WHO IS THE ARC NEW YORK?

• The Arc New York is a family-led organization that advocates and provides support and services to people with intellectual, developmental, and other disabilities, emphasizing choice and community engagement.

• With 50 Chapters across New York state, The Arc New York supports more than 60,000 individuals, employs 30,000 people, and has a membership of more than 100,000, making it the largest nonprofit organization in New York state supporting people with I/DD.

• About 30 percent of all New Yorkers with developmental disabilities receive services and supports from The Arc New York.

• The Board of Governors of The Arc New York is primarily made up of family members of New Yorkers with developmental disabilities.

• About 90 percent of The Arc New York’s funding is from government sources — primarily Medicaid.

• Since its inception in 1949, The Arc New York has led the developmental disabilities field in New York state. The Arc New York initiated the lawsuit to remedy the inhumane conditions at Willowbrook and other institutions, and the legislation that created the NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD).

• Services include 24-hour residential care, full and part-time day services, educational services, supported employment, vocational training, case management, financial trust management, guardianship services, and transportation.

• The Arc New York advocates for an inclusive life for people with developmental disabilities as citizens of their communities across New York state. This includes community participation, a stable home to live in, meaningful employment, community service opportunities, friendships, recreation, and good health.

The Arc New York Contacts

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For more information please call 518-439-8311 or visit www.TheArcNY.org.
The Arc New York Contributes to the Economic and Social Strength of Communities

The Arc New York provides 30 percent of all services to New Yorkers with developmental disabilities

- **60,000** Individuals supported
- **7,500** Residential opportunities
- **26 million** Hours of residential support
- **750,000** Hours of employment support
- **10 million** Hours of day programs

The Arc New York contributes more than $2.5 billion annually to the New York state economy

- **33,000** Jobs created through direct employment
- **$1.3 billion** Employee salaries and benefits
- **$787 million** Additional economic activity generated by employee and vendor spending
- **$394 million** Goods and services directly purchased to support The Arc New York operations
- **$70 million** Capital spending on buildings and equipment
- **$350 million** New York state tax revenue generated

Medicaid and other government support provides 90 percent of the funding for these vital services.

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STATE POLICY PRIORITIES

#bFair2DirectCare
We continue to advocate with our #bFair2DirectCare coalition to ensure living wages for DSPs. This funding is crucial to stabilize the DSP workforce, and allow providers to sustain the supports people with disabilities and their families rely on. We successfully secured the first two installments of a six-year plan to secure a living wage, and urge New York state to fulfill the living wage plan by 2020.

Residential Development
We continue to advocate for increased residential development, and an improved placement process, especially for people living at home with aging caregivers. We also support the transparent assessment of residential need, a streamlined eligibility process, and adequate funding to establish new residential opportunities to meet the needs of New Yorkers with I/DD.

Guardianship
We support revising Article 17-A to remedy constitutional concerns. We oppose any legislation that would create an onerous process and burden families with additional legal proceedings and expenses. The ultimate proposal we would support must strike a balance between respecting the rights of the individual and giving parents and family members the legal authority to care and advocate for their loved one in a manner appropriate to the unique needs of the individual.

Medicaid
The Arc New York, along with thousands of other developmental disabilities providers and advocates across the nation, will vigilantly defend the Medicaid program from any actions in Washington that reduce federal Medicaid funding.

Managed Care
As OPWDD begins transitioning to managed care, we advocate for increased standardization, new models of care coordination, and investments at both the state agency and provider agency levels, including investing in information technology and technical assistance. Any savings resulting from the implementation of CCOs and managed care should be reinvested in the OPWDD system.

Achieve With Us
Justice Center
We propose to amend the “Protection of People with Special Needs Act” to simplify and streamline reporting requirements and investigative processes, which impede the hiring and retention of qualified personnel and lead to other problems that needlessly tie up resources critical to maintaining quality care.

Rate Rationalization
The Arc New York will continue to work with DOH and OPWDD to resolve a growing number of problems with the reimbursement methodology. We also recognize that legislative action may be necessary to preserve the delivery of necessary services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Preschool / Early Intervention
We continue to advocate for requested enhancements to preschool and school-age programs, including a teacher salary increase, statutory index for annual tuition increases, and a growth factor for early intervention providers to address 20+ years of flat/decreasing rates.

Employment
The Arc New York supports increased employment opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and continues to advocate for enhanced employer tax credits; additional funding for job coaches and other supports; and new state job opportunities. We also support the Customized Jobs Programs legislation, paying a subminimum wage when appropriate, and continuing to transform sheltered workshops into integrated businesses.

Transportation
We continue to advocate for adequate transportation to bring people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to work, day settings, and recreational opportunities.

Self-Direction
We advocate for solutions that will make Self-Direction viable for both provider agencies and the families and individuals participating in the program.

For more information visit www.thearcny.org.