



For people with intellectual
and developmental disabilities
Since 1952



The Arc Muskegon
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Please Join Us

Becoming an Arc Member Includes

- Membership to the State and National organization (www.thearc.org)
- Quarterly Newsletters (Local/State/National)
- Monthly E-News
- Conventions, conferences and educational webinars (reduced costs)
- Insurance programs
- The Arc's Credit Card Program
- On Line Community and more....

How Does My Membership Make a Difference?

- Monitor and participate in public policy/legislation
- Support research/prevention initiatives
- Develop best practices
- Increased opportunities for people with developmental disabilities
- Advocate for improved education, quality of life, employment and community integration
- Support the largest grassroots organization advocating for people with developmental disabilities and their families in the United States
- Improve public awareness regarding inclusion, employment, education, community living, rights and abilities of people with developmental disabilities and more.

Supported and Accredited by



MEMBERSHIP or DONATION FORM

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

Individual/Family - \$25.00 Professional - \$75.00 Agnes Potuznik Honor Roll - \$125.00

Self Advocate - \$10.00 Preferred Provider - \$1000 - \$5000 (Please call for more information)

Your annual membership includes membership to The Arc Michigan and The Arc of the US.

General Donation \$ _____

Gift to The Arc Muskegon Endowment Fund (check payable to CFFMC) \$ _____

Sign up for The Arc Muskegon E-News _____

Email address here _____

Mission Statement

The mission of The Arc Muskegon is to provide advocacy, education and support services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families and actively support their full inclusion, equality and participation in their community throughout their lives.



Who is The Arc Muskegon?

The Arc Muskegon is and always has been people – people with intellectual or other related developmental disabilities, parents, friends, family and professionals. In 1952, a group of concerned families and their friends formed an organization they called “Family and Friends of the Mentally Retarded”. In 1953, they joined the National Association for Retarded Citizens and became a local chapter of what is now The Arc. **The acronym of ARC is long gone from our name and identity, yet we are proud of our history and ability to change and grow.** The Arc Muskegon continues to be proudly affiliated with the state and national organization. Nationwide there are approximately **700** local chapters, **30** in Michigan. The Arc is a membership organization, with a collective membership of approximately **140,000** people across the country. The Arc is the largest grassroots organization advocating for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

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What is an Intellectual and Developmental Disability?

Developmental disabilities are a class of disabling conditions that usually originate before birth, shortly after birth, and before age **22** that will continue in some form over a lifetime. **Intellectual disability** is a developmental disability in which a person’s rate and degree of intelligence is lower than society as a whole. There are approximately **7.2 million** Americans with intellectual and or related developmental disabilities. **Locally, approximately one in 9** families have a loved one with a developmental disability.

Support Services

Advocacy/Outreach

- Specialized Information/Referral
- Access to eligible services
- Community/State/National resources
- Information on various types of intellectual & developmental disabilities
- Self-Advocacy
- Parent Support
- Ask the Advocate – Arc Website
- No cost for Advocacy/Outreach Services

Education and Awareness

- Seminars/Workshops
- Special Education Advocacy, Parent Support and System Navigation
- Michigan Alliance for Families Partner
- Monthly E-News
- Ask the Advocate – Arc website
- Prevention Awareness and FASD

Self-Advocacy/Consumer Voice

Supporting adults receiving mental health services to be represented on HealthWest workgroups and committees. Consumers and family representation is crucial to the development and quality of service delivery. (Since 2002)

PCP Independent Facilitation (IF)

IF is an option to use when holding your person centered planning (PCP) meeting. A facilitator is a trained person that would be responsible to lead the meeting making sure everyone’s voice is heard, especially the person served. This option comes at no cost. For more information, call The Arc Muskegon. (Since 2016)

Financial Services

Pooled (Irrevocable)Trust Services

Preserve eligibility for government benefits while increasing one’s quality of life. Created as sub-accounts for each participant with total assets held in one account. Fees apply. Please call for more info or go to www.arcmuskegon.org (Since 2011)

Representative Payee Services

Representative Payee Services will manage benefits by paying living expenses from a month’s budget with the beneficiary’s social security (SS), supplemental security income (SSI), or social security disability income (SSDI) income. As a representative payee The Arc Muskegon is responsible for managing, documenting and reporting the use of all funds they receive as payee. Fees apply. (Since 2015)

