



2020 Arc Gala

March 7, 2020

The Depot
Minneapolis



arcminnesota.org/gala2020



2020 Arc Gala

SATURDAY MARCH 7, 2020

THE DEPOT
225 3RD AVE S.
MINNEAPOLIS

5:30
PM

COCKTAIL RECEPTION
DINNER & PROGRAM
DESSERT & DANCING

A Message From Our Chair:



We are so happy to introduce ourselves and our family to you as the co-chairs of the 2020 Arc Gala. Our 13-year-old son Riley has Down syndrome. Riley is very social. His favorite word and activity is "chit chat"! Riley loves cleaning the house as a hobby and is a hard worker. He loves to be silly, too. He started assigning friends and family food nicknames

a few years ago, and probably has well over 300 nicknames that he always remembers. As a family, we love boating in the summer, watching football in the fall, and having pizza and movie nights at home!

We're proud of all Riley has accomplished, and we're grateful for an educational system that has included and challenged him. But having a child with a disability poses a more unique and challenging situation when it comes to social inclusion. Parents are frequently filled with worry and fear that their child won't fit in, whether as a school aged person, or as an adult looking to find their path in life. It has always been our hope that Riley will be included and respected in his peer group, whether it is in our neighborhood, at school, or in the community. So we're excited that The Arc Minnesota has focused this year's fundraising on a campaign to empower individuals, communities, and companies to modernize the way our society views inclusion of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Please join us in supporting this campaign as a sponsor. Funds will be used to develop partnerships with companies, housing providers, educators, parents, and community members to support the vision of an inclusive society, where everyone has opportunity to create the life they choose!

Jill and Mike Anderson

Jill and Mike Anderson

Join more than 700 community leaders, volunteers, and friends of The Arc Minnesota for the 2020 Arc Gala: a celebration to raise funds that support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

Your sponsorship will:

- Align your company's name with the crucial cause of supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.
- Boost your company's reputation as a community-focused charitable business.
- Foster relationships with key community leaders.

Community Change & Connection

The Arc Minnesota promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We strive to pursue **lasting community change** and **connection** that support individuals and families in living their best lives. We envision an equitable society where people with disabilities have true belonging, are treated with respect and dignity, and are empowered to create the life they choose.

In order to make this a reality, we need everyone in our community to see and understand the innate capacity, wisdom, resiliency, and strength that people with disabilities possess. We need every person to raise their voice, take action, and commit to being supporters and co-creators of this vision.

What people with disabilities need to prosper is ordinary: a job, a home of their own, close relationships, and support to make their hopes and dreams a reality. As with all

people, this requires employers who are excited to hire people because of the talent and skillset they bring to their workforce; lenders and landlords who are engaged and responsive; transportation options that are accessible, flexible, and strong; and an interdependent networks of family, friends, loved ones, and neighbors.

The 2020 Arc Gala will **launch a movement** to realize this vision, demonstrate the power and capacity that people with disabilities possess, transform our collective thinking, and co-create a bright future with people with disabilities in Minnesota. The funding we receive will support a new campaign that empowers individuals, communities, and companies to take action alongside people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in changing our community. Together, we will create true belonging.

GOALS

Create a multistep outreach plan catering to different audiences that reshapes the narrative surrounding people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

100 companies, 50 housing providers, 1,000 educators, and 10,000 community members will make the pledge to be an advocate and ally for people with disabilities.

Provide entities with short-term goals to change their current structures and create spaces that are disability-informed.





**For additional information, please
contact The Arc Minnesota:**

952.920.0855

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