



News from The Arc

Over 50 Years of Advocacy and Partnership

September, 2010

Welcome to NEWS from THE ARC published by The Arc of Kentucky. Through this quarterly newsletter, we will bring to you news of interest to our local chapters, members, self advocates and their families, professionals, and interested others.

The Arc of Kentucky advocates for the rights and full participation of all children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Together with our network of members and affiliated chapters, we improve systems of supports and services, connect families, inspire communities; and influence public policy.

If you have articles or information to share in this newsletter that would be of interest to our readers, you can either email us at arcokfy@aol.com or write to us at:

The Arc of Kentucky
 c/o NEWS from THE ARC
 706 East Main St., Ste. A
 Frankfort, KY 40601
 (502) 875-5225 or (800) 281-1272

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Congratulations Advocates!



On April 14, Governor Steve Beshear signed a bill to eliminate the "R" word from state statutes. Advocates in Action participants, The Arc of Lake Cumberland along with other local chapters and the state Arc were involved in this successful legislation being passed. HB 558 was sponsored by Rep. Carl Rollins. Advocate in Action members attended the April bill signing ceremonies and presented the Governor and Rep. Rollins with an "R" Word t-shirt.

Federal Bill to Remove Mental Retardation from Laws Passes the U.S. Senate

Before leaving for a summer break, senators unanimously approved legislation to replace the term "mental retardation" with "intellectual disability" in some areas of federal government. The bill, known as "Rosa's Law," would impact health, education, and labor policy at the federal level. Under the measure, individuals with disabilities would retain the same rights they currently have, but the terminology would be swapped as laws and documents come up for revision over the next several years. The measure is not expected to incur any costs.

The bill must now go before the House of Representatives and gain the support of the President to take effect. (Printed from Sept. 2010 NJCDD newsletter)

The Arc of the U.S., state and local chapters have advocated diligently for this law.

ADVOCATES IN ACTION

Class of 2009-2010

Twenty-Eight self-advocates, parents and family members representing different geographic regions, ethnic backgrounds and a variety of disabilities participated in two statewide trainings - November, 2009 and February, 2010 to learn about issues relating to developmental disabilities and build competencies necessary for participants to become advocates who can effectively influence public policy. Issues addressed throughout the year included employment, social security benefits, education, inclusion, accessibility, community supports services. The Advocates in Action participants attended their first training session in Frankfort on November 13 and 14, 2010.. The class enjoyed an afternoon at the Capitol with a tour and meeting with Robert Jenkins of the Legislative Research Commission who talked with the group about LRC's role, legislative process on filing bills, etc. In addition to the tour and meeting with the LRC Director, other topics for the two-day event included a "History and Overview of Disability Services", Medicaid Waivers, EPSDT, K-CHIP, services within the Department for Behavioral Health, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and the Department for Aging and Independent Living, Person-Centered Planning, Legislative Advocacy and a Mock Legislation Session. Success stories were also shared by self-advocate graduates of previous Advocates in Action classes.



Pictured left: Mark Newton, Campbellsville, Justin Rogers and Lesley Reising, Berea, Roger Brooks, Campbellsville make presentation and share their success stories.



(Pictured left: Commissioner Stephen Hall, Dept. for Behavioral Health, Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities)

(Pictured right: Advocates in Action Class meeting with Robert Jenkins, Legislative Research Commission)



The second training session was held on February 2-3, 2010 in Frankfort. Participants had the opportunity to hear from Johnny Collett with the Division of Exceptional Children, a Meet and Greet Panel of state officials and agencies on waivers, consumer directed options, Hart Supported Living, KCHIP/EPSDT and Impact Plus, the Kentucky Council on Developmental Disabilities, Protection and Advocacy, Family and Youth Resource Centers, Social Security Administration. (continued on page 11).

2010 Arc of Kentucky 55th Annual Conference A Huge Success! “Let’s Just Do It - Get on Board for PEOPLE!”

(continued on page 4)



The Arc of Kentucky held its annual best practices conference, “Let’s Just Do It - Get on Board for PEOPLE” on April 23-24th at the Park Inn Louisville East. The conference was held in collaboration with the Jefferson Co. and Simpson Co. Parent Resource Centers, Kentucky TASH, Kentucky Department of Education, Kentucky Council on Developmental Disabilities and Human Development Institute. Again, this year’s conference provided an excellent opportunity to network, share ideas and learn new and exciting information within the disabilities arena.

Conference Highlights (continued)

- ◆ Barb Trader, Executive Director, KY TASH at Friday’s Luncheon
- ◆ Awards Banquet and Dance
- ◆ A wide array of sessions that addressed best practices for people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and their families in Education, Employment, Community and Self-Advocacy strands
- ◆ Saturday Luncheon speakers, U.S. John Yarmuth, Louisville
- ◆ Tamar Heller, Ph.D., Professor and Head, Dept. of Disability and Human Development, Univ. of Chicago
- ◆ Closing Session: Panel on Waiver Services and Programs
- ◆ Over 30 exhibitors were in attendance to present educational information on their programs and/or services
- ◆ Silent Auction sponsored by The Arc of Kentucky and its affiliate chapters



(Pictured above left to right: Barb Trader, KY TASH, U.S. John Yarmuth, Dr. Tamar Heller, Chicago, IL)



(Pictured Panel on Waiver Services: Brian Bosseau & Marie Helm, Dept. for Aging & Independent Living (left) & Eric Friedlander, Deputy Secretary, Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Linda McAuliffe, Division of Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities (right); William Shaw (standing)



2010 Arc of Kentucky 55th Annual Conference (continued)

2009-2010 Advocates in Action Self-Determination Leadership Academy class was recognized at The Arc's Award Dinner. The class displayed the quilt that was produced as a result of stories they shared and specific issues that were important to each participant.



*Singing
and
Dancing*



*Talents
Shine
at*



*The Arc
Dance*



Congratulations Arc Award Winners!

(continued on page 6)



Representative Carl Rollins, Versailles, KY recipient of the Carl D. Perkins Service Award - presented for the notable contributions continuing over an extended period of time to promote and enhance the quality of services to individuals with intellectual and other related disabilities. (Pictured left to right: Rep. Carl Rollins & Marsha VanHook, Arc of Lake Cumberland who made the presentation).



Mary Burdine, Tri-Generations, Somerset, KY was the recipient of the Ronald J. Cutter Professional Service Award - presented to a professional who has provided significant support and services that have contributed to the development of individuals with intellectual and other related disabilities. (Pictured left to right: Mary Burdine and Patty Dempsey who presented the award to Mary).



Denise Jeffries, Glasgow and Scott Woodall (not pictured), Erlanger, Self-Advocates received the Susy Riffe Memorial Award for Achievement - for positive contribution through participation at work, in the home and and community. In addition, Denise and Scott each received a \$100 savings bond. Scott was presented his award at a ceremony held by The Point Arc in Erlanger.



Justin Rogers, Frankfort, KY (not available for photo)-recipient of the Gayla Peach Advocacy Award, presented for the significant contribution of speaking out and providing leadership to secure or maintain the rights, services, and supports for individuals with intellectual and other related disabilities. (Pictured left to right: Jamison Ornella & son, accepting for Justin).

Betsy Dunnigan, Deputy Commission for the Department of Behavioral Health, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Frankfort, KY (not available for photo) was also the recipient of the Gayla Peach Advocacy Award. Ms. Dunnigan was unable to be at the awards ceremony but was presented her award at June Board Meeting.

Arc Award Winners! (continued)



Leslie Lederer, Parent, Louisville, KY and Protection & Advocacy was the recipient of the President's Award. (Pictured left to right: William Shaw presents award to Leslie.) This award is given sporadically at the discretion of the President for someone who has made a significant contribution on behalf of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



The Arc of Lake Cumberland was recognized as winner of the "Biggest Change Award!" Award ceremony took place at their annual picnic in May. (Pictured left to right is Sondra McIntyre, President, Arc of Lake Cumberland and William Shaw, President The Arc of Kentucky).



WELCOME *New Board Members and Officers!*

The Arc would like to welcome the following new members to the Board of Directors.

- William Shaw, President**
- Bob Gray, Immediate Past President**
- Trudy Abshire, President Elect**
- Judy DeSalvo, Secretary**
- Linda Ramnes, Treasurer**
- Bobbie Bradley, Parent, Hopkinsville, KY (Region II) reappointed**
- James Cheely, Parent, Glasgow, KY, Parent (Region IV)**
- Leslie Lederer, Parent, Louisville, KY (Region VI) reappointed**
- Anita McNeal, Professional, Morehead, KY (Region X)**
- Wanda Ellison, Brodhead, KY (Region 11)**
- Joan Groce, Parent, Albany, KY (Region XIV) reappointed**
- Neil Jeffries, Family Member, Glasgow, KY (At Large)**
- Jonathan Trimble, Self-Advocate, Florence, KY (At Large)**
- Steve Shannon, Professional, Lexington, KY (At Large)**
- Joe Cowan, Self-Advocate, Monticello (At Large)**
- Matt Lowe, Self-Advocate, Louisville (At-Large)**
- Andrew Venetianer, Self-Advocate, Louisville (At-Large)**
- Tonya Broughton, Berea, KY (At-Large)**

UPDATES

Federal Medicaid and Education Increases Extended

In mid-August, President Obama signed a \$26.1 billion Medicaid-Education Jobs bill, after House Speaker Nancy Pelosi called members of the U.S. House of Representatives back to Washington, D.C. for a special on-day session in order to vote on the measure.

The bill will save educator's jobs and extends the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP)--a formula used to determine how much Medicaid funding each state receives.

Last year's Recovery Act provided two forms of relief for states: additional federal funding to support state Medicaid programs and additional federal support for state education systems. The additional Medicaid support was set to expire on December 31 of this year, mid-way through the state's fiscal year.

The bill extends a phased-down version of the Medicaid support for another six months, worth about \$15 billion to states, and extends \$10 billion in additional education support.

The Arc U.S. and other disability advocacy groups had actively supported the FMAP extension and the education funding.

The passage of the bill effects Kentucky and 24 other states that passed state budgets dependent on these additional federal funds. Kentucky will receive just over \$137 million. (see below)

KENTUCKY WILL RECEIVE MILLIONS TO SUPPORT MEDICAID

With congressional action to provide some much-needed funds to states to continue to support Medicaid, Kentucky only received just over \$137 million in Medicaid Support, leaving a \$100 million gap in state Medicaid Budget. Governor Beshear has asked two legislative work groups (Medicaid Oversight and Advisory Committee and the Task Force on Medicaid Cost Containment) to review and make recommendations on ways to make up the shortfall. The Kentucky General Assembly balanced the budget on the assumption that Kentucky would get millions more.

UPDATES

The Arc's F.I.N.D.S.: Family and Individual Needs for Disability Supports

The Arc FINDS is a free, online survey designed to tap into the knowledge and perspectives of individuals and families within the I/DD community, including self-advocates. This study will help The Arc engage individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in a meaningful way to understand what they need, what services and supports they have, and what they want for their futures. The results from this confidential survey will provide greater understanding about what services are available, what gaps exist and what new supports are needed. To complete the survey go to www.thearc.org, hit the button Take the Arc's Find Survey.



The Arc of the U.S. Rebranding Efforts

The Arc of the U.S. has been working with CoreBrand on its efforts to rebrand The Arc. After two months of intensive work, CoreBrand delivered their initial findings and two important recommendations to The Arc's Board of Directors. First, do NOT change the name of The Arc and second do NOT use A-R-C as an acronym. The consultants believe that we are in a good position to build a strong, compelling brand identity that will distinguish the organization from the many other players in the disability field as well as entire nonprofit sector. A new logo and tag line is being developed and will be unveiled in November at The Arc's 60th Annual Convention Orlando, Florida.



REGIONAL TRAININGS SCHEDULED ON FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND ESTATE PLANNING

These trainings will give an overview of estate planning issues. Individuals with developmental disabilities, parents and siblings, other family members and friends should attend. These trainings will assist participants to develop a vision for their family member's future and determine what supports would need to be place to secure that vision. The plan will involve the identification of people to take on specific roles, the financial resources needed to put the plan in place, and the legal mechanisms required to implement the plan. The following locations and dates have been scheduled:



- October 6 - Harlan**
- October 23 - Louisville**
- November 6 - Prestonsburg**
- January 29 - Elizabethtown**
- February 26 - Owensboro**
- March 9 - Somerset/Campbellsville**
- March 19 - Paducah**
- May 14 - Ashland**
- April 15 - Louisville (The Arc of Kentucky Annual Conference)**

For more information or registration brochure, contact The Arc at (800) 281-1272 or website www.arcofky.org

These trainings are funded by the Kentucky Council on Developmental Disabilities.

UPDATE

Kicking Off Second Phase of Kentucky Council on Developmental Disabilities funded Aging Caregiver Project

The Future Is Now: A Future Planning Curriculum for Families and Their Adult Relative with Developmental Disabilities

The Arc of Kentucky is seeking thirty five families of individuals with a developmental disability who live with their caregiver to participate in the ***Future is Now Project***. ***The Future is Now*** is a program designed to support adults with developmental disabilities and their families in making future plans for residential, financial and legal future plans for their later years.

The purpose of ***The Future is Now*** is to engage families and their relative with a disability to jointly make plans for the future by preparing a Letter of Intent at regional training sessions that will identify the dreams and plans for the future of the individual with a disability. The training consists of five 2.5 hour small group sessions that include the following topics:

- How to get Started
- How to Build Relationships
- How to Obtain Housing
- Postsecondary Education
- Work and Retirement
- How to find People to Keep the Dream Going

The dates for the training events are tentatively scheduled for the Fall and Winter to be held in Covington, Lexington, Glasgow and Somerset/London area. Travel expenses, refreshments, and support services for project participants will be reimbursed according to individual needs.

Project Director, Marie Allison, is the parent/legal guardian of an adult son with developmental disabilities and has been an advocate for persons with disabilities for many years. Project Trainer is Carolyn Wheeler who has over twenty-five years experience in working with persons with disabilities and their families. As a legal guardian for several individuals with intellectual disabilities, she has had to address these issues as well on a personal basis.

If you are the caretaker of an individual with a developmental disability who lives with you and you would like to participate in The Future Is Now Project, please contact The Arc of Kentucky at (800) 281-1272 or email arcofky@aol.com for an application. Application can also be found on The Arc's website at www.arcofky.org.



The Arc of Kentucky Received Sub-Grant from the Arc of the United States for Transitioning Youth from School to Adult Life Funded by the Walmart Foundation.

Thanks to a \$3 million grant from the Walmart Foundation, The Arc of the United States has awarded grants to 45 local chapters of The Arc across the U.S. in support of this new initiative designed to help youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities. These sub-grants were awarded as part of the Walmart Foundation School-to-Community Transition Project.

The project aims to increase transition outcomes and to build inclusion and involvement of youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities in independent living, employment, post-secondary education or vocational training, and community, social and civic affairs. "The Sub-Grants for the Walmart Foundation School-to-Community Transition represent dynamic new and innovative projects of the chapters of The Arc - they will set a high standard in best practices for youth to adult transition initiatives for years to come," said Peter V. Berns, Chief Executive Officer of The Arc.

The Arc of Kentucky's **IAM DETERMINED Project** is to enable individuals with disabilities to "get a life" after high school. The purpose of the project is to enhance the quality of transition services for students 14-21 who have an intellectual or developmental disability with Individual Education Programs within the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The IAM DETERMINED Project will address the critical shortage of interagency collaboration for students with disabilities within the Commonwealth. The project will utilize a team approach and has formed an Interagency Transition Team consisting of seven team members that includes representatives from The Arc of Kentucky, Kentucky Department of Education, Department for Vocational Rehabilitation, Cabinet for Families and Children, Post Secondary Education, Protection and Advocacy, a parent and a student.

The team has met monthly during the initial three months of the project with The Arc of Kentucky Executive Director and Project Consultant to holistically scan and interpret the current transitional program and process within the Commonwealth. Resource Mapping will be initiated and used as a tool for determining the available resources and current procedures of the transitional program for individuals transitioning to adulthood.

SIGN UP NOW FOR UPCOMING ADVOCATES IN ACTION SELF-DETERMINATION/ LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



The Arc of Kentucky is accepting applications for its 2010-11 Advocates in Action/ Self-Determination Leadership Training Academy. This training program is designed to train individuals with disabilities, family members, siblings of family members with disabilities, or professionals working with people with disabilities. The Advocates in Action Project teaches people to be independent and to be the strongest advocate and self-advocate that they can be. It will provide state-of-the-art knowledge about issues relating to developmental disabilities and build competencies necessary for Advocates in Action participants to become advocates who can effectively influence public policy. Applications are available on line at www.arcofky.org or call 1-800-281-1272.

2009-2010 ADVOCATES IN ACTION (continued from page 2)

Class members also participated and were involved in the 874K legislative advocacy event and rally held at the Capitol. Class members met with their legislators and attend committee meetings. After the rally, the group met with Colmon Elridge, Governor's Office Staff.



(Pictured left: Advocates in Action class getting ready to leave for Capitol)



(Pictured right: Advocates in Class boarding trolley to Capitol)



(Pictured left: Advocates in Action class meets with Colmon Elridge from Governor's Office).



(Pictured right: Denise Jeffries, Rep. Johnny Turner, William Shaw, Vicki Jeffries, James Cheely)

Participants from the 2009-10 Advocates in Action Self-Determination/Leadership Training Academy were also in attendance at The Arc of Kentucky's Annual Conference. Participants were recognized at the annual Awards dinner on April 23rd.

Community Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Contact</u>
October 5-7, 2010	Support Crime Victims with Disabilities Training Louisville Marriott Downtown Louisville, KY	OVCTTAC 1-866-682-8822
November 3-6, 2010	The Arc of U.S. National Convention Orlando, FLA	www.thearc.org
November 10-11, 2010	2010 Fall Institute, FRYSC's Lexington Convention Center	(859) 333-4209
November 30- December 3, 2010	12th Ending Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence Conference	www.KASAP.org
December 8-11, 2010	35th Annual TASH Conference Denver, Colorado	www.tash.org

Save The Date!
The Arc of Kentucky
56th Annual Conference
and
Parent/Professional Mini Conference

**Best Practices for People with Intellectual
and/or Developmental Disabilities and their Families**

**in collaboration with Kentucky TASH,
Kentucky Department of Education,
Jefferson Co. & Simpson Co. Parent Resource Centers**

April 15-16, 2011
Park Inn Louisville East
1903 Embassy Square Blvd.
Louisville, Kentucky

The Arc of U.S. will celebrate its 60th Anniversary and National Convention in Orlando, FL

The Arc of the U.S. will hold its national convention and celebrate its 60th Anniversary on November 3-6, 2010 in Orlando, Florida at the Hilton Inn at WALT DISNEY WORLD RESORT. Early Bird Registration ends October 1st. The theme of this year's conference is "A Clear Way Forward." Actors Lurn Potter and Robin Trocki from the hit show Glee will join the celebration to accept The Arc's Inclusion and Image Award in recognition of their achievement for breaking down barriers, increasing awareness and challenging stereotypes. For more conference information, go to www.thearc.org

The Arc of Kentucky
706 East Main Street, Ste. A
Frankfort, KY 40601

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Ways You Can Help The Arc of Kentucky

- Become a member of The Arc. Annual membership is \$15.00.
- Purchase the first edition of The Arc's Cookbook for \$10.00.
- Purchase a \$5 Kroger gift card. Use this Kroger card as a Kroger debit account. All of the purchases you make on this card, Kroger donates 4% of your amount to The Arc.
- Make a cash donation in the amount of:
 - \$10 \$15 \$25 \$50 Other
- Donations can be made in memoriam and in honor of a loved one.

Get Involved-

Your donations help The Arc to:

- ❖ Provide training to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families on pertinent issues such as educational advocacy, health issues, program and service related issues.
- ❖ Support statewide programs and training that benefits individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities across the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
- ❖ Provide a quarterly newsletter to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families and professionals.

Mail this form with your check or money order payable to The Arc of Kentucky to:
706 East Main St., Ste. A, Frankfort, KY 40601