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# Fusion

Bringing Together The Arc's Chapter Network

## From the CEO

### Meet Ruben Rodriguez, COO and Acting CEO

As Peter's tenure as CEO ends this month, I want to introduce myself – I'm Ruben Rodriguez, COO of The Arc, and Acting CEO while the Board of Directors undertakes a national search for new leadership.

I joined The Arc in 2019, with nearly four decades of experience in operations and finance. I work closely with the organization's leadership to support the mission, providing day-to-day strategic financial and operational management and planning to meet the organization's objectives. I am passionate about working with people and enjoy leveraging the latent potential of the individual and of the collective.

A few things to know about me – my connection to the IDD community started at a young age while visiting my uncle at the infamous Willowbrook Institution. I've been so impressed and inspired by The Arc's history, the innovation amongst our chapters, our grassroots power, and our overall resilience as a movement.

I am a motorcycle enthusiast, and my hobbies include tailoring jewelry making/silversmithing, marionette making, adventure hiking, riding, exploring the untamed wilderness, and I enjoy mixology and creating craft cocktails! I have an undergraduate degree in Accounting, an MBA in Finance and Investments, I'm a Certified Professional Coach, and I'm currently working on a Masters in Disability Studies at City University of New York.

We have an amazing team here at the national office, and we are all moving full steam ahead to support the chapters and to execute our exciting 2023 plans. As we move forward in the search for a new CEO, The Board of Directors has put together a committee comprised of board members, chapter and disability community leaders, and national office staff and self-advocate representation to conduct a sweeping national search. Soon, they will be selecting a professional search agency to work with them.



Questions or concerns, please reach out – [rodriguez@thearc.org](mailto:rodriguez@thearc.org) or 202.534.3702.

