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.

Achieve with us.

Emphasizing abilities over disabilities.
Our History

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 Children, later known as Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC) and now we are The Arc. The word “retarded” was dropped from our language many years ago, launching the nationwide effort to remove it permanently in reference to people. The acronym of ARC is long gone from our name and identity, yet sharing our history is important.

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. Join Today!!

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 inclusion, equality and participation in the community.

What is an Intellectual and Developmental Disability (I/DD)?

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 these numbers are equivalent to one in nine families who have a loved one with an I/DD.

Advocacy Services

Self-Advocacy
Education/Awareness
Public Policy

Family Support Services

Information and Referral
Legacy Planning
Independent Facilitation
Membership

Financial Services

Pooled (Irrevocable)Trust Services
Representative Payee Services