



The Arc

Northwest Wayne County

Sponsored by STMicroelectronics

Inside The Arc

May 2021

Save the date
August 15th!



THE ARC NW 2021 GOLF OUTING

Sunday, August 15, 2021

8:35AM Shotgun Start

NEW LOCATION! Whispering Willows Golf Course
20500 Newburgh Rd | Livonia, MI 48152

More outing details at www.thearcnw.org

Mark your calendar for Sunday, August 15, 2021 for The Arc NW Golf Outing at [Whispering Willows Golf Course](#) in Livonia. If you are interested in sponsoring or donating to the raffle, please contact Wendy Ernzen at wernzen@thearcnw.org. Stay tuned for registration details soon!



26049 Five Mile Road
Redford, MI 48239

Phone: 313-532-7915 Fax: 313-532-7488

www.thearcnw.org

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Achieve with us.

From The Executive Director

Dear Friends,

I attended the 2021 virtual US Disability Policy Seminar. As usual, the sessions contained excellent information. I was particularly interested in information on Direct Support Professionals during COVID-19. As with many situations in our society, the pandemic magnifies that which is lacking. Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) were already overworked, undervalued and underpaid. Even though Michigan granted pay increases through September 30, 2021, DSPs still struggle with hard work and little compensation. During the Disability Policy Seminar I learned that on average in the US DSPs make \$12/hour. Someone at the seminar said, "DSPs make a minimum wage but those who benefit from their support are NOT minimum wage individuals!" HOW TRUE!

University of Minnesota's Institute on Community Integration and the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals surveyed over 9,000 DSPs around the nation. They found:

34 percent [DSPs] are working more hours since COVID-19 emerged and a quarter say they are more often short-staffed. Only 24 percent reported receiving extra pay related to the increased risks associated with the virus...Some 42 percent of those surveyed said they knew a [DSP] who had left their job since the pandemic began over worries about becoming infected, due to child care issues, contracting COVID-19 or other reasons. (disabilityschoop.com/2020/08/14 covid)

This is a frightening time of great personal risk for many DSPs, their families, and their employers. Rep. Debbie Dingell from Michigan shared during the Seminar that she is working on funds to support DSPs and individuals with disabilities to become part of President Biden's infrastructure plan. Perhaps a COVID-19 silver lining is bringing to light the value of DSPs and the funding needed to support this work.

I want to give a shout out to all the DSPs that are supported through The Arc NW! We see you! We are endlessly grateful for the work you do and the sacrifices you make. Thank you for building a more inclusive world.

Stay well,

Gretchen Sanewsky, Executive Director





STEP Thrift Stores "stepped" up to help The Arc NW

During the month of March, **STEP Thrift Stores** partnered with The Arc NW as part of their **Double Your Difference** Program. This donation program encouraged customers to round up their purchases to the nearest dollar to donate, and then STEP donated a percentage of sales. Thank you to STEP and their customers who contributed!

If you know of a business interested in partnering with The Arc NW, please contact **Wendy Ernzen**, our Director of Development, at wernzen@thearcnw.org.





The Margaret Dunning Foundation helps expand The Arc NW's tech capacity

Though the Arc NW has been operating the entire time during COVID, there have been challenges whether that's old computers without cameras, outdated laptops, and other technology issues. **The Margaret Dunning Foundation** acknowledged these needs and generously funded a technology capacity grant to upgrade our technology and support from **Michigan Nonprofit Association Technology Services**. **Thank you!**

THE CARLS FOUNDATION



**FIFTH THIRD
BANK**

Great news for Advocacy and upcoming **AIG workshops**

The Carls Foundation has given a generous grant to help grow the **After I'm Gone Program**. This funding will allow more families to access this valuable information. **Thank you!**

Fifth Third Bank also gave a grant to support the Educational Advocacy Program. Thanks to their generosity and the other foundations who made contributions earlier this year, the advocacy team is hard at work supporting families in schools during COVID.

For families looking for help with future planning, there are a few more After I'm Gone workshops left for the 2020-2021 series. Come learn from experts and advocates who understand how to navigate the systems of services and supports. All sessions will be held on Zoom from 6:00pm to 8:00pm with a virtual happy hour before each session to chat and get help with technology. Email **Chesley Giertz**, our Advocacy Director, at cgiertz@thearcnw.org to register. Topics and dates are below:

- **Supporting People in Decision Making:** 4/15/21
- **Estate Planning for Your Future:** 4/29/21
- **Beyond Group Homes:** 5/13/21
- **Your Rights When Receiving Mental Health Services:** 5/27/21
- **Financial Planning:** 6/3/21

AIG

Better Money Habits Financial Literacy Series



In partnership with **Bank of America**, The Arc NW has launched a financial literacy series, **Better Money Habits**. This series features FREE, 60-minute workshops that help with budgeting, saving, debt reduction, credit cards, and other financial topics tailored for families and people with disabilities.

Financial Literacy Workshop

Topic: Financial Safety

Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Time: 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Place: WebEx virtual meeting platform (Meeting ID provided following registration)

Registration required: **Please contact Bettie Cunningham at bcunningham@thearcnw.org or (313) 532-7915, ext .204**

BANK OF AMERICA 



The Arc of NW Wayne County **Lekotek Play Sessions** restart April 5, 2021

- GUIDED PLAY FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES BIRTH TO 12 YEARS
- TOY LENDING LIBRARY OPEN

COVID PRECAUTIONS

- PLAY SESSIONS-ONE CHILD AND ONE ADULT PLUS PLAY LEADER
- WHEN POSSIBLE VISITORS MUST WEAR FACE COVERINGS
- EXTRA TOY AND PLAYROOM SANITATION

To schedule a play session contact Play Leader, Lana Richardson
313-532-8524

The Arc of NW Wayne County 26049 5 Mile Rd., Redford, MI 48239
www.thearcnw.org

Please refer a
friend to
Lekotek!

Scholarships are
available
through the
Sean Radon
Scholarship
Fund.

Stay tuned for
Lekotek summer
events!

Happy May to everyone! I hope that many of you are enjoying getting outside to feel some sunshine as the weather starts to warm up a bit. Hopefully all of you had a fun Easter with your family or friends. I saw on Facebook many of you decorating eggs, cookies and making spring crafts. It looked like some nice projects being made at many places. It won't be long before folks will be able to have some outdoor picnics.

The Trademark and J.J. And Company Bands along with the Just Fun Club group misses everyone and says 'hello' to all of you!

Our wish is for everyone to stay healthy, safe and happy.

Happy Memorial Day,

Just Fun Club News

Saturday Afternoon BOWLING at Oak Lanes

We will be starting Saturday 9/11/2021. After conferring with Parents and COC leadership, we signed the contract for (30) weeks of bowling. Bowling will be from 1:00-3:00pm. Bowling starts at 1:30pm.

The cost will remain at \$6 , including two games for each bowler, the same as last year!

We assume all will be well so we can start amid COVID concerns at that time. We will go ahead if conditions allow.

ALSO NOTE: We will be asking Bowlers and chaperones/guests/parents, to be vaccinated or show a recent negative COVID test. Seating will separate observers from the bowlers and bowlers will be asked to wear masks. These restrictions will protect all and provide a safer outcome. We will provide further information in each Arc NW newsletter until September. Questions? Contact Jim at 248-318-8856 (cell phone) or jagallas@comcast.net

Best Regards, Jim G.



Hello Everyone! As of this writing all sports with Special Olympic are still shut down. It's unknown when sports will be reopened. It's unknown if there will be Softball or Soccer. As soon as I get any updates from the Area Director, I will notify all coaches & The Arc with the news.

In the meantime coaches & volunteers visit the SOMI.org website under Coaches Corner to review your name and see if any of your certificates or forms have expired. This is a good time to update all your qualifications. Also review the NEW ATHLETE HEALTH FORM – 6 pages total. Call me or Lana to find out when your current form is expiring. As of April 2021 SOMI will no longer accept the old 1page form.

For the athletes, families, & staff; go outside walking. To make it more interesting & fun invite a few friends/ team mates to meet at a track at any of the high schools to run or walk around it. Go to a batting cage, go play Putt-Putt. Do any type of moving for exercise.

Remember to social distance, wash your hands & wear a mask.

Most of all let's all get rid of this virus - GET VACCINATED.

Hope to see everyone soon – Janice Bearden



The Arc Sports News

In Memory of John Zago

Anthony Russel and Lacey Evans

Ann and Edward Skowronski

Arlene and Edwin Russel

Basco Shower Doors & Brett Greene

Brian and Joan Wake

Brian & Mary Burke, John & Linda Burke, and the

Glenn and Carol Osterhart

Chris and Jack Berry

Chris and Kathleen Fennell

Daniel and Barbara Collins

Daniel Merski

Dino & Barbara Bona

Erin Waanders

Fred & Claudia Agemy

Gail and Fred Tyszka

George and Josephine Cirocco

Gina Siepierski

Jerry and Betsy Gwizdz

Jeffrey and Joann Kovan

John & Margo Dempsey

John and Karen Kosniewski

Kristine Kiluk

Lisa Pittrich

Lisa Zahn

Lois McTaggart

Mary Ann Bencivenga

Michaline Chase

Michelle Daguanno

Nancy J. Abramson

New Century Sales, Inc. & Richard Portt

Nino and Irma Cerroni

Patricia Wojciechowski

Pauline Shuryan

Fred and Sharon Daguanno

Shirley Bona

Louie and Shirley Broccardo

Solowjow Family

Wendy Winkler

In Memory of Michael Dooley, Sr.

Barbara DePirro Fishon

Fred Ward and Marlene DiPonio

Rosalind Shankleton

Teresa Dooley

Tracey Breen

In Memory of Nancy Holloway

The McClain Family

In Memory of Annie Bearden and Dedicated to The Arc NW Athletic Program

Diane Smith

Frank and Claudia Mallon

Justin & Adrienne Burkson

Karin Magina

James and Lula Welch

The McClain Family

The Hayosh Family

The Dobson Family

Tom & Loretta Welch

Virginia Guzik Brewington

If you hear of the passing of an Arc member, please let us know. Help us honor the memories of our members and support one another through difficult times.

Call The Arc NW office at
313-532-7915

Where It is Needed Most

Fred Ward and Marlene DiPonio
Pat and Michelle Driscoll
Stephen Raymond
John and Arin MacFarland
Dave, Darlene, and Clint Miller
Jean Barber
John Darin
Katherine Savatsky
Lauren Reynolds
Mango Plumbing & Sewer Services
Stephen and Claudia Riedy
Whole Foods Market Community Giving

Arc NW Technology Capacity

The Margaret Dunning Foundation

60th Celebration Donors & Sponsors

Fred Ward and Marlene DiPonio
Medical Weight Loss Clinic

Just Fun Club

Natalie Freeburn

After I'm Gone

The Carls Foundation

Educational Advocacy

Fifth Third Bank

2021 - 2022

Event Dates

Golf Outing

Sunday, August 15, 2021

Sip & Support

Monday, October 4, 2021

Dinner Dance

Saturday, February 26, 2022



REGION III MIDWEST AND PLAINS EQUITY
ASSISTANCE CENTER'S
**FAMILIES LEARNING FROM
FAMILIES**

JUNE VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE SERIES

A discussion and learning forum where families can learn from families ideas to support their children and each other during the COVID-19 pandemic

JUNE 6: Balancing Caregiver
& "Teacher" Roles at Home

JUNE 13: Supporting Emotional Wellness: Coping with
Anxiety & Fears During the COVID-19 Pandemic

JUNE 27: 5 Essential e-Tools for
Summer Enrichment



To receive an Eventbrite invitation to any of the presentations in this series, contact:

Diana R. Lazzell

Outreach & Engagement Coordinator
O: 317-278-6831 | E: dlazzell@iupui.edu

**Midwest and Plains Equity Assistance Center
Great Lakes Equity Center**

IU School of Education
Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
902 West New York Street, ES3116
Indianapolis, IN 46202-5167
greatlakesequity.org



We are excited to invite you to the 2021 National SLN Conference! This virtual conference is on **June 18 and 19, 2021** with post-conference sessions offered on June 22, 23, and 24. Conference registration is now open! The conference provides an opportunity for adult siblings of people with disabilities from across the nation and globe to connect with each other. Siblings attending the conference will share stories and network, hear from national experts on sibling services and supports, learn about new research initiatives, and gain insight on sibling experiences. Visit the conference webpage to learn more! ---><http://ow.ly/7RkK50EIjy9>

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Applications are open for a scholarship through the SLN's Equity and Inclusion Scholarship program to cover the cost of registration. Learn how to apply HERE: <http://ow.ly/ohLw50EIjy8>

Michigan Family Summit

Planning for a Good Life



Charting the LifeCourse is a framework that was developed to help individuals and families of all abilities and at any age or stage of life develop a vision for a good life, think about what they need to know and do, identify how to find or develop supports, and discover what it takes to live the lives they want to live.

Join us to learn about Charting the LifeCourse that can be used at every life stage to enhance a person-centered approach for planning and supporting life experiences that support a person to reach their vision of a "good life."

This 2-day summit will:

- ❖ Highlight the use of Charting the LifeCourse.
- ❖ Highlight the significant role families play in their children's lives across the lifespan.
- ❖ Provide real life examples and strategies that can be used to impact the trajectory towards a "good life".

LED BY

Charting the LifeCourse Network at the University Missouri Kansas City, Institute for Human Development

Workshops Include:

Supported Decision Making	Benefits Planning
IEP Planning	Future Planning
Sexuality Education	Assistive Technology

Register Here:

<https://www.mylibralounge.com/sites/mifamilysummit2021/>

HOSTED BY

The Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council

*Free for self-advocates and families
*\$25.00 fee for professionals

When: May 11-12, 2021

Time: May 11: 10:00am-1:30pm

Where: The event will be held virtually

May 12: 10:00am-3:30pm

May 2021



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</p>						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		<p>Arc NW board mtg 5 PM on Zoom</p>		<p>Annual Meeting 6pm - 7pm via Zoom</p>		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		<p>Michigan Family Summit MAY 11-12 See pg. 10</p>		<p>After I'm Gone Beyond Group Homes via Zoom 6 - 8pm MUST RSVP</p>		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		<p>6 - 7pm See pg. 5 MUST register</p>		<p>After I'm Gone Your Rights When Receiving Mental Health Services Via Zoom 6-8pm MUST RSVP</p>		
30	31					
	<p>Arc NW Office Closed</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

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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Northwest Wayne County
26049 Five Mile Road
Redford, MI 48239

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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 _____

Daytime Phone _____ State _____ ZIP _____

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

- \$25
- \$50
- \$75
- \$100
- \$150
- \$ Other

- \$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.

Achieve with us!