



The Arc's Purpose

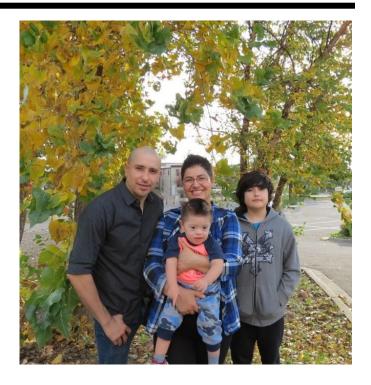
Achieve With us!

The Arc Minnesota is a statewide nonprofit working to promote and protect the human rights of people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. Through programs and services, we help people navigate systems while working to advance social change centered in justice, equity and belonging in community.

The Arc Minnesota believes systems and social change must be:

- Lead by people who have disabilities, especially those who are Black, Indigenous and People of Color
- Focused on freeing people who have disabilities from discrimination
- Connected to all other movements for freedom and justice





The Arc Minnesota will:

- Learn from people who have diverse lived experiences
- Challenge ourselves and others to confront racism and ableism
- Be allies in disability and racial justice movements led by people who have disabilities
- Fight for justice in society and systems
- Fight injustice within & across communities

Learn more at: www.arcminnesota.org





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Mission and Vision

The Arc Minnesota's Mission is to promote and protect the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, actively supporting them and their families in a lifetime of full inclusion and participation in their communities.



The Arc Minnesota Vision: Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families will have the hope, confidence and knowledge they need to live a life they choose, and equitable systems will support them where they live.

The Arc Minnesota supports individuals with its programs and services addressing their immediate needs, navigating eligibility, identifying options and providing education and training to address issues. We continue to expand our reach into diverse populations with a focus on supporting individuals with incomes before the poverty level.

Volunteers have always been vital to The Arc ...and still are. In 2021, over 6,300 volunteers contributed over 57,500 hours at the agency and its thrift businesses. We are The Arc Minnesota. Achieve with us!







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Program Strategies

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families trust The Arc for information and assistance, personal advocacy and public policy leadership. The Program Strategies below insure The Arc can provide access to programs, services and support across Minnesota.

- Champion Inclusion, Diversity & Equity within The Arc Minnesota and the disability community to reflect the diversity of Minnesota.
- **Provide Individualized Information, Navigation & Referrals** on disability issues and systems, and offer personalized advocacy intervention needed to achieve individual outcomes across the lifespan.
- Inform Individuals and Families of the Spectrum of Choices for informed decision-making, quality services and supports, self-advocacy, employment, and housing, and support implementation of the Minnesota Olmstead Plan.
- Use Our Unique Position to Offer Planning Services so individuals and families are able to envision a positive future for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities through the lifespan.
- Engage in Policy Advocacy alongside grassroots advocates that engages decisionmakers at the local, state and federal levels to drive systems change.





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Areas of Support

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families trust The Arc for information and assistance, personal advocacy and public policy leadership. The Program Strategies below insure The Arc can provide access to programs, services and support across Minnesota.

- Arc Help Desk: One-to-one support for children and adults with disabilities and their families by providing free consultation by phone, in person or by email on a variety of issues impacting individuals with disabilities.
- *Abuse Prevention*: Provide training and resources for people with disabilities and those who support them. Individuals with disabilities are at greater risk for abuse than people without disabilities.
- **Community Engagement**: Alongside self-advocates, parents and family members, support professionals, and coalition partners, we work to advance policy solutions that create positive systems and social change.
- *Education*: Addresses academic issues and participation in the school community. Advocates provide information, coaching and strategies to parents and guardians.
- *Employment:* Provide information & guidance to support people in obtaining successful employment.
- *Government Benefits:* Assist in determining eligibility and applying for government benefits available to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.





Areas of Support Cont.

Achieve with Us!

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- Informed Decision Making: When an individual turns 18, they are considered a legal adult. Assist families in learning about options available to them.
- Health Care Assistance: Support in navigating health care systems, including Medical Assistance.
- Housing & Housing Access Services (HAS): Provide resources and assistance in finding and maintaining affordable, integrated housing. HAS assists people with disabilities who are eligible for a Medical Assistance Home Care Service in finding and moving to independent homes of their own.
- *Planning Services*: Utilizing a person-centered approach to create a comprehensive planning guide for the future of a person with a disability.
- **Self-Advocacy:** Provides leadership development, independence skill building & policy engagement for adults with disabilities.

The Arc Minnesota also has online resources and provides information about the above topics through videos, webinars, Arc Guides and more.





Community Involvement & Awareness

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Engagement and Systems Change

The Arc enlists individuals and groups to help educate policymakers on the needs and issues people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families encounter. Opportunities include The Arc's Policy Facebook Page, Capitol Connectors Teams and Action Alert network that mobilizes members when critical policy decisions are at stake.



Outreach and Self-Advocacy

The Arc Minnesota prides itself on reaching out to underserved communities to help families overcome cultural barriers and obtain critical services. The Arc also provides workshops and conferences on self-advocacy which teaches individuals with disabilities skills to make their own choices, speak on their own behalf and be more independent.

The Arc's Thrift Businesses

Arc's Value Village Thrift Stores & Donation Centers and Autos for Arc provide significant funding to The Arc Minnesota.



Thanks to generous support from the community, Arc's thrift businesses generate about 25% of the revenue needed each year for The Arc's work. Volunteers are a large portion of the workforce at Arc's Value Village, enabling more proceeds from the stores to benefit our work in the community. www.arcsvaluevillage.org.