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The Arc’s Mission Statement

The Arc promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively supports their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.

Senior Management Team at The Arc

Peter V. Berns, Chief Executive Officer
Marty Ford, Senior Executive Officer, Public Policy
Trudy Jacobson, Senior Executive Officer, Development & Marketing
Kristen McKiernan, Senior Executive Officer, Communications
Darcy Rosenbaum, Senior Executive Officer, Operations
Robin Shaffert, Senior Executive Officer, Individual & Family Support
Karen Wolf-Branigin, Senior Executive Officer, National Initiatives
Growing in All the Right Ways

Dear Friends,

Last year was a whirlwind of activity, growth and excitement in The Arc’s network. The Arc is one of those truly unique and enduring organizations that lives and breathes as a movement through the families and individuals we serve and advocate alongside for the civil and human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Last year was a special year because the groundwork we laid in 2013 gave way to the bloom of a number of new projects and successes that will help us fulfill our mission moving forward. As we do each year, we want to share with you some of what we accomplished in 2014. This work took place through programs offered by the national office, in the halls of Congress, and in chapters in 48 states across the country.

In 2014, The Arc continued our public policy work on behalf of people with I/DD, their families and our chapters. This past year, even in the face of political gridlock, we chalked up a big bipartisan victory. Eight years of advocacy effort across four sessions of Congress culminated in the passage of the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act, which will provide a new savings option for many people with I/DD, helping them achieve their goals of independence.

As in years past, our national initiatives continued to grow into new and exciting fields, giving us the opportunity to be innovative leaders in the disability community. Last year, we launched several new program initiatives, including our new Center for Future Planning, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Prevention Project, Wings for Autism, the National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability, our Digital Literacy/Tech Toolbox Project, the PLAY Campaign, and expanded our existing employment initiatives with the help of exciting new partnerships. Each of these projects was designed with our chapters in mind, and has aspects that can be implemented or used to serve individuals with I/DD on a local level.

There is no denying that last year was one of continued growth, but we never forget our roots – the families and people with disabilities that built this organization. Self-advocates helped grow The Arc from a small grassroots organization to the largest disability organization in the country. During 2014, the amazing self-advocates in our network played countless roles, from advocating locally and nationally to helping to lead our chapters through struggles and successes. While their involvement varies, some serving as chapter staff others as volunteers, their leadership and involvement in our movement is invaluable. Their stories encapsulate why we do what we do and what The Arc stands for. They represent not only the history of our movement, but our future.

Last year was a successful one for The Arc and the culmination of over 60 years of work. What we achieved was only possible because of our powerful chapters and advocates who drive our mission forward. Together, we will continue to grow in all the right ways.

We hope you enjoy looking back on another successful year for The Arc, and as always we continue to look forward to future triumphs in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Ronald E. Brown,
President

Peter V. Berns,
Chief Executive Officer
S
aving for life’s unexpected needs is a smart strategy for anyone – yet for people with I/DD, putting aside some money for the future was all too complicated. After years of bipartisan efforts, in 2014, Congress passed and the President signed into law The Stephen Beck, Jr., Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act, to allow more financial security for people with disabilities.

The law allows eligible individuals with disabilities the ability to establish “ABLE accounts” for qualified beneficiaries that resemble the qualified tuition programs, often called “529 accounts”, that have been established under that section of the tax code since 1996. The new ABLE accounts will allow more individual choice and control over spending on qualified disability expenses and limited investment decisions, while protecting eligibility for Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income, and other important federal benefits for people with disabilities.

The Arc has been a leader on this legislation for many years, and worked up until it was approved by the House and the Senate to make sure that many people with I/DD would be able to make use of this savings vehicle without consequence to their benefits. In an era of Congressional gridlock on a host of issues facing people with I/DD and the nation as a whole, The ABLE Act is a shining example of our leadership coming together to get something meaningful done that will have a positive impact on the lives of people with disabilities and their families.


Thank You

Thank you to the sponsors and supporters of this bill. This remarkable piece of legislation had immense bipartisan support with 381 co-sponsors in the House and 79 co-sponsors in the Senate. Without the amazing work in both the House and the Senate, the ABLE Act would not have been passed.

Chief Sponsors of this bill were: Congressman Crenshaw (R-FL), Congressman Van Hollen (D-MD), Senator Casey (D-PA), and Senator Burr (R-NC).

Other key Members whose work helped to ensure final passage were: House Majority Leader McCarthy (R-CA), House Rules Committee Chairman Sessions (R-TX), House Republican Conference Chair McMorris Rodgers (R-WA), Senate Finance Committee Chairman Wyden (D-OR), and Senate Finance Committee Ranking Member Hatch (R-UT).
Policy Victories in 2014

Congress Reauthorizes Vital Workforce Programs

In July 2014, the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) was passed by Congress and signed into law by the President. This legislation reauthorized vital workforce programs, including Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services under the Rehabilitation Act and the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) through FY 2020. WIOA has a renewed focus on competitive integrated employment as a vocational rehabilitation outcome, an emphasis on transition services for youth with disabilities, and seeks to increase access to and opportunities for the employment, education, training, and support services needed to succeed in the labor market.

This bipartisan, bicameral legislation was developed by Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA), Representative John Kline (R-MN), Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Representative George Miller (D-CA), Senator Patty Murray (D-WA), Representative Virginia Foxx (R-NC), Senator Johnny Isakson (R-GA), and Representative Rubén Hinojosa (D-TX).

Reauthorization of this legislation was a top legislative priority for The Arc. In fact, The Arc advocated for many improvements and supported the compromise under WIOA, along with other national disability groups.

Autism CARES Signed Into Law

In August, The Arc celebrated the enactment of the Autism CARES Act of 2014. This law reauthorizes the Combating Autism Act of 2011 for five years and makes a number of improvements to it. President Obama signed the legislation into law on August 8, 2014.

The law also includes a name change that uses more respectful language, a designated autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) position in the Department of Health and Human Services to oversee the law’s implementation, increased representation of self-advocates and family members on the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC), and requirement of a report on the needs of transitioning youth.

Since its original enactment in 2006, the law has significantly advanced the science and practice in the disability field by increasing the number, scope, pace, and coordination of research, surveillance, public awareness, and professional training efforts. Among its many notable achievements are an increase in the proportion of infants screened for ASDs, an increase in the proportion of children diagnosed by the age of three, and continuing improvements to decrease the time between diagnosis and intervention.

To learn more about The Arc’s public policy work visit our website — http://www.thearc.org/what-we-do/public-policy

To get involved, sign up to receive alerts in our Action Center — http://cqrcengage.com/thearc/home
A New Partnership Promoting Inclusion in Professional Sports

Last year, The Arc and the Professional Baseball Athletic Trainers Society (PBATS) announced a partnership to promote the inclusion of people with I/DD in health and wellness events at Major League ballparks nationwide. During the 2014 season, chapters of The Arc participated in eleven PBATS’ Promoting a Lifetime of Activity for Youth (PLAY) Campaign events at stadiums across the country.

The PLAY Campaign was created to raise awareness about children’s health issues and the obesity epidemic in the United States. PLAY has conducted over 150 events inside all 30 Major-League ballparks, reaching tens of thousands of America’s young people with positive messages about making healthy decisions and living a more active and healthy lifestyle. The Arc’s involvement marked the first time a disability organization participated in the event.

Each event allowed participants, which included individuals served by chapters of The Arc, their families, and children from other organizations to learn from Major League Baseball trainers and players about healthy living, nutrition, and fitness. The unique event enabled individuals with disabilities and their peers without disabilities to learn, play, and have fun together.

Successful events were held across the country with the following teams and chapters partnering:

- Baltimore Orioles with The Arc Baltimore and The Arc Central Chesapeake Region
- St. Louis Cardinals with St. Louis Arc
- Washington Nationals with The Arc of DC
- Arizona Diamondbacks with The Arc of Arizona
- Oakland Athletics with The Arc of Alameda
- Boston Red Sox with The Arc of Massachusetts
- Philadelphia Phillies with SpArc/The Arc of Philadelphia
- Los Angeles Angels with The Arc of Los Angeles and Orange Counties
- Chicago Cubs with SouthStar Services
- Chicago White Sox with UCP Seguin (a chapter of The Arc)
Growing Opportunities in a Competitive Job Market

For decades, too many people with I/DD have been left behind when new, cutting edge fields of work have emerged in our economy. But The Arc, always on the front lines advocating for individuals with I/DD and supporting integrated employment opportunities, and a Danish non-profit organization called Specialisterne, have teamed up on an exciting employment avenue for people with autism. In 2014, The Arc and Specialisterne USA began work to replicate its employment model to increase job opportunities for people with autism in the technology industry in the United States.

This project aims to create meaningful and long-term employment for people with autism and similar challenges by building relationships with technology companies that need employees whose skill sets match the characteristics of many people on the autism spectrum. The program engages top companies with IT needs interested in hiring youth with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs), and pairs them with chapters of The Arc that provide short-term intensive training and on-the-job support for youth with ASDs. At the end of training, companies may hire program participants as developers, programmers, analysts, and administrators. Employers also receive training on supporting employees with ASDs. Chapters of The Arc in Philadelphia and New York, working in collaboration with Specialisterne USA, began replicating the Specialisterne program in 2014.

The project is already paying off for people including Patrick Viesti. Previously, Patrick was working for Mind TV Independence in Philadelphia, but last year he was looking for new employment and having a hard time. Things started to turn around when he was invited to take part in the Specialisterne program at SpArc/The Arc of Philadelphia. They provided training for all candidates preparing them for a job with SAP, an international IT firm that Specialisterne has a contractual relationship with to on-board new employees with ASDs. Following training, Patrick was asked to perform tasks for SAP management to showcase his skills and display how he worked as part of a team with his other colleagues. In the end, Patrick and the four other candidates were hired as full time employees. Patrick began his job on May 20, 2014, and he continues to receive services as needed from SpArc Philadelphia/The Arc of Philadelphia.

When asked why this program is important, Patrick said: “I think it gives individuals on the spectrum hope. I have seen the numbers a lot of people with autism are underemployed or unemployed, and it gives them an opportunity based on their skill sets, not on other things. It gives people like them and like me hope that I can and we can have a full time job. We can have a full time job and benefits like everyone else. It gives us a chance to be better, more well-rounded, and most importantly a feeling of belonging. It is all that good independence stuff that people take for granted.”
Wings for Autism® Soars Across the Country

In 2014, The Arc expanded our national initiative Wings for Autism, a program originally developed by the Charles River Center, an affiliated chapter of The Arc, to nine major airports across the country. Local chapters of The Arc partnered with their airports, an airline carrier, and Transportation Security Administration (TSA) personnel in order to conduct an “airport rehearsal” program for families with children with autism and other intellectual and developmental disabilities. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our wonderful chapters, partnering airports, pilots, flight attendants and sponsors, over 1700 participants were able to go through the process of entering the airport, obtaining a boarding pass, going through security and even boarding a plane.

We wanted to let you know that we took a flight to Fort Myers, FL from Detroit, MI last week with Tushar. We are EXTREMELY happy to tell you that Tushar not only flew but enjoyed both laps of the flight. This is an amazing transformation in him and this could not have been possible without all of your team’s help. He was very comfortable going through TSA security and had absolutely no issues waiting for boarding at the gate. Once in the plane he happily settled down, fastened his seat belt and started looking out of the window and was giggling looking at the clouds. He in fact did not want to come off the plane and wanted to fly more. His grandparents and other relatives in India are very excited about this development and are eagerly waiting to see Tushar in India.

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all you wonderful people who gave him a chance to settle down and understand the concept of flying without any pressure. Please keep up the great work you are doing and I am sure there are many more children with special needs who will be benefited like Tushar.

Thanks,
Ram and Upasna Palakodaty

The Palakodaty family participated in a Wings for Autism event at Dulles Airport on November 1, 2014.
I am writing to express my continued gratitude for the Wings for Autism event held in Anchorage, Alaska.

The Wings for Autism experience was far beyond any of our expectations (our family of 4 attended). The attention to detail, real life/real time airport experience of obtaining tickets, line waiting, Transportation Security Administration (TSA), airport exploring, more waiting at the gate; it was all so needed, and so appreciated. The time on the aircraft was more than we could have ever hoped for, between the taxiing and “cruising altitude” beverage/snack service, the crew going through their regular motions/speeches and the pilots coaching us through the sounds and motions of the aircraft... truly exemplary.

To add to this, the generosity of all of the hands at play, from the folks getting us through the lines, to the TSA, to the airport staff, to ground crew, to the flight staff and of course the pilots, The Arc of Anchorage, Ted Stevens International Airport for handling the logistics and security of a “mock” boarding and flight on their active airstrip, not to mention all of the volunteers and hours/dollars funneled into this event is staggering and to know that this was all done for our kids, our families to have a better experience, well, it is so humbling and overwhelming to me it makes me want to cry.

Jack still has worries about taking off/landing, and getting sick on the plane. We will cross those hurdles as they come. Yet, this experience with Wings for Autism gave us something we normally could never obtain, which was practice in an airport and on a real aircraft. Who gets to have that?!? I don’t think I can fully punctuate how important and valuable this experience was to our family and to Jack; all I can say is thank you, and hope it is a program that can be repeated so more families can benefit like we did.

For this opportunity, we remain in your debt.

Warmest Regards,
Katherine

NOTE: This is not the full letter we received, due to space constraints this is an excerpt. The full letter can be found on The Arc’s Blog (blog.thearc.org). Katherine and Jack participated in a Wings for Autism Event at Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport on March 22, 2014.
Self-Advocates from Texas Inspiring The Arc’s National Network

The Arc is defined by the individuals we serve - individuals who are our family members, advocates, colleagues, and friends. These amazing people make up the diverse tapestry that is The Arc. Their stories are unique - some were born into The Arc’s network, others found their way in as they were advocating for their rights and the rights of their peers. And in some cases, The Arc’s vast chapter network intervened to help them when nobody else would. Regardless of where they came from, the stories of self-advocates in our network are inspirational and bring to life our mission.

This year, two self-advocates stepped into the national spotlight during The Arc’s National Convention in New Orleans.

Shaun Bickley

Shaun Bickley’s title is Self-Advocate Coordinator for The Arc of Texas, but that doesn’t come close to describing what an incredible and inspirational individual he is. Shaun is a 2012 graduate of the Mid-West Academy’s Organizing for Social Change program. He also has a state appointment to Texas’ Employment First Task Force and is on the Community Advisory Council (and former co-Chair) for the University of Texas Center for Disability Studies. Needless to say, he is an active member of his community and he is making a big difference across the state.

Shaun offered a window into his life by passionately speaking about his personal experience as an individual with autism, from being diagnosed in 1994 to finding success and independence in Texas. He shared his personal belief that there needs to be more money allocated to supports for individuals on the spectrum, not to diagnosis and research. Having struggled to find the right supports, his journey was a difficult one, but he persevered and found his own path. Many in the audience could relate to the personal nature of his speech which reflected what so many had experienced or witnessed. His passionate delivery was from the heart and resonated with everyone in the room including the keynote speaker for the event, Pulitzer Prize winning journalist and author Ron Suskind. In fact, Shaun’s speech was so powerful he was offered future speaking engagements that same day.

“I get around without knowing how to drive by relying on others or, most often, myself. I figure out how to solve problems, and if I don’t, then I have new problems, or very old problems. But none of them is ‘autism.’ Discrimination, harassment, being fired, being denied supports, being told what I and people like me think, lights that flicker and sounds that scream — but nothing about autism.”

~Shaun Bickley
James Meadours

Most people aren’t aware that individuals with disabilities are 2-10 times more likely to be victimized compared to those without disabilities. To help highlight the importance of victims speaking out, James Meadours bravely shared his personal story about overcoming victimization and how his local chapter of The Arc supported him along the way. His story of repeated sexual assault and other victimizations was a personal one which was painful to recount. But James has never shied away from a challenge, and he is dedicated to sharing his story to help empower other victims to speak out and overcome what they have experienced. His story and strength brought many to tears and was one of the most emotional events of The Arc’s National Convention.

James has held various leadership positions in the disability community. He was president of People First of Oklahoma, and later served as a Volunteers In Service To America (VISTA) volunteer to strengthen the movement in Oklahoma. He was chair of the national organization Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) from 1999-2002, and was also one of the first self-advocates hired by a state Protection and Advocacy Association (Advocacy, Inc. in Texas), where he works as a self-advocacy specialist. He is dedicated to uncovering the reality of violence that many people with disabilities experience throughout their lifetime.

“We’ve got to help people with disabilities have a place to talk about sexual assault and feel safe. I don’t want to feel ashamed. As self-advocates, we need to be supported to speak out about what we are going through. Together we can prevent sexual assault and crimes, but we can’t do it alone. It takes both self-advocates and their support people working together even need system advocates to be same page to prevent sexual assault to anyone who been in my shoes.”

~ James Meadours
Changing What Justice Looks Like for People with I/DD, One Case at a Time

The Arc’s National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability (NCCJD) fields calls from all over the country regarding people with disabilities in the criminal justice system. From first encounters with law enforcement to time behind bars, the horrors people with disabilities face are appalling and inexcusable. A blatant disregard for human rights sets off a chain of events that denies people with I/DD justice. In 2014, NCCJD received over 150 information and referral requests, held ten webinars with nearly 2,000 participants, and launched a state by state online resource map, with an average of 40 resources per state. There is a clear need for this kind of national center, and The Arc is fulfilling that need.

The efforts of NCCJD can make all the difference between unfair incarceration and appropriate review of a case. For instance, Jack*, a young man with I/DD from Illinois, had been charged with felony assault at his new group home. After a verbal altercation between Jack and another resident, a third resident called the police. Jack was arrested and, in the process, struck a police officer who grabbed him by the hoodie from behind as he attempted to exit the situation.

Jack spent 24 hours in jail without support or access to his medication. Jack’s parents were told that their son should be able to tell the nurse himself about his needs and pharmacy information. Jack was unable to do that, leaving him at risk and without access to his medications. Jack was read his Miranda rights without assistance—he did not understand them.

Jack was out on bond when, as part of the legal process, his competency and sanity was evaluated and he was found unfit to stand trial. Yet the state attorney refused to dismiss charges.

These sets of circumstances are all too common for people with disabilities. Working together with family members, Jack’s service providers, The Arc of Illinois Life Span Program, and NCCJD, advocates were able to put together a Personalized Justice Plan for Jack. The plan outlined resources and possible alternatives for assisting Jack in the community. The report allowed Jack’s public defender to demonstrate that Jack had appropriate services in the community. The case was dismissed.

Jack was arrested in mid-March of 2014 and the case was finally dismissed in mid-October 2014. There were almost monthly hearings throughout the ordeal, causing stress to everyone involved.

When asked how he felt when he was arrested, Jack said: “My heart was racing 290 because I was in the back of a squad car, handcuffed.” [At the police station] “I pretty much felt like a nervous wreck.” [When I went to the Adult Detention Center] “I felt sick to my stomach because I was around people I didn’t know.” [A couple of days before court] “I felt scared and nervous.” [At court] “I felt scared I was going to jail.” [On the last day of court] “the judge calmly talked to me and explained what would happen the next time I got in trouble.” [When the court case was dismissed] “I was still edgy.” “I feel more calmly now [that it is over].”

The Arc’s National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability, working with our chapters, self-advocates, families, and legal professionals, is an invaluable resource that can make a significant difference in the outcomes of cases like Jack’s.

*Names have been changed to protect the privacy of those involved.
Future Planning: It’s Possible and Necessary

F
future planning is important for all fami-
lies. Yet, thinking about the future can be challenging and emotional. Last year, The Arc launched the Center for Future Planning to encourage and support indi-
viduals with I/DD and their families as they plan for the future.

Having a plan is important, especially after the parent or caregiver can no longer pro-
vide support. With an estimated 600,000 – 700,000 families in the United States where an adult with I/DD is living with aging family members and there is no plan for the individual’s future, the need for this resource was clear.

The Arc’s Center for Future Planning website is now live and ready to guide families as they take the first steps to plan for the future. The Center’s website provides reliable information and assistance to indi-
viduals with I/DD, their family members and friends, chapters of The Arc and disability professionals on:

- Person-centered planning
- Supported decision-making and guardianship
- Housing options
- Financial planning
- Employment and daily activities
- Making social connections

https://futureplanning.thearc.org/
Unlocking the Possibilities —
Getting Online with People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

The Arc, with the support of Comcast/NBCUniversal, began researching and developing an exciting technology platform to support people with I/DD to explore how technology can enhance their quality of life. The “Tech Toolbox” is being created with input from our chapters and people with disabilities so that it reflects the needs of people with I/DD in communities across the country to connect, learn, and gain skills online.

Being online is a resource many take for granted. Yet for people who don’t know the basics of setting up and accessing email, searching for information online, looking for jobs via internet databases, or navigating online supports to help with independence, doors are closed to them. The Tech Toolbox is being populated with useful resources and recommendations on hardware and software by select chapters of The Arc that are using innovative solutions on the ground with people with I/DD. As the Tech Toolbox is filled with recommendations and ratings from chapters of The Arc, it will launch to the public in 2015.

This is an untapped market for tech companies – millions of people with I/DD could be customers and users of technology that aren’t being served now, and those that get in on the ground floor of this movement will make a huge difference in the lives of people with I/DD. The sky is the limit, and it’s an exciting time to be partnering with Comcast/NBCUniversal and the disability community to make the online world accessible for this population.

In addition, through the three-year commitment, Comcast/NBCUniversal will provide The Arc with more than $1 million annually in cash and in-kind support, including airtime, to promote The Arc’s public service announcements on cable and broadcast channels as well as xfinity.com.
The Arc’s 2014 National Convention – A Rousing Success!

The Arc’s 2014 National Convention was one of the best on record. The event was revamped to focus on inspiration and networking, which left attendees feeling invigorated and connected to The Arc’s mission. The line-up included Pulitzer Prize winning journalist and author Ron Suskind, Fred Maahs, Senior Director of Community Investment, National Partnerships for Comcast/NBCUniversal, self-advocates from across the country, experts in the disability field, and legend in the disability community Dr. David Braddock. While the event was filled with exceptional speakers and nationally recognized leaders, as always there was time for attendees to “laissez les bons temps rouler” or “let the good times roll” as they say in New Orleans.

2. The Arc’s second line parade being led by a local jazz band through the French Quarter.
3. Keynote speaker Fred Maahs, Senior Director of Community Investment, National Partnerships, Comcast/NBCUniversal, chatting with The Arc’s Trudy Jacobson.
4. Members of The Arc’s Board of Directors from left to right: Joe Meadours, Michael Mack, Pat Napolitello, Mohan Mehra, and Nancy Webster.
5. Nancy Webster and Peter Berns having fun with some attendees before the parade.
6. Betty Williams from The Arc of Indiana speaks about the importance of employment for individuals with I/DD.
7. Members of the Local Host Committee having some fun with The Arc’s President and CEO. From left to right: Barry Meyer, Nancy Webster, Kelly Serrett, and Peter Berns.
8. Ron Suskind meets with one of his biggest fans.
9. Some of the amazing merchandise from Entrepreneur Alley.

Thanks to our Sponsors:
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- Therap Services, LLC
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*Kept gift
**National board member
***Current/Past national president
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Clinton ARC, Plattsburgh, NY
Developmental Services of Dickson County, Dickson, TN
The Arc of Acadiana, New Iberia, LA
The Arc of Adams-Clay, Hastings, NE
The Arc of Atlantic County, Egg Harbor Township, NJ
The Arc of Aurora, Aurora, CO
The Arc Baltimore, Baltimore, MD
The Arc of Barnes County, Valley City, ND

Pro-bono Spotlight:
The Arc of the United States appreciates that, instead of monetary support, some organizations provide a contribution of services. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Comcast/NBCUniversal for production of a Public Service Announcement and media support services valued at $1,781,141.00. Additionally, we continue to be grateful to DLA Piper, LLP (US) which, in 2014 provided pro bono legal services valued at $52,596.06 and Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP provided pro bono legal services valued at $67,021.00.

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WellPoint, Inc.

+ Organizational membership

Alex Pikas wanted to become involved in the disability community for years, and approached The Arc about creating a PSA. Alex’s creativity, videography and his innate ability to work with people with I/DD made him a pleasure to work with. The Arc has been so impressed with Alex and grateful for his generosity.
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS’ REPORT

To the Board of Directors
The Arc of the United States
The Foundation of The Arc of the United States
Washington, D.C.

We have audited the accompanying combined financial statements of The Arc of the United States (The Arc) and The Foundation of The Arc of the United States (the Foundation), collectively the Organizations, which comprise the combined statement of financial position as of December 31, 2014, and the related combined statements of activities and change in net assets, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the combined financial statements.

Management’s Responsibility for the Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these combined financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of combined financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor’s Responsibility
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these combined financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the combined financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the combined financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor’s judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the combined financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity’s preparation and fair presentation of the combined financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the combined financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion
In our opinion, the combined financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined financial position of the Organizations as of December 31, 2014, and the combined change in their net assets and their combined cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Report on Summarized Comparative Information
We have previously audited the Organizations’ 2013 combined financial statements, and we expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those audited combined financial statements in our report dated April 7, 2014. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended December 31, 2013, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited combined financial statements from which it has been derived.

Gelman, Rosenberg & Freedman
Certified Public Accountants
April 12, 2015
### COMBINED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

**AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2014**

#### ASSETS

| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents (Note 6)* | $1,493,293 |
| Investments (Notes 2 and 11)* | 12,485,473 |
| Accounts receivable and advances, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of $54,419 and $74,579, for 2014 and 2013, respectively | 145,879 |
| Due from related party (Note 6)* | 59,248 |
| Prepaid expenses | 18,897 |
| **Total current assets** | **14,603,505** |

| FIXED ASSETS | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Furniture and equipment | 1,681,246 |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation and amortization | (818,139) |
| **Net fixed assets** | **863,107** |

| OTHER ASSETS | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Investment held for beneficial interest in perpetual trust (Notes 3, 11 and 12)* | 1,198,101 |
| Deferred compensation asset (Note 8)* | 51,153 |
| **Total other assets** | **1,260,240** |

| TOTAL ASSETS | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| **$16,726,852** | | |

#### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | $ 457,942 |
| Deferred revenue | 5,660 |
| Due to related parties (Note 6)* | - |
| Grants payable | 456 |
| **Total current liabilities** | **464,058** |

| LONG-TERM LIABILITIES | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Deferred rent (Note 7) | 1,070,789 |
| Deferred compensation (Note 8)* | 51,153 |
| **Total long-term liabilities** | **1,121,942** |

| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| **1,586,000** | | |

| NET ASSETS | | |
|------------|------------------|
| Unrestricted: | |
| Undesignated | 1,557,481 |
| Board-designated (Note 4)* | 609,682 |
| **Total unrestricted net assets** | **2,167,163** |
| Temporarily restricted (Note 5)* | 10,783,493 |
| Permanently restricted (Note 12)* | 2,190,196 |
| **Total net assets** | **15,140,852** |

| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| **$16,726,852** | | |

### COMBINED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUE</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$ 727,761</td>
<td>$ 713,022</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$1,440,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>1,913,211</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,913,211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income (Note 2 and 3)*</td>
<td>246,035</td>
<td>85,937</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>331,972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bequest income</td>
<td>346,080</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>346,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributed services (Note 9)*</td>
<td>1,900,758</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,900,758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affiliation and chapter fees</td>
<td>2,547,157</td>
<td>11,570</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,558,727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalty income</td>
<td>102,022</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>102,022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>1,929</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration fees</td>
<td>637,085</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>637,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program service fees</td>
<td>121,922</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>121,922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>13,531</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>13,531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net (loss) gain in perpetual trust (Note 3)*</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from donor restrictions (Note 5)*</td>
<td>1,001,091</td>
<td>(1,001,091)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,558,582</strong></td>
<td><strong>(190,463)</strong></td>
<td><strong>(16,047)</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,352,072</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| EXPENSES | | |
|----------|------------------|
| Program Services: | |
| Chapter Leadership and Development | 1,443,292 | - | - | 1,443,292 |
| Public Education | 2,382,126 | - | - | 2,382,126 |
| Public Policy | 1,231,377 | - | - | 1,231,377 |
| Program Innovation | 3,253,268 | - | - | 3,253,268 |
| **Total program services** | **8,310,063** | - | - | **8,310,063** |
| Supporting Services: | |
| Management and General | 562,486 | - | - | 562,486 |
| Fundraising | 627,471 | - | - | 627,471 |
| **Total supporting services** | **1,189,957** | - | - | **1,189,957** |
| **Total expenses** | **9,500,020** | - | - | **9,500,020** |
| Change in net assets | 58,562 | (190,463) | (16,047) | (147,948) |
| Net assets at beginning of year | 2,108,601 | 10,973,956 | 2,206,243 | 15,288,800 |
| **NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR** | **$ 2,167,163** | **$10,783,493** | **$ 2,190,196** | **$15,140,852** |

*Explanatory notes included in the full 2014 audited financial statement for The Arc are available at www.thearc.org*
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Dallas, Texas

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Nashville, Tennessee

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Hermitage, Pennsylvania

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Minnetonka, Minnesota

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Indian Head Park, Illinois

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St. Louis, Missouri

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Redmond, Washington

Carol Wheeler
Washington, D.C.

PRO BONO COUNSEL
Stacy Taylor
San Diego, California
Achieve with us.