



Northwest Wayne County
Sponsored by STMicroelectronics

Inside The Arc

October 2020

2020 National Convention of The Arc US

Registration is officially open for our FREE, online 2020 National Convention! Join us from October 26 – 28 for three days of inspiring online sessions, announcements, and networking opportunities to learn how others are navigating challenges both old and new. Can't watch live? Our virtual format means you can stream past sessions on-demand when it's convenient for you.

Register for this exciting event today: <https://bit.ly/3hAB7qA>

OCTOBER 26 – 28
2020 NATIONAL CONVENTION

A FREE Virtual Experience

**REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN**

REGISTER NOW

The Arc

The graphic is a vertical rectangle with a yellow-to-orange gradient background. On the left, text is arranged vertically: "OCTOBER 26 – 28" in purple, "2020 NATIONAL CONVENTION" in purple, "A FREE Virtual Experience" in white, "REGISTRATION NOW OPEN" in large white letters, and a purple button with "REGISTER NOW" in white. On the right, a photograph shows a woman in a purple t-shirt with a cartoon character and a large yellow and orange puppet character. The "The Arc" logo is visible in the bottom right of the photo.



The Arc
Northwest Wayne County
 26049 Five Mile Road
 Redford, MI 48239
 Phone: 313-532-7915 Fax: 313-532-7488
 www.thearcnw.org

2020 - 2021 Board of Directors

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Achieve with us.



United Way
 for Southeastern Michigan

From The Executive Director

Dear Friends,
 I hope this finds you all healthy as we continue dealing with this pandemic. Human illness, and the fear it brings, magnifies inequalities in our communities. We see how medical care isn't available to everyone in the same ways. Sometimes people of minority races or people with disabilities are left out of having excellent care. The Arc around the country has been strongly advocating for equal access to care and for family members to be present in the hospital with a sick loved one. It is deeply important that we stand together as inclusion is the way to good health and a peaceful life for us all.

The formidable Ruth Bader Ginsburg, US Supreme Court Justice, urged us all to stand together. We were saddened by her passing on September 18. She wrote the opinion in the ruling stating that people with disabilities should never be left out or discriminated against. Peter Burns, CEO of The Arc US, wrote these words of remembrance,

In the opinion, Justice Ginsburg focused on the fact that "institutional placement of persons who can handle and benefit from community settings perpetuates unwarranted assumptions that persons so isolated are incapable of or unworthy of participating in community life."

This big moment, and her staunch affirmation of the human dignity of people with disabilities and their rightful place in the community of their choice, fundamentally changed the course of the lives of hundreds of thousands of people with disabilities. With this history in our hearts, we will carry on our fight for inclusion and justice for all people with disabilities."

We are grateful for all those who urged us to stand together and for the ways they fought for inclusion. We celebrate everyone who continues the fight for equal rights today. These heroes are not just famous people who make the news, but people like you and me, the direct support professionals who ensure independence, and everyone who moves over to make room for all people to be included. Let us carry forth with the heart and soul of Justice Ginsburg!

Gretchen Sanewsky
 Executive Director



AM & PM Saturday Bowling UPDATE



AM - Early Bird Bowling, which takes place every other Saturday morning, has resumed.

The first date was September 12, 2020.

The Saturday morning Arc Early Birds league has restarted with special conditions for Covid 19. You must wear a mask and you must stay at the lane to which you're assigned. We currently have 16 bowlers (25% of the usual number). We have 4 bowlers using 2 lanes to help with social distancing. We have room for a few more bowlers. If you are one of our regular league members and you're ready to come back this year, please call Vicki Soto 734-422-3732.

PM - Saturday afternoon bowling has cancelled the FALL schedule. We will reassess in January to determine if we can complete an abbreviated season early next year. For now, no Saturday PM bowling.

Bowlers/staff who may have questions can contact Jim Gallas at 248-318-8856 (cell), or check with The Arc NW.



Autumn is finally here adding colorful changes on all the trees. It's been so nice to have warmer temperatures and sunny days outdoors. Some of us take walks in the neighborhood or ride by car to see Michigan and all of its beauty.

We hope many of you have been working on making crafts at home, talking with your friends on the phone and maybe thinking about carving pumpkins to decorate your table or outside porch.

Our JFC programs continue to be closed indefinitely. Although we have a date for the Christmas dinner/dance it is beginning to look like we will be unable to meet in large groups inside. It will be unsafe to gather, dance and eat even with mask wearing. We have to follow Governor Whitmer's safety rules to keep all of us protected. I will send more information about this in our November newsletter.

Hopefully everyone can stay safe and healthy with your small group. As flu season begins it will be even more **IMPORTANT** to wear your mask, wash your hands and staying at least 6 feet apart from each other.

The JFC Committee, our Trademark and J.J. And Company Band misses each and every one of you!!! We ALL miss seeing your smiling faces. You ALL make our day!

Happy Halloween,
Jackie Norris

JUST FUN CLUB NEWS

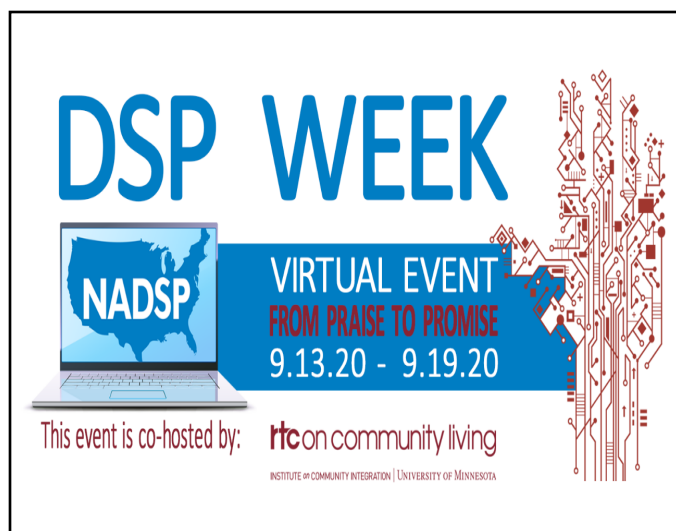


Self-Determination (SD) Corner

What's new in Self-Determination?

Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network opened self-determination to their entire network. Some family and friends who work as direct support professionals, currently paid through staffing agencies, have opted to use self-determination. The Arc NW is supporting a few of these staff through our Fiscal Intermediary Services.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has changed the way community living services are billed to Medicaid for individuals with disabilities. Staff used to document each day's worth of services and supports. Now staff are required to track services every 15 minutes during each day of services and supports. The Arc NW is very concerned about this trend as it does not support independence. No one in the general population has their activities recorded every 15 minutes and neither should a person with a disability.



Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week (September 13-19, 2020) highlighted the dedicated, innovative direct support workforce that is the heart and soul of supports for people with disabilities.

Invaluable: The Unrecognized Profession of Direct Support is a documentary film exploring the underappreciated and underfunded work of direct support professionals (DSPs), the people who support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in living full lives as members of their communities. Through stories and interviews with DSPs, family members, advocates, and people with disabilities from across the country, the film honors the complexity of the work and the immense value it provides to individuals receiving support. And it asks us to take action now in strengthening the DSP workforce before the system collapses.

Watch it online at this link:

<https://youtu.be/5ra7XBiyawk>

Arc NW Member Survey 2020

Advocacy: 23 respondents have used Arc NW advocacy, 13 have not

Services most used and helpful are:

Individual Education Plans
Social Security
Medicaid
wills, trusts, Power of Attorney
resources for medical and housing needs
person-centered planning, systems navigation

More help is needed with:

housing options and roommates
finding and retaining staff
transportation
preparation for community life after school
government stimulus checks

Fiscal Intermediary: 9 respondents have used Arc NW advocacy, 27 have not

Services most used and helpful are:

Payroll for direct hire staff
Training reminders
Help with CLS services
Bridge card and health coverage resources

More help is needed with:

Paying for care in home/community
Need more info on fiscal services

Lekotek: 4 respondents have used Lekotek, 32 have not

Services most used and helpful are:

Toys that otherwise wouldn't have, great selection
Improved quality of life for child
Children explore and play

JFC and Athletics: 22 respondents have participated in JFC and/or Athletics, 14 have not

Services most used and helpful are:

Love all the sports
Made friends, meet new people
Get more active
Love dances, holiday party
Socialize
Be out in the community
Way for parents to connect

More help is needed with:

More Special Olympics events
Parents' meeting to share information, navigating the system
Peer groups to discuss dating, living independently, not being taken advantage of

Arc NW Staff

Helpful rating: 4.3 out of 5

Friendliness rating: 4.4 out of 5

Remarks:

Always there when needed
Offer help even if the answer is "I don't know"
Willing to answer questions
Helpful, knowledgeable, patient
Kind, considerate
Been treated well for over 40 years
Respond in a timely manner
Professional and polite
Phone system difficult to navigate



Memorials

Generous Donations

In Honor of Katie Collins

The Jensen Family

Daniels and Barbara Collins

Dave and Darlene Miller

Golf Outing Donations and Sponsorships

ABM Industries, Inc.

Fred Ward and Marlene DiPonio




The Michigan Legislature has decided to continue a \$2.00/hour wage increase for Direct Care Workers through December, 2020.

Nearly 1 million Michigan residents rely on the value that Direct Care Workers provide.

	<p>For Immediate Release September 23, 2020 Contact: Stephanie Van Koevering, 517-974-6065</p> <p>Michigan's Direct Care Workers Receive Continuing Legislative Support</p> <p><i>Budget Bills Continue \$2.00 Hourly Wage Increase Through December 2020, Helping Address Critical Worker Shortage</i></p> <p>More than 100,000 Michigan residents experiencing developmental disabilities or mental illness were supported yesterday, thanks to the Legislature's decision to continue a \$2.00/hour wage increase for their Direct Care Workers.</p> <p>Residential and vocational Direct Care Workers provide much-needed personal care, training, emotional support and respite to vulnerable people and their families.</p> <p>"While this continuation is not the ultimate solution we need for Michigan, it is an important step along the journey," said Robert Stein, general counsel for the Michigan Assisted Living Association. "We are incredibly pleased that, even during these uncertain budget times, our state's leaders have chosen to continue their support for essential Direct Care Workers and the individuals and families they serve."</p> <p>To support the continuation funding, a total of \$40 million in state general fund/general purpose dollars are being added to \$110 million in federal spending.</p> <p>"This essential budget solution means we can retain essential staff, who have historically been paid around the same amount as fast-food workers," said Tracey Hamlet, executive director of west Michigan-based MOKA. "This is unconscionable, given the dedication, skill and support they demonstrate each and every day. While we know this is a temporary fix, it gives us hope that more lasting solutions can be found with the help of Governor Whitmer and the state Legislature."</p> <p>Nearly a million Michigan residents rely directly or indirectly on the value Direct Care Workers provide.</p> <p>"As we work to bring new people into this much-needed profession, the support of our state leaders remains essential," said Ann Meldrum, director at Muskegon-based Samaritas. "Once we get some of these basic wage issues met, we can begin to take a longer view toward building robust career pathways in this important sector."</p> <p>###</p>
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October 2020

The Arc NW Board Meeting
Will be Via Conference Call

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>After I'm Gone (AIG) via ZOOM 6 - 8pm Must RSVP. To get login, email: cgiertz@thearcnw.org 313-532-7915 X200</p>			1	2	3
				<p>After I'm Gone "Social Security"</p>		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<p>All Sports activities of The Arc NW, as well as The Just Fun Club events have been suspended until a later date, yet to be determined. The Morning Bowling League, however, IS BACK!</p>						<p>9:00AM Oak Lanes</p> 
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	<p>Columbus Day Federal Holiday</p>	<p>Arc NW Board via Zoom 5 PM</p>		<p>After I'm Gone "Transition Planning & Turning 18"</p>		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
						<p>9:00AM Oak Lanes</p> 
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
				<p>After I'm Gone "The Dept. of Health & Human Services"</p>		<p>Halloween</p> 

CHECK IT OUT!
The Arc of Northwest
Wayne County's
Web Site
thearcnw.org

Friend us on Facebook
The Arc of Northwest Wayne
County



Facebook



Instagram

THE ARC NW PRESENTS

MEMBER TAKEOVER

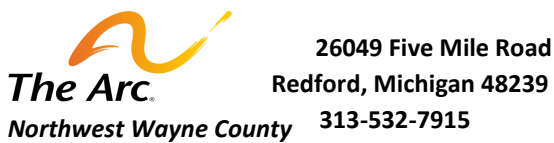
Would you like to share your story on our Instagram? Email Wendy Ernzen at wernzen@thearcnw.org



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Redford, MI 48239

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Each edition of this newsletter is prepared for mailing by volunteers .



Inside The Arc is also available online at thearcnw.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

New Member

Renewing Member

DONATIONS \$100

\$25 \$150

\$50 \$ _____ Other **\$100 Organization**

\$75

Achieve with us!

\$25 Individual Membership

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

\$50 Family Membership

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

\$100 Organization

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