

Governmental Affairs Update

The 2019 GOTV Guide is now complete and ready to download. Make sure to grab your copy in advance of Election Day and don't forget to vote by mail or head to the polls on Tuesday, November 5. This year's Guide includes an FAQ about voting, important dates and deadlines, and submissions by a family member and self-advocates about why voting is so important. Also, check out www.gotvnj.org for additional resources and information.

In legislative news, Governor Phil Murphy recently signed Assembly Bill 4482 into law. This law creates a Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Violence Against Persons with Developmental Disabilities. The Arc of New Jersey worked with the sponsor as the bill made its way through the legislative process and we supported the legislation when it was heard in Committee. Once convened, the task force will be responsible for:

- Studying and monitoring the prevalence of sexual violence against individuals with I/DD
- Creating informational materials and identifying resources for people with developmental disabilities for the purpose of preventing and reporting sexual violence;
- Assisting the parents, guardians and caregivers of individuals with developmental disabilities, as well as medical and legal personnel, to better identify, prevent and respond to instances of sexual violence
- Recommending legislative, executive, and community action that can reduce the prevalence and impact of sexual violence against people with developmental disabilities.

The Arc of New Jersey is among the members who will serve on the Task Force once members are appointed.