Ball for All is just a few weeks away! Have you bought your ticket yet? There’s still time to get it online at www.thearcnw.org or call the office to reserve your seat at 313-532-7915.

We are SO EXCITED to have three, amazing Gold Sponsors this year: Building Bridges Therapy Center, The DTE Energy Foundation, and Emagine Entertainment. Learn more about them and watch their videos on our website at www.thearcnw.org.

We would also like to thank our Silver Sponsor, Fifth Third Bank, for their generosity.


We couldn’t do this work without you!
Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! 2020 already brings us the opportunity to advocate for good benefits for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Robert Gordon, the Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), wrote a letter on January 7, 2020 proposing changes to the Medicaid system. The proposal is for a Specialty Integrated Health Model (SIP). Some brief highlights of this are:

- Preserving community mental health services.
- Specialty Integrated Health Model (SIP) that would mean one payer and one accountable organization – a specialty integrated plan or a traditional Medicaid plan – for every person.
- Choices of SIP plans.
- Possible statewide SIP model.
- Call for a statewide public led SIP.
- Focus on specialty populations, one of which is individuals with disabilities.

This is a VERY brief outline so please go to Michigan.gov/FutureOfBehavioralHealth for more information.

The Arc of Michigan is hard at work with advocacy efforts around this proposal due to several concerns including:

- There is no explanation of how the plan works or how the parts work together.
- The only obvious principle throughout the plan is the state riding itself of financial risk.
- The plan has none of our values, including person-centered planning and self-determination.
- It does not address current disparities from one place to another or enforcement of current contract provisions.
- The plan says nothing about supports or services or rights and appeals, those things that are the most important to those served.

Everyone is encouraged to attend public forums or contact legislators to share the above concerns. You can send an email voicing your concerns to- https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73970_5093_96724_96727--,00.html

Let’s continue to be a voice for positive change in 2020!

Gretchen Sanewsky
Executive Director
Lekotek Continues to Grow

The Lekotek Program has been at full speed the last few months because of our hard working team and generous donations from the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, the Grainger Foundation, the Walters' Family Foundation and supporters like you:

- In November, the first-ever Lekotek Toy Drive brought in twenty new toys for families to enjoy and some generous financial gifts.
- In December, the Walters Family Foundation generously gave $4,000 toward to the Lekotek Program to help expand the program.
- The Radon Family made a generous donation to start a Lekotek scholarship program in honor of their son, Sean Radon.

We are so grateful for all the generous support from our Arc NW family! Our team has been hard at work reaching out to service providers, schools, libraries, and parent groups so that we can bring the Lekotek family to as many families as we can who need it. Just in January, Lana Richardson, our Lekotek Leader, met with 43 parents at Stottlemyer Early Childhood & Family Development Center and already new families have signed up.

Do you know a family who would enjoy the Lekotek program or a group or school who would like to learn more about it?
Then, please contact Lana Richardson, Lekotek Play Leader, at lrichardson@thearcnw.org.

Make a Difference in
Schools this March!

Everyone Belongs

Would you like to volunteer during Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month?

- Read to 2nd graders
- Help build an understanding of inclusion
- Training and lunch included!

Contact Robin for more information at:
rcook@thearcnw.org
313-532-7915

For more information, visit our website at www.thearcnw.org.

Everyone Belongs

Do you like reading to children? Then check out our new volunteer program, Everyone Belongs, launching during Disabilities Awareness Month this March. Volunteers will read to kids and leave behind a few books for the classroom library to help elementary students build understanding, empathy and connections with kids who have disabilities.

Would you like to volunteer? Then please email Robin Cook, the Everyone Belongs Coordinator, at rcook@thearcnw.org for details and sign-up.
Information sessions are held monthly during the school year at

Western Wayne Skill Center/Garfield Community School
10218 Arthur St., Livonia, MI 48150
and at
Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary School
36075 Currier in Wayne
6:30pm - 8:30pm

Please RSVP: 734-729-9100 or 313-532-7915 ext 204
info@thearcww.org
Check our website for info on webinars beginning in October!

Info on all Arc NW programs can be found on our website in the pull-down Menu under Services
www.thearcnw.org

The Arc of Northwest Wayne County
The Arc of Western Wayne County

After I’m Gone Program

February 12, 2020
at Roosevelt - McGrath Elementary School
Supporting People in Decision Making

February 13, 2020
Western Wayne Skill Center/Garfield Community School
Person Centered Planning & Self-Determination

February 27, 2020
at Western Wayne Skill Center/Garfield Community School
Estate Planning for Your Future

What a good turnout we had for our January 10th Country Western Dance. Our D.J.’s Randy and Mark played many Country songs to do the line dance and just dance, too. We also celebrated James Parson’s birthday! His family brought yummy decorated cupcakes for everyone to enjoy. We LOVED singing Happy Birthday to him.

Our upcoming JFC Calendar of Events for the 2019-2020 year:

Feb. 14, 6:30 - 9:00pm. Valentine Dance, DJs Randy and Mark, Thurston High School Cafeteria, $3 at the door.

March 13, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. St. Patty’s Dance, J.J. and Company, Thurston High School cafeteria, $3.00 at the door.

April 17, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Chicken Dinner Dance, J.J. and Company, Canton High School cafeteria, MUST pre-pay $5.00 at The Arc by Thursday, April 9, 2020.

May 8, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social Dance, J.J. and Company, Canton High School cafeteria, MUST pre-pay $5.00 at the Arc by Friday, May 1, 2020.

Jackie Norris
JFC Chairperson

JUST FUN CLUB NEWS
Happy 2020 Everyone!! Hope to see many of you at The Arc Dinner Dance on February 29th. It’s a Gala event with lots of fun. This year our great sport program will be highlighted in the video during the dance starring many of our athletes.

BASKETBALL – Area Tournament Sat., February 15 at Franklin HS. District Tournament Sat., March 7 at Saline High School (men teams only) State Tournament March 20-21 at Calvin College. Men must win both District games to advance to State Tournament. Women’s Hot Shot team will attend.

TRACK & FIELD – STARTS Tuesday February 4 at 7pm. Franklin High School Field House.

SWIMMING – STARTS Sunday February 16 at Schoolcraft College.
Spring Area Tournament for these sports will be May 8 at Franklin High School. State Summer Games at CMU will be May 29-30-31. Health forms must be current until June 1, 2020 to participate. Contact your Coach or Lana at the Arc to see when your form expires.

BOWLING FUNDRAISER – Friday May 1st at Westland Bowl. Mark your calendar.

**BASEBALL AND SOCCER 2020 SEASON— VERY IMPORTANT**

I want to get the word out to all the athletes along with their families to give you time to discuss the decision you will have to make if you play BOTH Baseball and Soccer.

At the Local Coordinators meeting held on January 13 we were informed that for this year only 2020 Baseball & Soccer Tournament which is held in September will be moved to a One Day Event on Saturday August 15 in Brighton, MI.

The reason we were told was U of M Football will have 4 home games in September. Hotels in the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti area are not available to house all the athletes that attend the State Fall Classic in September. The Area management team is not happy with this decision either.

I am sure it is going to be very hard for the athletes that participated in both to pick the sport they want to play Baseball or Soccer. This new date might impact vacations that have already been planned for that weekend. Also, for soccer, the heat is a factor, too.

I reviewed the 2019 baseball & soccer teams. We had 13 athletes that played in both sports last year. John Hokett, soccer coach, and I spoke about this he has suggested if any of the athletes are struggling with this decision to please contact him or your baseball coach for guidance. You can also call me, Janice, with any questions. John said if most of the soccer players want to stay with baseball that will be fine, he will still have either one or two teams for soccer.

Janice Bearden
Donations

Including donations to the General Fund of The Arc NW, Lekotek, the Fiscal Intermediary Program, the Annual Appeal, the Dinner Dance, or any other gift.

Adrian and Janet Giaccaglia
Alois and Rita Anderle
Annette DiPonio and Doug Graham
Anthony and Joanne Cabrera
Audrean Stovall and Jaylon Littles
Bill and Valerie Buckley
Comerica Bank
Daniel and Barbara Collins
Dixie Hibner and Jim Gallas
Doug and Sharon Govan
Edward Hibner and Barbara Krasiecko
Eileen Murphy
Elizabeth Webley
Ellen Terwilliger
Ida Cocciolane
Janelle Hansen
Jean Barber
Jean Walsh and Luke Contos
Joann Samuels
John and Carol Zago
Tom and Margaret Marquard
John and Kathleen Price
Joyce Wickman
Kathleen Pfuhler
Lori Serda
Marlene DiPonio and Fred Ward
Mary Beth Connolly
Matthew and Lindsay DiPonio
Maureen Beaty
Men On The Move
Michael and JoAnn DePirro
Pat and Chris Faris
Patricia and James White
Patrick and Judy Sheehan
Paul and Susan Venegas
Paul G. Sharrow, C.P.A., P.C.
Peter Dale and Chris Hench
Richard McClain and Lonnie Schultz
Sharon and Doug Visocchi
Spencer and Yolanda Keaton
Stephan Kanyo
Sunny and Ifeyinwa Ilechukwu
Susan Gardynik
Sylvia Kloc
The Dolot Family
The Ferrari Family
The Ficara Family
The Read Family
The Rossow Family
The Walters’ Family Foundation
Theodore and Donna Kress
Thomas and Emiljana Vella
Timothy Carolan and Theresa Zielasko
Unique Refinishers, Inc.
Vadaver Ramchandren
Vince and Marianne Licari
William and Kristine Copeland
Bill Winkler
Greg and Susan Wittrock

Thank You

Memorials

In Memory of John Norton
Nancy Norton & Martin Gartwaite
Gerald & Ethelyn Higgs
Richard & Geraldine Holt

In Memory of Bruce Dunn
The Beardens

In Memory of Sean Radon
John & Cathy Moran

In Memory of Stanley D. Webley
Janet Webley

In Memory of Katie Collins
Daniel Collins
# The Arc of Northwest Wayne County

**February 2020**

## The Arc NW Board Meeting

**6:30pm, Tues. the 11th**

**Arc Office**

### February 2020 Calendar

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### Check It Out!
The Arc of Northwest Wayne County’s Web Site

[thearcnw.org](http://thearcnw.org)

**Friend us on Facebook**

[The Arc of Northwest Wayne County](https://www.facebook.com/thearcnw)

**Instagram**

[The Arc of Northwest Wayne County](https://www.instagram.com/thearcnw)
Inside The Arc is also available online at themarcnw.org
Call 313-532-7915 to end your printed mailed newsletter.

Membership Application

Member Name(s)  
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

Address  
___________________________________________________________________________________

City  __________________________________ State  ______________________            ZIP_______________

Daytime Phone  
___________________________________________________________________________________

Email Address  
___________________________________________________________________________________

PHOTO DISCLAIMER: By joining The Arc NW I am agreeing to have my image used for printed and online marketing efforts.
Signature: ____________________________

Membership Dues

O  New Member
O  Renewing Member

DONATIONS

O  $25 Individual Membership
O  $50 Family Membership
O  $100 Organization

Additional Membership Fees: $5 to join Just Fun Club
$15 to join Lekotek

An individual and his/her family or a group home with multiple residents. Includes additional membership fees for Just Fun Club
and Lekotek.

Businesses, non-profits, community groups, or government entities that support people with disabilities.

Achieve with us!