

Get to Know The Arc of Howard County's Executive Director Cindy Parr



Cindy Parr is the Executive Director for The Arc of Howard County. A Maryland native, Cindy attended South Hagerstown High School before graduating from Towson State University. During her high school years, she clearly remembers the bicentennial, the unveiling of the space shuttle "Enterprise," and the release of the first "Rocky" movie. Cindy was first attracted to The Arc due to her passion for advocacy and the chance to be a voice for people with disabilities. It was her dream job.

Cindy Parr is not an Executive Director who is focused on her legacy. Instead she wants the people she has helped through The Arc of Howard County to remember her as someone who cared and constantly strove to do what is best for the organization. Currently, she is helping her chapter through their "year of transition." The Arc of Howard County has created a new framework for the chapter, which includes new jobs with

standardized roles, more chances for advancement, and a new commitment to training. She also is focused on making sure that the chapter continues to be an excellent service provider, and that the staff fully embrace what it means to be a truly person centered organization.

Cindy lives with her partner Laurie. They have three daughters, Erin, Kasey, and Kelly, and two son-in-laws, Robby and Justin. They also spend time with their two grandsons, Owen (age 3) and Luke (age 1), her father, and her older brother. In her free time, Cindy enjoys listening to Journey and country music, biking, hiking, and traveling. She also enjoys working on home improvement projects, and visiting small craft beer breweries. While she has been fortunate enough to take many exciting vacations, including a trip to Italy, she still dreams of traveling to Ireland.

"I just feel really thankful to have such an incredible circle of people (family, extended family, friends, peers, co-workers) in my life that make each and every day so blessed."