

Highlights

In 2019 The Arc NW had over 6,000 contacts through advocacy and programs.

After I'm Gone (AIG)

- Helping families plan for the future of loved ones with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Partnership with The Arc of Western Wayne County
- New webinars to reach more families
- The Arc NW provided 1,224 contacts with families in fiscal year 2018-19, a 45% increase over last fiscal year

Guardianship Alternatives Information Network (GAIN)

- Helping families consider decision-making that supports a self-determined life
- Partnership with The Arc of Western Wayne County
- The Arc NW provided 417 contacts with families in fiscal year 2018-19

Lekotek

- Grant funding of \$42,500 to expand program to more families and to provide community based play sessions
- Increased outreach efforts to raise awareness of the program

- New partnerships with agencies serving children with disabilities
- First toy drive and toy donation from JAAKS Cares adding to 2000+ toy lending library
- 537 contacts with children and families through play sessions, home visits, groups sessions, and presentations a 16% increase over last fiscal year.

Fiscal Intermediary Services

- In fiscal year 2018-19 The Arc NW provided payroll services to 178 direct care professionals and 21 staffing agencies
- Direct Hire Professionals supported by The Arc NW earned a total of \$1,850,593 adding value to the economy
- The Arc NW supported about 100 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live self-determined lives
- New staff in Accounting/ Claims Coordinator and Accounts Payable Clerk positions

Volunteers and Members

- More than 200 volunteers give 2,700+ hours annually, \$67,000 in value!
- In 2019 The Arc NW had 469 members

Just Fun Club

- In 2019 270 individuals were members of Just Fun Club
- The group sponsored 9 events: hotdog roast, Halloween dance, country western dance, Christmas dinner dance, Hawaiian luau, Valentine's dance, St. Patrick's dance, chicken dinner dance, ice cream social.

Arc NW Athletic Programs

- In 2019 165 members participated on teams and in regional competitions
- 20 volunteer coaches held over 100 practices and games in 2019
- Arc NW athletes participated in Special Olympics competitions
- Bowling Fundraiser and millionaire parties raised funds for Arc NW athletic programs.

Arc NW Advocacy

- The Arc NW advocates have relationships with 65 schools and participated in 252 special education meetings in 2019
- The Arc NW advocates provided 1,787 consultations to support the rights of people living under self-determination
- The Arc NW Executive Director is involved with The Arc MI to stay current with issues impacting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- The Arc NW Board members and Executive Director advocated for policy changes at the Disability Policy Seminar in Washington D.C.
- The Arc NW Executive Director and staff members attended The Michigan Disability Policy Seminar
- The Arc NW board met with local legislators to support human/disability rights



The Arc
Northwest Wayne County

How To Get Involved



Make a Gift

Give to Arc NW Endowment

A group of parents started The Arc NW seeking equal education for their children with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Their vision was full inclusion for people with I/DD in all aspects of life. Your gift to the Arc NW Endowment Fund ensures this work will continue for generations to come. Thank you!



Raise Funds

Support Our Signature Events

Whether you join a committee, donate, or attend an event, your involvement is critical to the success of our signature events allowing us to provide lifelong support to children and adults with disabilities.

- Sip & Support
- Millionaire parties 4 times/year
- Golf Outing
- Ball for All Dinner Dance
- Athletic Program Bowling Fundraiser
- The Arc NW 60th Anniversary



Volunteer

Give Your Time

In addition to our signature events, The Arc NW has many volunteer opportunities including:

- Just Fun Club
- Arc Athletics and bowling
- Newsletter and administration
- Fix-it jobs around the building
- Clean-up projects
- Lekotek Toy Drive
- Everyone Belongs Reading Program
- Virtual Volunteering

ANNUAL REPORT

ADVOCACY. EDUCATION. INDEPENDENCE.

Building inclusive communities through advocacy, support, and information.

To learn more or get involved today, email info@thearcnw.org or call 313-532-7915.

OCTOBER 1, 2018 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

Message from Leadership

Dear Friends,

Have you ever had a big dream? What makes it big? Is it because the dream is spectacular, nearly impossible to achieve, or has never been done before? In 1961 the founders of The Arc NW had the big dream of equal education for their children with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).

In the fiscal year 2018-2019 The Arc NW expanded these big dreams. Our Lekotek program touched children with I/DD through 537 play sessions, strengthening their social skills and building on developmental goals. At the end of 2019 The Arc NW received grant funding to expand the number of play sessions, bring the program into the community, and develop evaluation tools for continuous improvements. Dedicated staff developed outreach materials, a membership for professionals. These efforts deepened partnerships and increased Lekotek member families.

This fiscal year we realized the dream of improving The Arc NW fiscal intermediary services. We hired new staff and the fiscal team streamlined workflow, and finalized best practices in daily accounting procedures. We serve individuals with I/DD and families more efficiently, support direct hire professionals, and are prepared for the influx of new people as Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN) opens self-determination to their entire network. We support 178 direct care professionals serving 100 homes, and 21 staffing agencies, which serve individuals with I/DD.

The heart of The Arc NW's dream is advocacy. In 2019 staff and board members attended the National Disability Policy Seminar in Washington D.C. participating in conversations

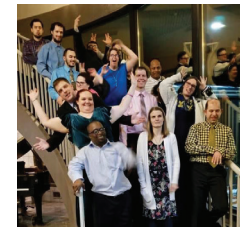
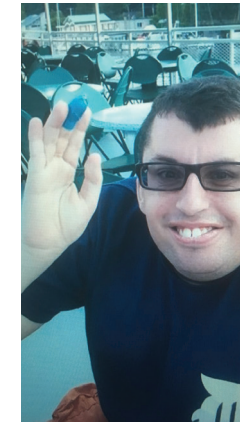
with legislators to impact policy changes on Capitol Hill. Staff participated in the Michigan Disability Policy Seminar and the National Arc Conference to increase our awareness of disability rights efforts at state and national levels. As the number of people with I/DD grows and the population lives longer, the need for advocacy services is rapidly expanding. The dream continues as we grow the advocacy team in 2020 to help meet increasing needs.

The Arc NW was fortunate to have two interns from the Wayne State University School of Social Work this year supporting advocacy and Lekotek expansion. With interns and staff we are outgrowing the current building. We applied for a grant to fund a feasibility study to provide a strategy for obtaining a different space that will best meet staff and member needs.

The Arc NW keeps our big dreams alive due to over 200 volunteers who gave more than 2,700 hours in 2019. This represents a \$67,000 value to the organization and a priceless value to communities we serve. Volunteers work tirelessly on fundraisers supplying almost 20% of revenue in 2019. Volunteers supported Arc NW athletic programs, bowling, and The Just Fun Club providing rewarding health and social opportunities for participants.

In 2020 The Arc NW will continue to fulfill amazing dreams to ensure that everyone is fully included! Let us gear up for 2021, The Arc NW's 60th anniversary year!

Gretchen Sanewsky
Executive Director



Celebrating Success: Sean Radon & Family

The Radons welcomed Sean (pictured left) into the world on Valentine's Day. Because of his disabilities, the hospital kept him for another three months and then all of his therapies started when he arrived home.

The many appointments, therapies, and home practices became consuming for the Radons with constant, hard work - but they didn't want to miss one opportunity to help their son improve. "As a parent, you do everything you possibly can," his mother Janice said.

When Sean was five, the school district wanted to place him in a special education classroom, but his parents didn't. That's when Janice heard about The Arc of Northwest Wayne County. Not only did The Arc team help get Sean enrolled in general education with support, but they also introduced the family to Lekotek.

"It was such a blessing. It made therapy fun! We learned to play as a family." They could try out toys, use them as motivation to reach milestones, and just play. Over time, Sean learned to walk,

communicate without words, and connect with others. Lekotek also brought her sons closer. "The boys were five years apart, and Jon, Sean's brother, didn't know how to play with him. But Lekotek changed that."

Their favorite was the card game Uno. "Sean loved Uno, and he was good at it! The boys would play all the time growing up. And even when Sean was in the hospital, they would play as a team against others online. Almost every time they'd win - and then they would high five! They developed an unbreakable bond." Lekotek is truly a dream launcher!

Sean passed away earlier this year at the age of thirty-two. Janice shared, "Everyone said that Sean inspired them. He was here for a reason. He may not have spoken and he walked later than expected, but he was the same as everyone else. Because of The Arc, he lived a great life." Thank you to the Radons for establishing the **Sean Radon Scholarship Fund** for Lekotek. This will launch many big dreams for other children like Sean.

Our Staff

Gretchen Sanewsky,
Executive Director

Sandra Dobson,
Program Assistant

Michelle Driscoll,
Advocacy and
Community
Resource Director

Wendy Erzen,
Director of
Development

Chesley Giertz,
Advocate

Katie Perkins,
Lekotek Librarian

Amy Pomictor,
Claims & Accounting
Assistant

Lana Richardson,
Lekotek Play Leader

Diamond Watkins,
Accounts Payable Clerk

Latrice Wilborn,
Office Manager

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Susan Gardynik,
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Ryan Klotz

Marianne Licari

Roxanne Riggio

Heidi Warren

Bill Winkler

Arc NW Champions for Inclusion

Gifts of \$1,000 or more given between October 1, 2018 and September 30, 2019

Bigdare Contractors

Nagle Paving Company

Building Bridges Therapy Center

Detroit Auto Dealers Association

(DADA) Charitable Foundation

Fund of the Community

Foundation for SE Michigan

Community Living Services, Inc.

Tom Dimitroff and Gayle Vorpapel

The Grainger Foundation

The Hall Family

The Kakar Foundation

Laurel Manor Banquet &

Conference Center

Tom and Chris Lerchen

Vincent and Marianne Licari

Kathleen Pfuhler

RAM Construction Services

Services To Enhance Potential

Paul G. Sharrow, C.P.A., P.C.

STMicroelectronics

Wallside Windows

Rebecca Wenglinski

