



Newsletter

April 2025

Autism Awareness

World Autism Awareness Day



April 2, 2025
The Arc NW Celebrates Neurodiversity

Wear BLUE to show your support!

Dear Friends,

Did you know that 1 in 59 children born in the US and 40,000 children in Michigan are diagnosed with autism? Autism is the fastest growing developmental disorder. People with autism have an unemployment rate of 90% compared to unemployment in the general population of 9%. (www.autismsocietygreaterdetroit.org)

The Arc NW stands alongside individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and their families to ensure they have the most successful, inclusive life. We support individuals with ASD to hire support professionals who help them work, go to school, and be fully contributing members of the community. The Arc NW supports students with ASD to get the services they need in the school system. And we provide guided play and a toy library for children newly diagnosed to support healthy development.

The Arc NW celebrates neurodiversity! Many famous people who have contributed to the world in significant ways are those with ASD. A few of those people are: Albert Einstein, Eminem, Tim Burton, Temple Grandin, Susan Boyle, Greta Thunberg. We can't wait to see what wonderful things our friends, neighbors, and family members with ASD will bring to this world!

Wear **blue** on April 2 and join in celebrating the uniquenesses of people with ASD!

Gretchen Sanewsky
Executive Director

ATTENTION PARENTS!!

If you're looking for information on talking to and guiding your teen or adult on relationships and sexuality, attend this free workshop! Trainers are from the MI Developmental Disabilities Council.

March 27 from 5:30-7:30 PM at The Arc NW

To register, please go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HWD8H37> If you need assistance filling this out, please contact: shehanm@michigan.gov

Team Arc

2024-2025 Board of Directors

Officers

President – Jim Simon

Vice President – Samantha Van Sumeran

Treasurer - Nadia Khalyleh

Secretary– Dionka Saddler

Past President - Rana Ramouni



Directors

Veronica Eades	Roxanne Riggio
Monica Hubahib	Kathy Pfuhler
Ryan Klotz	Elena Samborski
Arin MacFarland	

The Arc Staff

Executive Director - Gretchen Sanewsky	Payroll Clerk—Lakamala Williams
Development Director— Paula Brown	Payroll Assistant—Deanna Reed
Business Administrator - Latrice Wilborn	Accounting /Claims Coordinator - Amy Pomicter
Programs and Special Projects - Lana Richardson	
Lekotek Program Coordinator—Brianna Keller— Fields	Intake Specialist - Lisa King
Lekotek Librarian - Katie Perkins	Danielle Zinser - Administrative Assistant
Advocate - Khalilah Montgomery	Nichole Mayfield - Accounts Payable



Meet Your Arc NW Board Members



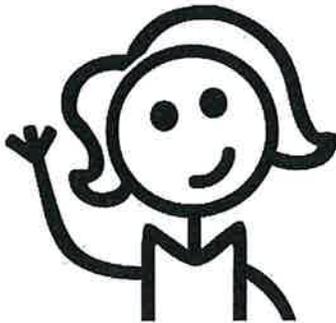
Monica Hubahib

Monica joined the board in 2024. She is a Talent Acquisition Associate at Michigan Medicine and a Human Resources professional. We appreciate the expertise she brings to the board. Monica looks forward to volunteering with Arc NW programs.



Veronica Eades

Veronica joined the board in 2024. She is a Social Worker with many years experience in the Foster Care system. She currently trains other Social Workers in Foster Care at the state level. We appreciate her perspectives on vulnerable populations.



Elena Samborski

Elena joined the board in 2024. She is retired from retail management. Elena has volunteered for many years with The Arc NW's Just Fun Club and was a caregiver to her brother with disabilities. We're so glad for her perspectives on the board.

WHAT DOES A BOARD DO?

- Set the vision and mission
- Select, supervise, evaluate the Executive Director
- Ensure programs/services function well
- Secure enough financial resources
- Provide financial oversight
- Oversee legal and property issues
- Build an effective board
- Be a great ambassador for the organization



We need your help to “open doors” to The Arc NW!

If you have visited our center in Canton, you know how much restoration and work we have done since moving here in 2022 to create a new, beautiful space for our programs and services.

But there's still one renovation we haven't completed that is so very important: **Automating the entrance doors to the building for easier accessibility.** You know the difficulties of getting into the building if you are using a stroller or wheelchair or carrying baskets to and from our Toy Lending Library. Improving access to our building has now become one of our top priorities.

To complete this project, we ask for your help to raise the \$5,000 cost of installing automated door openers at our front entrance. Your donation of any size will help!

Your donation can turn this...



...to this!



To make your donation, go to our website (www.thearcnw.org), click on the “Donate” button at the top, then direct your gift to the Automatic Doors Fund. **If you would like to fund the entire project,** we will provide special signage at the entrance to recognize your gift. If we exceed our goal, we will use the extra funds for other accessibility projects within the building.

Please contact our Development Director, Paula Brown if you have questions or other ideas at pbrown@thearcnw.org or 313-532-7915, ext. 208. **Thank you for helping us open doors!**

The Arc NW's 2025

ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING



**THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM**

7170 N. Haggerty Rd., Canton, MI 48187

DINNER \$18 per person

Grilled Chicken * Roasted potatoes
California vegetables
Dessert & Beverages

ANNUAL REPORT AND UPDATES

AWARDS PRESENTATION

CELEBRATION OF VOLUNTEERS

ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Register and Pay:

Use QR code or go directly to
www.thearcnw.org OR



Fill out this form and mail or bring it to The Arc NW

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

attending: _____ X \$18= _____

MORE INFO CALL 313-532-7915



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. It's ideal to have something in writing to fully honor the recipients.

NOMINATIONS ACCEPTED THROUGH APRIL 11, 2025

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.

THE ARC OF NW WAYNE COUNTY

ANNUAL SPORT PROGRAM **BOWLING** **FUNDRAISER**

Westland Bowl - 5940 Wayne Rd., Westland

Get ready for a night of strikes and spares at the Annual Bowling Night!

FRIDAY
MAY 9TH
CHECK IN 6PM
BOWLING STARTS AT 6:30PM



\$30 PER BOWLER

2 GAMES, SHOES, PIZZA, MYSTERY GAME & DOOR PRIZES.
NO BEVERAGE PROVIDED.

PRE-PAYMENT IS REQUIRED BY **MAY 1ST**

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO :
THE ARC NW ATHLETIC PROGRAM

MAIL YOUR PAYMENT TO:
JANICE BEARDEN, 8890 LAMONT LIVONIA, MI 48150

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:
JANICE BEARDEN (734) 542-1114

Complete below and return with your payment by May 1, 2025 to
Janice Bearden 8890 Lamont Livonia, MI 48150



Contact Person & Ph. # for Team: _____

Yes, I Have a Team: List your bowlers first & last name

(1) _____ (2) _____
(3) _____ (4) _____

If more bowlers in your group, list names on back of sheet.

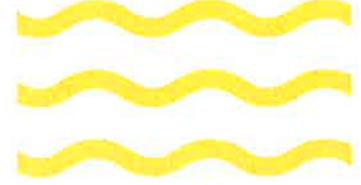
No, I do not have a team. Place me on a lane.

Name & Phone #: _____



THE ARC OF NORTHWEST WAYNE COUNTY PRESENTS

TOUCH a TRUCK Event



**WHO:
EVERYONE**



**WHEN:
THURSDAY
MAY 22, 2025
4:30-6:30PM**



**WHERE:
The Arc NW
7170 N.
Haggerty Rd.
Canton, MI
48187**

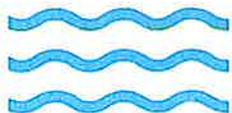


**No Cost to
Attend!**

A FUN, INCLUSIVE, SENSORY-FRIENDLY EVENT

The Canton Police & Fire Department will be present with K-9 Units, Police Cars & Fire Trucks for your family to explore & learn!

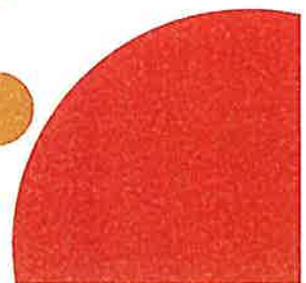
Enrollment for the Autism Profile & Emergency Contact Form through the Canton Police Department will be available! (Free of Cost)



Contact us!

(313) 532-7915

bkellerfields@thearcnw.org



After I'm Gone

Future Planning Sessions



Future Planning Sessions

AIG: April 3, 2025 - Support Decision Making

April 17, 2025 Transition Planning

Please register at The Arc WW website : <https://thearcww.org/aig/> or contact Tequila Smith of The Arc WW at (734) 729-9100 X 206 .

- **Lunch and Learn Series**

- **Next Lunch & Learn Session**

- ✦ **When: April 16, 2025**

- ✦ **Time: 12:00pm—1:00pm**

- ✦ **Where : The Arc of Northwest**

- ✦ **7170 N.Haggerty Rd Canton MI 48187**

For more information, please contact: Bettie Cunningham at (313) 532-7915, ext. 204/bcunningham@thearcnw.org or Khalilah Montgomery at (313) 532-7915, ext. 200/kmontgomery@thearcnw.org

For those interested in financial literacy classes in the future, they are now held in Michigan public schools and at area agencies such as Wayne Metro Community Action Agency, Focus Hope and Southwest Solutions.

We wish each of you good health, happiness and prosperity in the days ahead.

Thank you!

Bettie Cunningham

Advocacy Director

The Arc of Northwest Wayne County

7170 N. Haggerty Rd.

Canton, MI 48187

Office: (313) 532-7915, ext. 204

Fax: (313) 532-7488

www.thearcnw.org



Happy Easter – Happy Spring Sport Fans.....

Basketball season came to an end on Saturday March 22. Lady Hot Shots came home with the Silver medal for their division.

Swimming, Track & Field are in full force with the Spring SE Regional Games being held Saturday May 3rd at Northville High School. No times are known yet.

The time has arrived for **The Arc of NW Wayne County Sport Program annual bowling fundraiser; Friday, May 9th** at Westland Bowl for more details see bowling flyer in this newsletter. Cost \$30 per bowler includes 2 games, shoes, pizza, mystery game & entry for door prizes. We'll have Basket raffles, Silent Auction and 50/50. Must be registered & payment is required by May 1st.

Karyn Bookmeier, will be organizing the amazing Bake Sale. She's in need of bake good donations. Homemade or store bought are all welcome. Contact by phone, text, or email if you'd like to donate. karynrx@gmail.com or

734-564-3838

All sport teams are asked to create a raffle basket for the fundraiser. If you'd like to create or donate a basket please contact me I'll come by to pick it up.

See you at Westland Bowl..... Janice 734-781-5468



JFC News

Happy Spring to everyone,

On Friday March 21 we had our St. Patrick's Day dance at Thurston. We had over 125 Members Everybody enjoyed the assorted cookies, and drinks. We appreciate your kindness and generosity. Trademark played great music.

Mark your calendars for our ice cream, social, Friday, April 18 at Thurston high school. Yes it's Good Friday but the school will be open. Please pre-pay your \$5 at the Arc by April 15.

The chicken dinner dance will be at Thurston on Friday, May 16. Please pre-pay your \$5 at the Arc by Monday, May 12.

Looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

Jackie





April 2025



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2	3 AIG	4	5
6	7 <i>Track and Field</i> 6:30 - 8:00 pm Franklin HS	8 <i>Board Meeting</i> 5:30pm The Arc	9	10	11	12
13	14 <i>Track and Field</i> 6:30 - 8:00 pm Franklin HS	15 .	16 <i>Lunch and Learn</i>	17 AIG	18	19 <i>Arc Closed</i> 
20 	21 <i>Track and Field</i> 6:30 - 8:00 pm Franklin HS	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 <i>Track and Field</i> 6:30 - 8:00 pm Franklin HS	29	30 <i>Newsletter Day</i>			





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
 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

Achieve with us!

Friend us on Facebook
The Arc of Northwest Wayne County