.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=186&bm=-118578237>) is an onboarding resource uniquely designed to cater to the needs of your ever-growing professional staff (note: you must be logged in to view this page). The Basic content in The Arc Connection is suited to any level within your organization and provides a broad overview of a variety of roles within a chapter as well as giving a foundation to general disability issues and concerns. The Arc Connection Basic sessions are available to every staff member of a chapter of The Arc. The Premium content in The Arc Connection provides a much more in depth look at various topics in the disability sector, including governance, the basics of housing policy, employment policy and education policy, fundraising, and HCBS. The Arc Connection Premium sessions are available to NCE members only.

[Special Interest Groups](http://www.thearc.org/for-chapters/chapter-leadership-development/special-interest-groups) (<http://www.thearc.org/for-chapters/chapter-leadership-development/special-interest-groups>) are online discussion forums that allow chapter leaders and staff to connect to one another and share challenges, best practices, and solutions to specific topics on program development and organizational excellence. There are 17 Special Interest Groups and membership is open to all NCE members.

The Arc's [NCE Summer Leadership Institute](http://nce-sli.org/) (SLI) (<http://nce-sli.org/>) is 2.5-day professional development program covering topics that are timely and relevant for any executive or leader in the disability arena. SLI brings disability professionals together from across the country to explore as a group trends, public policy, and areas of common ground that can help create a greater voice to get the needs of our constituents met. Scholarships are available for both SLI and the Professional Development Seminar during a limited application period, which is announced in the NCE newsletter.

Every Fall, NCE holds the NCE Professional Development Seminar the day before The Arc's National Convention. This 8-hour seminar held over two days provides chapter leaders and staff the opportunity to delve deeply into a focused issue or concern. In 2016, we explored leadership accountability with the Disney Institute and in 2015 Organizational Transformation was our focus. 2018 focused on *Culturally Responsive Leadership...A Roadmap to Inclusivity for Chapters of The Arc*. If you're interested in helping to plan the yearly Professional Development Seminar, please contact [Dawn Cooper](#), Director, Diversity, Chapter Leadership and Professional Development, [Cultural Diversity](#) (cooper@thearc.org). Historically, National Conference of

Executives has been a dynamic peer membership organization of Executive Directors and Management staff of The Arc, but we realize that leadership happens at every level and that everyone can benefit from the professional development resources that NCE has developed. As an Executive Director of a chapter of The Arc you are automatically a member of NCE for free, but we have developed a system where you can bring the benefits of NCE to some - or ALL - of your staff:

- An additional individual pass costs \$149
- A Bronze Pass (to add 5 extra people) costs \$350
- A Silver Pass (to add 10 extra people) costs \$499
- The Gold pass is the best value as it allows for you to sign up everyone in your organization for a fraction of the cost of multiple individual, bronze or silver passes. Gold pass pricing is based on the number of people in your organization. [Click here for more information](http://www.thearc.org/nce/join-now) (<http://www.thearc.org/nce/join-now>)

The Standards for Excellence Institute (<https://standardsforexcellence.org/>) helps nonprofit organizations achieve the highest benchmarks of ethics and accountability in governance, management, and operations. Through an exclusive agreement with The Arc, chapters have access to the Institute's Standards for Excellence® (http://www.thearc.org/file/documents_nce/standards-The-Arc-2014_final_small.pdf) an informative set of guidelines that promote high standards of ethics, effective management, and accountability in nonprofit governance. In addition to these guidelines, chapters can use additional [educational resources](https://www.thearc.org/for-chapters/chapter-excellence/standards-for-excellence/educational-resource-packets) (<https://www.thearc.org/for-chapters/chapter-excellence/standards-for-excellence/educational-resource-packets>) and codebook. (note: You must be logged in to view this page). Chapters interested in obtaining accreditation will enjoy discounted rates negotiated by The Arc.

The Arc's partnership with Relias Learning (<https://www.reliaslearning.com/>) gives chapters discounted rates for the Relias Intellectual and Developmental Disability Training Library, which contains over 200 courses on community-based support, autism support, customized employment, health and safety, and more. We've also partnered with them to create The Arc Academy (<http://thearc.academy.reliaslearning.com/>) where special offerings developed by The Arc staff and other experts can also be accessed. Here's an example of a chapter (<https://relias-learning.wistia.com/medias/tmkz3y5wea>) engaged with Relias Learning.

[The NTEN partnership \(http://www.thearc.org/nce/members-only/nten\)](http://www.thearc.org/nce/members-only/nten) with The Arc and NCE brings membership to [NTEN](#) at no cost! Membership benefits include connect their member for networking, educating on issues of technology use in nonprofits, and spearheading groundbreaking research, advocacy, and education on technology issues affecting our entire community.

The [National Council of Self Advocates \(http://www.thearc.org/self-advocates\)](http://www.thearc.org/self-advocates) is the voice of self-advocates in all work of The Arc's national office. Members are provided a forum to share their expertise, further their knowledge, and inform how the programs being developed at the national level can support self-advocates throughout the country. Membership is free and open to all self-advocates affiliated with a local or state chapter of The Arc. [Jenny Sladen](#), Director, National Initiatives (sladen@thearc.org) is the staff liaison for the NCSA.

The Arc values the important role that siblings play in the lives of people with I/DD. The Arc's [Siblings Scene \(http://www.thearc.org/siblings\)](http://www.thearc.org/siblings) email list is an online community designed to keep siblings informed about I/DD-related policy updates and developments, as well as useful national resources. Sign-up for the list [here \(http://thearcus.wufoo.com/forms/z1ut9c8d02w9d4f/\)](http://thearcus.wufoo.com/forms/z1ut9c8d02w9d4f/). Liz Mahar, [Director, Family and Sibling Initiatives \(mahar@thearc.org\)](#) is the staff liaison for Siblings Scene.

If someone contacts The Arc with a concern or complaint about a chapter, The Arc contacts the chapter's Executive Director and reports the concern. We expect that the chapter will conduct its own investigation and advise us of the outcome. The Arc will follow-up with the person raising the concern unless the chapter Executive Director completes this step. If a chapter is interested in obtaining advice from The Arc, it will be provided by team members with expertise, the Standards for Excellence and referrals to chapter leaders throughout the network. Contact [Karen Wolf-Branigin](#), Senior Executive Officer, Chapter Growth and Affiliate Relations (wolf-branigin@thearc.org) for additional information.

If a chapter is facing financial challenges, we encourage you to contact us about your situation. Our expertise, as well as advice from other chapter leaders can provide chapters with pertinent and helpful information. Chapters confronting issues with high-level personnel or volunteers, such as the Executive Director or President of the Board of Directors, are also encouraged to consult The Arc. This is a major benefit of membership in The Arc.

The Arc's Development, Marketing, and Communications Group

This experienced team is available to support your chapter's development, marketing, and communications activities and intensify our powerful brand. These services and programs are designed to save you time and money and assist you in carrying out The Arc's network mission in your community and state.

Development

The Get Involved (<http://www.thearc.org/get-involved>) section of The Arc's website describes the various development benefits, services, and discounts available to chapters.

Most organizations seeking membership in The Arc value the name recognition and having the power of a national organization behind them. New and re-affiliated chapters that brand will have access to the trademarks, name, symbols and other markings of The Arc. There is a nominal fee for this service.

The Arc provides a suite of valuable planned giving resources (<http://www.thearclegacy.org/>) for chapters to assist you in creating and nurturing a pipeline for future gifts to sustain your organization.

Should you seek additional advice and support, through The Arc's agreement with Crescendo (<https://www.crescendointeractive.com/>) chapters that join the Planned Giving Work Group can enroll in the Gift Legacy™ or Gift Charity™ programs. Both programs offer significant services to support a high-level planned giving program. Additional information about both programs is available from Laura Rahman Director, Individual Philanthropy (rahman@thearc.org). There is a fee for this service.

The Arc's webpage on Ways to Give (<http://www.thearc.org/get-involved/ways-to-give>) illustrates the strategies we use to connect with donors. These ideas may be of interest to your chapters as well:

- Planned giving
- Honor and memorial giving
- Donating your car
- Donating items
- Donating to support our programs
- Monthly gifts
- Donating stock
- Employee matching gifts
- AmazonSmile

The Arc's nationwide vehicle donation program is a favorite fundraiser for state and local chapters. Simply sign up online, promote your program to your community, and receive a monthly donation check with revenue received from the donated vehicle sales! Signing up is completely free, and The Arc's National Office provides you with a variety of marketing materials to get your program up and running in minimal time.

It's that easy!

Visit the [program's webpage \(http://www.thearc.org/for-chapters/chapter-resources/car-donation\)](http://www.thearc.org/for-chapters/chapter-resources/car-donation) to learn about the program and to [sign up! \(http://www.thearc.org/for-chapters/chapter-resources/affinity-programs/car-donation-signup\)](http://www.thearc.org/for-chapters/chapter-resources/affinity-programs/car-donation-signup)! Contact [Megan Kyte](mailto:kyte@thearc.org), Development Associate, (kyte@thearc.org) with any questions.

[WealthEngine \(https://www.wealthengine.com/\)](https://www.wealthengine.com/) provides solutions that assist fundraising, marketing, and business development professionals to create strategies to extend their reach and build their prospect pipeline. The Arc's contract with WealthEngine passes on substantial discounts to chapters that enroll in the program. For additional information contact [Laura Rahman](mailto:rahman@thearc.org), Director, Individual Philanthropy (rahman@thearc.org). There is a fee for this service.

The national office offers **grant-writing and prospect research services** to chapters that need support to successfully apply for grants. For additional information please contact [Casey Nitsch](mailto:nitsch@thearc.org), Director, Corporate, Foundation and Government Support (nitsch@thearc.org). There is a fee for this service.

Additional resources include:

- [Project Streamline \(https://www.peakgrantmaking.org/projectstreamline\)](https://www.peakgrantmaking.org/projectstreamline) focuses on helping grant makers get the information they need, while reducing the burden of application and reporting practices on nonprofit grant seekers.
- [BoardSource \(https://boardsource.org/\)](https://boardsource.org/) is a global network of leaders that offers a range of solutions to support federated networks such as The Arc. Their numerous resources (free and for a fee) are available to chapters of The Arc.
- [The Chronical of Philanthropy \(https://www.philanthropy.com/\)](https://www.philanthropy.com/) is a magazine with research articles, tools, and information aimed at educating those involved with fundraising at your chapters. Many of the tools and resources are available at no cost, while others include a fee.

Marketing

One of the premier benefits of chapter membership is the name recognition The Arc brings to your organization. To assist you in launching our brand we've developed a plethora of resources for your use (note: You must be logged in to view these pages).

- Marketing, Public Service Announcements, brand videos, print collateral, the image library, and PowerPoint templates are available in this [section](#)

(<http://www.thearc.org/for-chapters/resources/toolkits/marketing>) of the website.

- There are various [branding resources](https://www.thearc.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=186&bm=-307989569) (<https://www.thearc.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=186&bm=-307989569>) developed for your use including Signing on to The Arc's National Brand: [The Trademark Licensing Agreement](#). Please contact branding@thearc.org to learn more about how to acquire a customized logo with your chapter name, as well as other graphic elements.
- The Visual Identity Guidelines including the use of the logo and other elements of the brand are detailed here. You will automatically receive a copy of these guidelines with your logo artwork once your licensing agreement is finalized. To begin the licensing agreement process, connect with [Ashley DuPont](#), Senior Graphic Designer, Marketing (dupont@thearc.org).

Communications

The Arc's expert Communications team is experienced in media relations, writing for newsletters and the web, social media, and storytelling to make our programs and public policy priorities come to life. In addition to various communications from the Public Policy and Legal Advocacy and Program Innovations Teams, chapters will be well-informed by:

- Visiting The Arc's [media center](http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/media-center) (<http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/media-center>)
- Become inspired by reading The Arc's Empower Newsletter <http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/media-center/publications>) a publication provided to over hundreds of thousands of members and friends of The Arc detailing news and highlights on our programs. When you send us your membership list (and update it each year) everyone on it will receive a copy.
- The Arc's eNews is distributed six times a year. This communication is a public-facing electronic newsletter designed for people interested in the work of The Arc including members, donors, potential donors, and the public. eNews is available to chapter staff, volunteers and members that create a profile and sign up for it via the membership portal.
- Fusion is a twice monthly, chapters-only electronic newsletter with funding opportunities, resources, news, calls to action, educational opportunities, and a focus on chapter achievements. The newsletter is available to chapter staff, board, and members that create a profile and sign up for it on our [website](https://www.thearc.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=186) (<https://www.thearc.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=186>) and check off the box that you are board or staff.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS AND OTHER TOPICS, VISIT WWW.THEARC.ORG

The Arc has an exciting [website](http://www.thearc.org/) (<http://www.thearc.org/>) and very active social media presence with our [Blog](https://blog.thearc.org/) (<https://blog.thearc.org/>), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/thearcus) (<https://www.facebook.com/thearcus>), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/thearcus) (<https://twitter.com/thearcus>) and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/user/thearcoftheus) (<https://www.youtube.com/user/thearcoftheus>) accounts. Make sure to subscribe to the blog and follow our social media accounts to ensure you receive all of The Arc's press releases and other critical communications in a timely way.

As we know, communications between peers is often the best way to learn and receive support. A direct line to experts, information, and all The Arc has to offer, The Arc coordinates five different Google Groups that your chapter is encouraged to join.

- Local Chapter Executive Directors (contact [Dawn Cooper](mailto:cooper@thearc.org), Director, Diversity, Chapter Leadership and Professional Development, [Cultural Diversity](mailto:cooper@thearc.org) (cooper@thearc.org) to sign-up)
- State Chapter Executive Directors (contact [Shira Wakschlag](mailto:wakschlag@thearc.org), Director, Legal Advocacy & Associate General Counsel (wakschlag@thearc.org) to sign-up)
- State Chapter Presidents (contact [Shira Wakschlag](mailto:wakschlag@thearc.org), Director, Legal Advocacy & Associate General Counsel (wakschlag@thearc.org) to sign-up)
- NCE members (contact [Dawn Cooper](mailto:cooper@thearc.org), Director, Diversity, Chapter Leadership and Professional Development, [Cultural Diversity](mailto:cooper@thearc.org) (cooper@thearc.org) to sign-up)
- The Arc@School Community of Practice (contact [Shawn Ullman](mailto:ullman@thearc.org), Senior Director, National Initiatives (ullman@thearc.org) to sign-up)

[Self-Advocacy Online](http://www.selfadvocacyonline.org) (<http://www.selfadvocacyonline.org>) is a website supported by The Arc, is the go-to place to find local self-advocacy groups, read stories written by self-advocates, and learn about strategies for supporting self-advocates. The information is written in plain text and easily accessible.

The Arc offers a [web service](http://web.thearc.org/) (<http://web.thearc.org/>) designed for chapters to spend less and achieve more on the web. We provide a modern and branded design, all in a mobile-friendly layout that is customizable to meet your chapter's needs and is easy to edit. Chapters will also receive unlimited training, tech support, and a free redesign during the three-year period. There is a one-time set up and monthly fee that covers hosting, backups, and security.

[The Arc's Autism Now Center](http://autismnow.org/) (<http://autismnow.org/>) is a repository of resources written or approved by vetted by people on the autism spectrum. These resources are free of charge and developed to help people on the spectrum live life to the fullest.

You can search by topic including at home, on the job, in the classroom and in the community. There are materials for people with ASD, their family members, and professionals. In addition, news stories, policy and legislative updates, training materials and archived resources are available. Most importantly are stories by people living with ASDs who talk about their achievements and advice for others.

If a chapter is involved with troublesome circumstances and receiving media attention, you are encouraged to connect with The Arc so we can better understand the issue and provide you with any support needed. Examples might include a problem related directly to your chapter (e.g. embezzlement) or a community issue (e.g. you're representing a self-advocate with a prominent court case). There are times when national or your local media will contact The Arc's national office to learn our reaction to a local story - and the more aware we are of the situation and how you are handling it, the better prepared we'll be to answer their questions. We understand the pressure that comes with unwanted media attention and are here to assist with crisis communications.

If you don't have a local media list, or could benefit from a refreshed list, The Arc's national office has a media database subscription service from which we could pull you a spreadsheet of media contacts for your use.

We also take great pride in hearing about your accomplishments. Whether you share your newsletters, drop us a line, or tag us on social media, your achievements are regular reminders of why we all work so hard to carry out our mission and values. Thank you for sharing these communications with The Arc. You might even be spotlighted in one of our publications! You can send any accomplishments you want to share to [Pam Katz](mailto:katz@thearc.org), Digital Marketing Manager (katz@thearc.org).

The Arc's Operations, Finance, and IT Group

This competent team completes a variety of internal and public facing activities and:

- Keeps the national office up and running
- Supports the work of The Arc's Board of Directors
- Processes chapter fees
- Maintains and updates chapter membership records
- Offers a chapter membership processing service (<https://www.thearc.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=186&bm=1065627772>). Chapters that have members can take advantage of renewal service whereby will automatically contact members for annual renewals. Your chapter may

currently have the capacity to handle 20-30 mailings, but when it grows and increases membership, this may be a good option. This service is most useful when chapters lack resources or have a large membership that prevents the chapter from handling renewals directly. There is a fee for this service. (note: You must be logged in to view this page). Contact us (membership@thearc.org) for additional information.

- Examines opportunities to save chapter's money, such as:
 - Participating in the [PurchasingPoint® program](https://www.thearc.org/for-chapters/chapter-resources/group-purchasing) <https://www.thearc.org/for-chapters/chapter-resources/group-purchasing> where chapters can save on average over 25% with many popular vendors that participate in this group discount (note: You must be logged in to view this page).
 - Taking advantage of discounts available to chapters through The Arc's agreement with [Mutual of America](https://www.thearc.org/for-chapters/chapter-resources/endorsed-vendors) <https://www.thearc.org/for-chapters/chapter-resources/endorsed-vendors>. Mutual of America provides pension and retirement-related products, including 403(B) accounts to The Arc and its chapters. The Arc uses the company for our employee retirement savings accounts. The company waives the \$1,600 administrative fees for chapters of The Arc. (note: You must be logged in to view this page).
 - Pricing opportunities and discounts that The Arc has negotiated for chapters to use the [Cisco WebEx Platform](http://www.webex.com/) (<http://www.webex.com/>). Contact Darcy Rosenbaum, Senior Executive Director, Operations (Rosenbaum@thearc.org) for additional information.
- Coordinates logistics for our three premier learning opportunities, the [Disability Policy Seminar](http://disabilitypolicyseminar.org/) (<http://disabilitypolicyseminar.org/>), the [Summer Leadership Institute](http://nce-sli.org/) (<http://nce-sli.org/>) and the [National Convention](http://convention.thearc.org/) (<http://convention.thearc.org/>).
- Maintains The Arc's [Job Board](http://www.thearc.org/get-involved/job-board) (<http://www.thearc.org/get-involved/job-board>) where we invite you to post or search for jobs.
- Processes The Arc's accounts payable and receivables.
- Coordinates The Arc's [Annual Audit](http://www.thearc.org/document.doc?id=5448) (<http://www.thearc.org/document.doc?id=5448>).
- Files required governmental [reports](http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/financials-and-reporting) (<http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/financials-and-reporting>).

The Arc's Program Innovations Group

With expertise from The Arc's staff and in collaboration with other advocates, self-advocates, and disability experts, The Arc's national programs provide information, resources, webinars, and other training opportunities that can assist chapters in utilizing best practices to serve people with I/DD in the community. In addition, some programs are able to award monetary grants to chapters who implement pilot demonstration programs. Here is a list of the programs and links to their websites:

- The Arc's Center for Future Planning® (<https://futureplanning.thearc.org/>) is the go-to program for learning about building your own plan to achieve your dreams. The program has resources to assist you in finding an attorney, financial planner, insurance professional, or other advisor to help you navigate the future of you or your family member with a disability. The Center also produced numerous [training events on a variety of pertinent topics](#).
- National Center for Criminal Justice & Disability® (NCCJD) (<http://www.thearc.org/NCCJD>) is the first national program that focuses on both victim and suspect/defendant issues involving people with intellectual/developmental disabilities. As a national clearinghouse, NCCJD has information, as well as training opportunities on an array of topics including people with I/DD as victims, witnesses, and suspects or defendants of crime. The Center partners with a broad spectrum of criminal justice professionals, including those in the law enforcement, legal, and disability fields at the national, state, and local levels to create safer lives for people with I/DD who become involved in the criminal justice system.
- Tech Programs include [the Tech Toolbox™](https://toolbox.thearc.org/) (<https://toolbox.thearc.org/>), a place to find, share, rate and review technology for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities. The Tech Programs also run "Tech Coaching Centers" in chapters around the USA, where people with I/DD can receive in-person coaching, to learn to use technology. The Tech Program is developing an online coaching service, to enable people with I/DD to learn from remote "coaches" by connecting to them via video conference. Finally, the Tech Programs provide usability testing services to tech companies seeking input on the design of their products for use by people with I/DD.
- The MLK Day of Service Project (<https://www.thearc.org/inclusive-volunteering/for-disability-professionals>) coordinates inclusive service projects at chapters of The Arc. These service projects focus on addressing food

insecurity, a problem that 49 million Americans face yearly. Selected chapter grantees partner with local food banks, Meals on Wheels programs, and service clubs to develop and implement service activities that bring volunteers with and without disabilities to combat food insecurity in their communities.

- [The Arc@School](http://thearcatschool.org/) (<http://thearcatschool.org/>), 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. By improving the quality and availability of trained lay advocates to support the development and implementation of individualized education programs (IEPs), The Arc@School supports students with I/DD to graduate from high school and pursue post-secondary education and employment. The Arc @ School's Online Resource Center provides students, families, educators, and advocates information about services available to students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, as well as a directory of special education advocates in each state.
- [The Arc@Work](http://www.thearc.org/thearcwork) (<http://www.thearc.org/thearcwork>) has a dual role in providing services to both business and people with intellectual/developmental disabilities. The TalentScout Toolkit provides guidance for employers on how to recruit, hire, and support employees with autism - from the point of view of those on the spectrum, their co-workers and supervisors. The Arc @ Work also delivers services to chapters related to business development, workforce development, and organizational strengthening and education.
- [Wings for Autism®/Wings for All®](http://thearc.org/wingsforautism) (thearc.org/wingsforautism) is an airport rehearsal program for people with autism and other intellectual/developmental disabilities that have had unsuccessful experiences or are too afraid to try traveling by air. The Arc teams up with airlines, airports and TSA to give families the chance to go through all the steps of airline travel from obtaining a boarding pass, going through security and boarding a plane (that does not take off). For more information or to bring Wings to your community check out our webpage or contact Kerry Mauger, Manager, Special Projects mauger@thearc.org.
- The Arc's Health Programs
 - Research, statistics, webinars, videos, online courses, and materials about health disparities and strategies for increasing healthy lifestyles is available from The Arc's HealthMeet® program

(<http://www.thearc.org/healthmeet/whats-new>). A [report](http://www.thearc.org/file/Prognosis-Guarded---Health-Assessment-Years-1_3-General-Public-Report-FINAL.pdf) (http://www.thearc.org/file/Prognosis-Guarded---Health-Assessment-Years-1_3-General-Public-Report-FINAL.pdf) describing the results of the over 2,400 assessments conducted by 29 chapters in 5 states is also available on the website.

- The Arc's [Health & Fitness for All](http://www.thearc.org/file/Health-and-Fitness-For-All-Fact-Sheet---Final-Copy.pdf) program (<http://www.thearc.org/file/Health-and-Fitness-For-All-Fact-Sheet---Final-Copy.pdf>) provides grants to chapters to deliver health promotion and nutrition programs in their local communities. Contact [Liz Mahar, Director, Family and Sibling Initiatives](mailto:mahar@thearc.org) (mahar@thearc.org) for additional information.
- The [FASD Prevention](http://www.thearc.org/FASD-Prevention-Project) toolkit (<http://www.thearc.org/FASD-Prevention-Project>) with webinars, videos, online courses, and print materials that chapters can use to assist physicians, nurses, and other health care providers talk with their patients about not drinking alcohol during pregnancy.
- The [Direct Support Professional Workforce Development \(DSP\) Toolkit](#) was developed for The Arc by The Research and Training Center on Community Living at the University of Minnesota and contains several resources that chapters of The Arc, and individuals with disabilities and their family members served by chapters can use to improve their workforce development practices.

The Arc's Public Policy and Legal Advocacy Group

One of the premier benefits of membership is The Arc's work in public policy and legal advocacy. This educated team focuses on the needs, issues, concerns of people with I/DD and their families and designs, directs and engages in advocacy actions to address them. Our leadership in supporting and mobilizing constituents and stakeholders in support of public policy initiatives that benefit people with I/DD and their families is well-known and respected in the human services community. The Arc also engages in systemic impact litigation to ensure the rights of people with I/DD are protected in the courts.

The communications produced by the Public Policy and Legal Advocacy Team include:

- The [Capitol Insider](http://insider.thearc.org/about/) (<http://insider.thearc.org/about/>) is the official blog of The Arc's public policy office. Available to chapters and the public, the purpose of the blog is to:

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS AND OTHER TOPICS, VISIT WWW.THEARC.ORG

- Provide real-time information on the issues surrounding public policy and people with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- To create a starting place for discussion (both online and offline) centered around public policy issues that the intellectual and developmental disability community want to talk about
- To give you all the information you need to help you stay informed about public policy issues that affect people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

You can subscribe to the Capitol Insider [here](http://disabilityadvocacynetwork.org/app/register?0&m=9899).
(<http://disabilityadvocacynetwork.org/app/register?0&m=9899>)

National Policy Matters, a periodic, electronic publication emailed to chapters for distribution to their board and public policy committees.

In addition to these communications, additional opportunities to learn about public policy and legal advocacy include:

- Attending the Disability Policy Seminar (disabilitypolicyseminar.org)
- Reviewing The Arc's Legal Advocacy Page for updates on disability rights litigation (<http://www.thearc.org/what-we-do/public-policy/legal-advocacy>) and connecting with [Shira Wakschlag, Director, Legal Advocacy & Associate General Counsel \(wakschlag@thearc.org\)](mailto:wakschlag@thearc.org).
- Reading and sharing The Arc's [Position Statements](http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/position-statements) (<http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/position-statements>)
- Attending The Arc's Public Policy Update conference calls
 - Once a month the public policy staff hold conference calls with state chapters to provide updates on what is happening in Congress and the Administration on our legislative priorities and what actions The Arc is taking. The goal is to keep our chapters informed so they are ready to act when needed. The policy staff also sponsor occasional webinars on critical issues to provide a more in-depth review of an issue. An agenda and call in number is sent to all chapters in advance of the call. State Executive Directors are automatically signed up to receive email announcements about Public Policy Update meetings. State Executive Directors that do not receive emails should contact [Mike Nagel](mailto:nagel@thearc.org), Program Associate (nagel@thearc.org).

One of the most important endeavors that chapters engage in is raising our concerns on issues and taking action. Whatever strategies you use at the local, state, and federal level, these invaluable tools will support your path:

- **Public Policy Agenda** (<http://www.thearc.org/what-we-do/public-policy/legislative-agenda>)
- **Disability Advocacy Network Action alerts** (<http://disabilityadvocacynetwork.org/app/register?0&m=10999>)
- **The Arc's Action Center** (<http://disabilityadvocacynetwork.org/action?1>)
- **Advocacy Toolkits** (<http://www.thearc.org/what-we-do/resources/toolkits>)
- **Personal Story Toolkit** (<https://www.thearc.org/file/advocacy/Story-Toolkit-Final.pdf>)

Grassroots Advocacy Support

One of the most important endeavors that chapters engage in is mobilizing grassroots activists - the more people willing to fight for critical programs and services and the full rights and inclusion for people with disabilities, the more powerful we will be.

Here are tools and resources to support your grassroots engagement:

- **The Arc's Public Policy Agenda** (thearc.org/what-we-do/public-policy/legislative-agenda)
- **Join Our Fight** (<https://blog.thearc.org/joinourfight/>) please encourage activists to sign up so they can be kept up-to-date on when to take action and how.
- **The Action Center** - (<http://disabilityadvocacynetwork.org/?0>) this site always has the latest action alert.
- **Advocacy Videos** - The Arc created several advocacy videos on Medicaid, the ACA, SSI, and paid leave. You can view them all here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/thearcoftheus>
- **#WeActWednesday** - Each week, The Arc posts on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) a new way to get involved. Take the action and share/retweet to spread the word. Make sure you can see content from The Arc on Facebook by clicking "see first" in the drop down under "following" on our top page menu.
- **#HandsOff blog** - Each month, The Arc's blog.thearc.org features a story from an advocate in a series called #HandsOff.
- **Advocacy Sign template** - [Print this template](#) to create your own advocacy signs for rallies, press conferences and Town Hall meetings.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS AND OTHER TOPICS, VISIT WWW.THEARC.ORG

- In addition to these resources, The Arc regularly sends out mini toolkits before Congressional recess with resources for engaging Members of Congress during that recess.

Please contact Claire Manning, Director of Advocacy and Mobilization at manning@thearc.org at 202-534-3716 with any questions about grassroots advocacy.

Thank You

Affiliation in The Arc gives your organization a powerful, national brand identify and thousands of colleagues throughout the country to learn from and share your achievements. In addition, we trust that the numerous and various benefits, services and discounts will support your ability to carry out our mission. Please connect with us at any time with questions - as well as ideas about additional benefits that we can explore - to support your important work with people with I/DD and their families.

Attachment 1



Board Standing and Special Committees and Advisory Councils
2019-2020

PREAMBLE

The mission of The Arc is to promote and protect the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively support their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes. To accomplish that mission, the Board of Directors, management and staff work in partnership, actively involving volunteer and staff leaders from among The Arc's state and local chapters.

The Board of Directors is primarily responsible for governance, including determining the organization's mission, adopting a strategic plan, determining policies and positions, raising financial and other resources, exercising financial and management oversight and monitoring the organization's progress toward achieving the mission. The Chief Executive Officer shares leadership responsibility with the Board and is primarily responsible for developing the organizational structure and capacity, and the specific programs and services that further the organization's mission. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for supervision and management of the staff of the organization.

To assist in fulfilling its responsibilities, the Board of Directors relies on the work of Board Committees. In most cases, Board Committees provide advice, counsel and wisdom to guide the Board in its decision making. The committees recommend policies or courses of action to be approved by the Board. In some cases, the Board delegates to committees the responsibility to make final decisions on behalf of the Board.

All Board Committees of The Arc are ultimately responsible to the Board. While they focus primarily on a specific area, they must also maintain an awareness and sensitivity to the mission and program of The Arc and act in accordance with applicable policies.

In 2019, The Arc is seeking individuals to participate in the following committees and advisory councils. Committee appointments are for approximately a two-year period.

Board Standing Committees

Board Development Committee

Roles and Responsibilities: The Board Development Committee is responsible for assuring that the composition of the Board of Directors of The Arc meets the current and future leadership needs of the organization. The committee biennially establishes nominating priorities, conducts outreach to identify potential candidates to apply for nomination to the board, screens and evaluates applicants in relation to the nominating priorities, and recommends a single slate of candidates for election. The committee also recommends board members to serve as the officers of the corporation. The Board Development Committee is further responsible for ongoing evaluation, training and leadership development.

Chair: Elise McMillan, Immediate Past President

Staff: Peter Berns, Chief Executive Officer, berns@thearc.org; Kristi Short, Executive Assistant, kshort@thearc.org

Committee Membership: As established in the bylaws, the committee is composed of no fewer than six members, including the Immediate Past President of The Arc and the Immediate Past-Chair of the NCE Steering Committee. At least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board Development Committee shall be persons who are not currently serving and have not previously served on the Board of Directors. The committee must include at least one member who is a board member, and at least one member who is a chief executive officer or other senior-level staff, of a state or local Chapter of The Arc. Committee members are appointed by the President, in consultation with the Committee Chair and approval of the Board of Directors.

Meeting Schedule: The Board Development Committee meets by audio and web conferencing. The frequency of meetings varies during the course of the board nominating cycle. During 2019-2020 it is likely that the committee will meet twice between March and August 2019, monthly beginning in September 2019 and at least once a month beginning in January 2020. As the deadline for submitting nominations (e.g. 30 days in advance of the 2020 annual meeting) approaches, the committee may meet twice a month.

To Apply: <http://bit.ly/TheArcBoardCommitteeApplication>

Budget, Finance And Audit Committee

Roles and Responsibilities: The Budget, Finance and Audit Committee is responsible for oversight of The Arc's financial health. The Committee reviews and recommends approval of the annual budget, monitors financial performance and legal and regulatory compliance, retains the independent auditor and oversees the annual audit of the organization's financial statements and develops and provides oversight regarding other financial policies and practices. The Committee is responsible to assure that the annual audited financial statements are presented to the Board of Directors. The Committee also annually reviews the performance of The Arc's investments and recommends any changes to The Arc's Investment Policy.

Chair: Hugh Evans, Treasurer

Staff: Peter Berns, Chief Executive Officer, berns@thearc.org; Feng Zhang, Director, Finance, zhang@thearc.org; Wes Tomer, Consultant.

Committee Membership: As established in the bylaws, the committee is composed of no fewer than six members, including the Treasurer who serves as chairman. The committee must include at least one member who is a board member, and at least one member who is a chief executive officer or other senior-level staff, of a state or local Chapter of The Arc. Committee members are appointed by the President, in consultation with the Treasurer.

Meeting Schedule: The Budget, Finance and Audit Committee generally meets 3 times/year (March/April, July & November/December) by audio and web conferencing.

To Apply: <http://bit.ly/TheArcBoardCommitteeApplication>

Diversity Committee

Roles and Responsibilities: The Board Diversity Committee is responsible for oversight of The Arc's implementation of the goals and strategies in the 2016-2020 Diversity Strategic Action Plan. The committee will establish objectives and strategic actions for the board to accomplish in support of the DSAP and monitor progress on meeting those goals and actions. The committee will report its progress to the board and for inclusion in The Arc's Diversity Annual Report. The committee will serve as a resource to the board and the board standing and special committees and advisory councils on achieving greater internal inclusion and cultural competence. The committee will be responsible for monitoring and tracking the diversity of the board.

Co-Chairs: To be appointed by the President

Staff: Dawn Cooper, Director, Diversity, Chapter Leadership and Professional Development, cooper@thearc.org

Committee Membership: The committee should be composed of no fewer than 8 members. At least half (1/2) of the members of the Board Diversity Committee shall be persons who are currently serving on the Board of Directors. The committee should include external diversity thought leaders from within and outside of The Arc's chapter network. Committee members are appointed by the President, in consultation with the Committee Chair.

Meeting Schedule: The Board Diversity Committee will meet monthly by audio and web conferencing to be able to accomplish stated goals and objectives. Depending on tasks to be accomplished additional meetings may be scheduled.

To Apply: <http://bit.ly/TheArcBoardCommitteeApplication>

Policy And Positions Committee

Roles and Responsibilities: The Policy and Positions Committee is responsible for recommending to the Board of Directors the positions of The Arc on issues of concern to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families

consistent with the Core Values of the organization. Positions of The Arc are articulated in written position statements and brought to life through The Arc's legislative and regulatory advocacy, as well as through litigation. The committee's primary responsibility is to develop The Arc's Position Statements and Public Policy Agenda, with broad input from chapter leaders as well as experts in the field, including both identifying and developing new statements and revising and updating existing statements. The Committee facilitates the full Board's involvement in development of the Position Statements and Public Policy Agenda and, once completed, recommends their formal approval in the manner described in the Bylaws. When necessary, the Committee also recommends positions on new issues that are otherwise not covered by the Public Policy Agenda.

Chair: Ken Oakes, Board Member

Staff: Marty Ford, Senior Advisor, ford@thearc.org; Julie Ward, Senior Executive Officer, Federal Policy, ward@thearc.org

Committee Membership: As established in the bylaws, the committee is composed of no fewer than six members. The committee must include at least one member who is a board member, and at least one member who is a chief executive officer or other senior-level staff, of a state or local Chapter of The Arc. Individuals with professional or volunteer experience lobbying at the national or state level are encouraged to apply for the full committee. Committee members are appointed by the President, in consultation with the Committee Chair(s).

Meeting Schedule: Generally, the work of the Policy and Positions Committee is planned to take place over a two-year cycle, with the even numbered calendar year devoted to review and revision of the Public Policy Agenda and Legislative Agenda, and the odd numbered calendar year devoted to review and revision of, or creation of new, position statements. The full committee meets 2-3 times a year, with additional meetings of sub-committees and work groups as needed; meetings are held by audio and web conferencing call.

To Apply: <http://bit.ly/TheArcBoardCommitteeApplication>

Legal Advocacy Subcommittee

Roles and Responsibilities: A Legal Advocacy Subcommittee is responsible for determining whether The Arc should become involved in litigation and the positions to be taken consistent with the Core Values and Position Statements. The Arc often participates in appellate litigation as an *amicus curiae*. More recently, The Arc has become involved in trial court level litigation as an organizational plaintiff or as counsel to one or more private plaintiffs, including chapters of The Arc.

Co-chairs: Ruth Luckasson and Tom Judd

Staff: Shira Wakschlag, Director of Legal Advocacy and Associate General Counsel, wakschlag@thearc.org

Committee Membership: The committee is composed of no fewer than six members. Attorneys with criminal or civil litigation experience are needed for the Legal Advocacy Subcommittee. In addition to participating in committee meetings, individual members may have the opportunity to share relevant expertise on individual matters. Committee members are appointed by the President, in consultation with the Committee Chair(s).

Meeting Schedule: The Legal Advocacy Subcommittee is expected to meet monthly by audio and web conferencing call.

To Apply: <http://bit.ly/TheArcBoardCommitteeApplication>

Board Special Committees

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Roles and Responsibilities: The Resource Development Committee is responsible for helping develop The Arc's philanthropic resources from three key sources: individuals, foundations, and corporations. The committee will assist with identifying, cultivating and stewarding new and current individual donors, message delivery of The Arc's Case for support, and securing introductions to potential foundation and corporate supporters.

The committee will assist in developing strategies to increase local and national corporate partnerships and foundation investments, as well as other fundraising ventures. On occasion, members of the committee may need to travel and meet in person with prospective/current donors, foundation staff, or corporate representatives (alongside select members of national staff).

Chair: Carol Wheeler, Board Vice President

Staff: Laura Rahman, Director, Individual Philanthropy rahman@thearc.org; Casey Nitsch, Director, Corporate, Foundation and Government Support

Committee Membership: The committee is to be composed of no fewer than six members, including a member of the executive committee. At least one-third (1/3) of the members of the Resource Development Committee shall be persons who are not currently serving. Committee members are appointed by the President, in consultation with the Committee Chair.

Meeting Schedule: The Resource Development Committee will meet the on the same day during the same time each month by audio and web conferencing as well as in person at selected national events. The committee may meet more frequently if needed to accomplish specific tasks.

To Apply: <http://bit.ly/TheArcBoardCommitteeApplication>

Advisory Councils

As described in The Arc's Bylaws, in order to build a strong movement of parents, siblings, other family members of people with I/DD, of individuals with I/DD themselves, and of the professionals leading the organizations that serve and support them, The Arc has established a national Self-Advocates council and a national siblings council. These councils provide advice and counsel to inform the advocacy, programs, services and supports of The Arc at the national, state and local level.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SELF-ADVOCATES

About the National Council of Self-Advocates (NCSA): The NCSA was developed to foster the active involvement of individuals with I/DD in the work of The Arc. Its

primary purpose is to encourage people with I/DD to provide feedback to The Arc on how its advocacy, programs, and services can better empower people to live the life they want to live in the community. Members of the NCSA provide regular feedback on work that The Arc national office is doing and provide guidance about important issues that matter to people with disabilities in community around the nation. NCSA members also seek to promote education around advocacy issues that are critical to people in the disability movement through our annual convention session, and they seek to be active members and leaders in The Arc's Disability Advocacy Network and the larger disability movement.

Membership: Membership in the NCSA is free to any self-advocate who wishes to join.

To Join the National Council of Self-Advocates: <https://www.thearc.org/self-advocates/join>

NCSA is led by a group of Officers and a Chairperson, who is a member of The Arc's Board of Directors.

NCSA Chair: Dena Gassner, Board Member

Staff: Jenny Sladen Alexander, Director, National Initiatives. sladen@thearc.org

Officer Selection: The Officer group is composed of members of NCSA who volunteer and apply to serve and are selected by a review committee, which includes other people with disabilities and staff liaisons.

Meeting Schedule: All NCSA members meet quarterly by audio and computer, often in March, June, September, and December. NCSA Officers and the Chairperson also meet quarterly by audio and computer, often in February, May, August, and November. The NCSA and Officers may meet at other times as necessary to plan and conduct work.

To Apply to serve on the NCSA Steering Committee: http://bit.ly/NCSA_Steering

NATIONAL SIBLING COUNCIL

About the National Sibling Council: FROM SUPPORT TO ACTION! Are you a sibling looking to get more involved in disability rights activism but are not sure where to

turn? The Arc’s National Sibling Council seeks to foster the active involvement of siblings of individuals with I/DD in The Arc movement in order to strengthen and grow The Arc’s grassroots advocacy efforts nationwide and formally connect siblings—an important and unique segment of the disability rights movement—to help promote and protect the rights of individuals with I/DD throughout the country. The Arc seeks applications from those who are eager to take a leadership role in learning more about how to engage in disability rights activism as a new mode of providing support to their siblings and the broader disability community.

Chair: Grace Francis, Board Member

Staff: Liz Mahar, Director, Family and Siblings Initiatives, mahar@thearc.org

Council Membership: Council membership is open to siblings of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, upon application and appointment by the Chair of the Council, a member of The Arc’s Board of Directors. Members of the council are expected to commit to the following:

- Participate in the 4 quarterly conference calls each year.
- Carry out the advocacy action steps assigned in each call (these are small and medium level advocacy actions such as calling your Member of Congress on an issue, sharing action alerts on social media, etc.) and report back to the council.
- Encourage other siblings to join The Arc’s advocacy movement.

Meeting Schedule: The Council meets quarterly by teleconference each year. These conference calls generally happen in March, May, July, and October.

To Apply to Serve on the National Sibling Council:

<http://bit.ly/NationalSiblingsCouncil>

Join the “For Siblings” Email List:

The Arc’s quarterly “For Siblings” email list welcomes the participation of all siblings of individuals with I/DD. The mission of the list is to ensure that siblings are well-informed about I/DD related policy updates and developments and are engaged with national, state, and local advocacy efforts in this area. “For Siblings” emails provide information to siblings regarding ways in which they can get involved in The Arc’s advocacy efforts nationwide, information about sibling stories and sibling-specific

resources, and updates on sibling related events. Please sign up for the “For Siblings” list <http://bit.ly/SibsListSignUp>

THE ARC ALUMNI COUNCIL

About The Arc Alumni Council: In 2018, The Arc established a new Alumni Council to engage and involve former board members, executive directors, and staff of chapters in advancing the organization’s mission on behalf of people with I/DD and in building a stronger disability community movement. Alumni Council members receive information about The Arc’s public policy advocacy and other programs, are invited to participate in quarterly leadership briefings, engage in advocacy, and are provided other networking and hands-on volunteer opportunities. A full description of The Arc Alumnae Council can be found here: <http://bit.ly/TheArcAlumniFlyer>

Chair: Nancy Webster, Past National Board President.

Staff: Peter Berns, Chief Executive Officer, berns@thearc.org; Marty Ford, Senior Advisor, ford@thearc.org

Membership: Membership is open to alumni of The Arc, including those who have retired, moved on to other boards, or completed their board service. In addition to Alumni Council members, The Arc is seeking persons to serve on a Steering Committee.

Meeting Schedule: The Alumni Council holds Quarterly Leadership Briefings for members. The Steering Committee, and subcommittees, will meet as needed to conduct the affairs of the Council.

To Join the Council: To register as a member of the Council and express your interests, please complete the registration form:
<http://bit.ly/TheArcAlumniRegistration>

Do you know someone who recently retired, or left their position at The Arc? Please email us with their names and contact information. Better yet, cut & paste send them these two links and encourage them to check The Arc’s new Alumni Council.

Flyer: <http://bit.ly/TheArcAlumniFlyer>
Registration Form: <http://bit.ly/TheArcAlumniRegistration>

