

**Developmental Disabilities  
Awareness Month 2023**

*Beyond the Conversation*

#DDAM2023

Dear Friends,  
March is National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. What a great time to focus on inclusion. When everyone is included and participates in all parts of community life, together we can accomplish great things!

In 1987 Congress passed a law designating every March as National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. In 1988 President Ronald Reagan issued a proclamation setting aside this month to increase public awareness and to promote dignity,

equality, self-determination, and inclusion of all people with disabilities.

([www.kit.org](http://www.kit.org))

What can you do to promote awareness? At work you can interview and hire individuals with disabilities. You can make sure that your workplace has robust conversations around diversity, equality, and inclusion and follows and action plan to make changes. In your community you can broaden your friend group to include people different from yourself. You can make space for people with disabilities in your faith communities and places of recreation. You can use person-first language and words that promote competence and respect. And, of course, you can get more involved with The Arc NW. Check out our website for ideas [www.thearcnw.org](http://www.thearcnw.org).



# It's time for Medicaid & CHIP renewals!

Contact your state Medicaid office today to confirm they have your correct contact information.



[www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/assistance-programs/medicaid](http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/assistance-programs/medicaid)

## Team Arc

2021-2022 Board of Directors

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### The Arc Staff

Executive Director - Gretchen Sanewsky

Payroll Clerk—Lakamala Williams

Development Director— Irene Watts

Payroll Assistant—Deanna Reed

Office Manager -Latrice Wilborn

Accounting /Claims Coordinator - Amy Pomicter

Lekotek Play Leader - Lana Richardson

Intake Specialist - Lisa King

Lekotek Librarian - Katie Perkins

Advocacy Director - Bettie Cunningham

Accounts Payable - Nichole Mayfield

Advocate Khalilah Montgomery





# The Arc NW Annual Awards Nominations- 4 Categories

Please submit nominations to Gretchen by phone 313-532-7915 ext 203 or email [gsanewsky@thearcnw.org](mailto:gsanewsky@thearcnw.org). It's ideal to have something in writing to fully honor the recipients.

**NOMINATIONS ACCEPTED THROUGH APRIL 15, 2022**

## **Volunteer of the Year**

The Volunteer of the Year award is given to someone who has voluntarily (without pay or remuneration) assisted The Arc NW and its members. The volunteer may or may not be an Arc NW member.

## **Member of the Year**

The member of the Year award is given to a member of The Arc NW who exemplifies their membership through activities that support the organization. This award may be combined with the Volunteer of the Year award.

## **Achiever of the Year**

The Achiever of the Year award goes to an individual with developmental disabilities who strives to be the best they can be. This is someone who has made significant achievements in their efforts to gain independence and control of their life. Arc NW membership is desired but not required for the award.

## **Teacher/Education Team of the Year**

All children deserve the benefits from the opportunity to learn among their peers. This award is for a teacher or an educational team that has supported inclusive educational goals and/or experiences for students.

Dear Friends,

The Arc NW is fortunate to have incredible staff! They work hard every day to make sure you have your best life, fully included in the community!

It's always a joy to welcome new and returning staff to our team!

**Khalilah Montgomery: ADVOCATE**



Khalilah joined The Arc NW Advocacy team in August 2022. She supports students, families, and adult to ensure they have appropriate education and the services they need to live included, self-determined lives. She has extensive experience as a parent mentor with expertise in educational advocacy. Khalilah is also a parent of twin boys with autism.

**313-532-7915 ext. 200 [kmontery@thearcnw.org](mailto:kmontery@thearcnw.org)**



**Nichole Mayfield: ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CLERK**

Nichole joined The Arc FMS team in February 2023. She pays monthly expenses, reimbursements, staffing agency invoices, and keeps up Worker's Compensation for direct support professionals. She has a strong background in accounts payable and receivable and has great expertise in meeting the needs of those we serve.

**313-532-7915 ext. 202 [nmayfield@thearcnw.org](mailto:nmayfield@thearcnw.org)**



**Deanna Reed: PAYROLL ASSISTANT**

Deanna previously worked as Payroll Clerk for The Arc NW. After a short hiatus she has returned as part-time Payroll Assistant. She works as part of the FMS team assisting Kay with payroll and EVV. Deanna has excellent expertise in payroll and accounting, along with a heart for The Arc's mission. We're so glad to welcome her back!

The next time you stop by, introduce yourself to new staff and make sure to thank our great team!

Gretchen Sanewsky  
Executive Director



**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR  
SUPER STAFF AT THE  
ARC NW!!!**

Bettie Cunningham  
Lisa King  
Nichole Mayfield  
Khalilah Montgomery  
Katie Perkins  
Amy Pomicter  
Deanna Reed  
Lana Richardson  
Irene Watts  
Latrice Wilborn  
Kay Williams

## ***Sport News – Sports are back in full swing for 2023.***

March 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday – District Tournament at Legacy Center Sports Complex – Brighton.

*(Must win your division to advance to State Tournament)*

March 17-18 – State Tournament at Calvin University, Grand Rapids.

*(Women's Team qualifies for State)*

Tournament Dates – Area Spring Games May 5<sup>th</sup> at Franklin High School.  
State Tournament – May 31 – June 2 at Central Michigan University.

Remember coaches and volunteers all your paperwork **MUST BE** current and in Special Olympics Volunteer Management System – VMS any questions please contact me. Also, start working on your rosters as soon as possible and submit TO: [se.forms@somi.org](mailto:se.forms@somi.org) remember to cc Sue Campbell and myself. Once SOMI approves your roster practice can start. SE forms reviews VMS & athletes paperwork making sure all is current & up to date until June 3, 2023.

Janice Bearden

***SAVE THE DATE – Friday June 9th  
BOWLING FUNDRAISER at Westland  
Bowl***



The Just Fun Program has scheduled our April 14 ( Chicken Dinner Dance) and May 12 (Ice cream Social) for Canton High School from 6:30-9:00. We are looking forward to a fun time! The Trademark Band will be playing at both dances.

PLEASE remember to pay the \$5.00 for each event 1 week before so we can order enough food for everyone.

Enjoy the sunshine and more daylight hours,  
Jackie Norris

Board members

volunteers

Donors

Staff

Sponsors



You ALL helped The Arc NW make 2022 the best  
year yet!!!!!!



## Hi Everyone

**Saturday, February 25th** is around the corner—are you ready to tell your story? Join Detroit Disability Power, StoryCorps, and the Grosse Pointe Public Library as we host two opportunities for you to share from the heart.

[Sign-up via this online form \(click here\)](#) by picking a Saturday, **February 25th** or **March 25th**

- Grab a buddy, relative or fellow DDP member to be your co-interviewer
- Head on down to the Woods Branch Library and record your stories! (Virtual options are available as well!)



The drive behind this project is a deep appreciation for our unique and powerful stories. As disabled Detroiters, and caregivers as well, we deserve to be documented. Our journeys, challenges, and insights have the power to uplift others, change our ways of thinking, and even improve policy. New to story-telling? This is a great and comfortable place to start! DDP staff is willing to help you cultivate and organize your story.

- Story interviews take about 30 minutes per person
- All stories matter—stories of triumph, hardship, or even humor!

Email Rami, our communications director, with any questions and/or after you sign-up: [ramiro@DetroitDisabilityPower.org](mailto:ramiro@DetroitDisabilityPower.org)

## Dinner Dance 2023 Sponsors

### Platinum

McFarland Painting  
Emagine

### Gold

Ashley Capital  
Building Bridges  
WFQ  
Tito's

### Silver

DWIHN  
Jay Dee Contractors  
Wallside Windows  
Steve Raymond

### Bronze

STEP  
Mutual Electric  
Community Financial  
Colliers  
Colliers – Detroit – Gary  
Grochowski  
Fifth Third  
AlphaUSA  
Laurel Manor  
Fred Ward & Marlene DiPonio  
Lasting Impression

### Supporter

Commercial Financial Management – Garrett Middlekauff

Dinner Dance donors





## **ATTENTION ALL DIRECT HIRE STAFF CAREWHEN APP USERS!!**

### **CAREWHEN APP USERS!!**

Staff providing community living supports to individuals served by The Arc NW can access training and help to use the CareWhen phone app to log hours and tasks. Here's how:

Go to The Arc NW website to find a copy of the CareWhen training powerpoint specially designed for The Arc NW at [www.thearcnw.org](http://www.thearcnw.org). This includes step-by-step information on using the app on a smartphone and on using a landline phone to call in hours and tasks.

Contact Kay or Deanna at The Arc NW by phone or email to answer questions or trouble shoot. They can send you video links to instructions on how to login and logout on the app. Here's how:

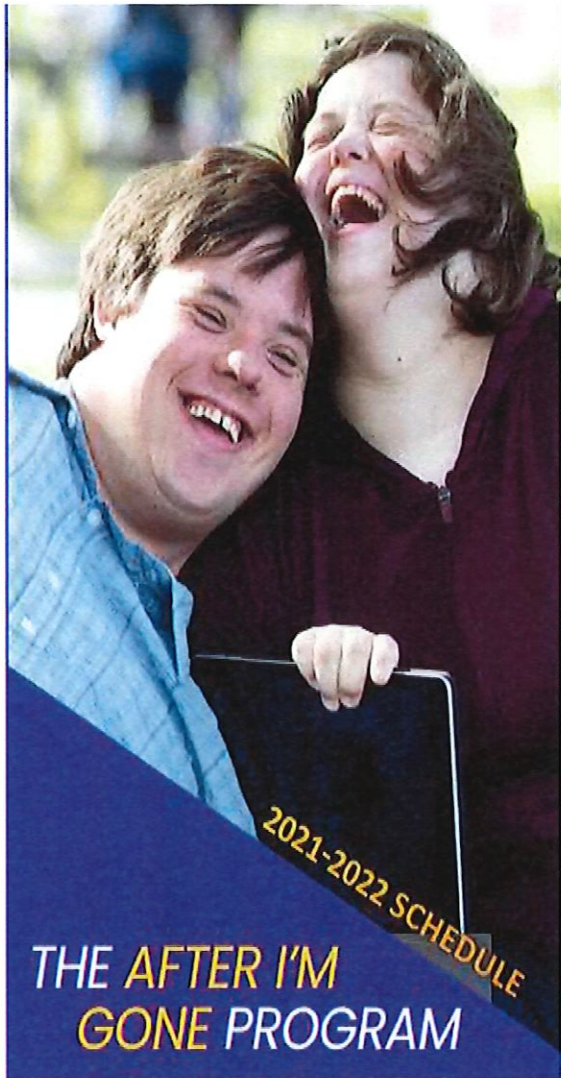
Email:

Kay: [kwilliams@thearcnw.org](mailto:kwilliams@thearcnw.org)

Deanna: [dreed@thearcnw.org](mailto:dreed@thearcnw.org)

Call: 313-532-7915 ext 210

Stop by the office for in-person assistance. The Arc NW is located at 7170 N. Haggerty Rd., Canton, 48187. The best times to stop by are Monday-Friday 9 AM-noon.



## After I'm Gone Future Planning Sessions

After I'm gone Sessions for March 2023 - For more information or Register in advance at [www.thearcww.org/aig/](http://www.thearcww.org/aig/)

Estate Planning –March 2, 2023  
March 16,2023—Social Security Programs  
March 30,2023—Person Center Planning and Self Determination

*Sessions held online 6:00pm- 8:00pm  
Via Microsoft Teams Webinar.  
Register in advance by visiting  
[www.thearcww.org/aig/](http://www.thearcww.org/aig/)*

### Financial Literacy Workshops:

- This year financial literacy workshops will be held at **6:00 pm once per quarter and in person.**
- The first and last workshop, planned for **March and December, will be held at The Arc NW in Canton.**
- We are planning for the **June and September workshops to be held at a local**
- **library** in one of the following cities: Redford, Livonia, or Northville. More details will be available once locations are secured.
- **Bank of American staff will continue to facilitate** the workshops as they did last year.
- One or two gift **\$25 cards will be raffled** at each workshop. Must be present to win!

Each workshop will include a post survey.

The first workshop, **Spending and Saving, will be held on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 6 pm at The Arc NW.** Flyers for the March workshop will be available mid-February. If you would like to register or have questions, please call or email:

**Bettie Cunningham at (313) 532-7915, ext. 204 or [bcunningham@theacrnw.org](mailto:bcunningham@theacrnw.org).**

# March 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 JFC St Patrick's Day Dance Cancelled	11
12	13	14 Arc Board Meeting 6:00pm	15	16	17 Happy St. Patrick's Day	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				



**The Arc**  
*Northwest Wayne County*  
 7170 N . Haggerty Rd  
 Canton, Michigan 48187

**Non-Profit Organization**  
**U. S. Postage**  
**PAID**  
**Westland, MI**  
**Permit No. 2082**



7170 N. Haggerty Rd  
 Canton, Michigan 48187  
 313-532-7915

Inside The Arc is also available online at  
[thearcnw.org](http://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
- \$75

- \$25 Individual Membership
- \$50 Family Membership
- \$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!*

Friend us on Facebook  
 The Arc of Northwest Wayne County