



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Rally at the Capitol to Protect Disability Funding**

#### **U.S. Senator Tina Smith will speak at the May 3 rally**

**St. Paul, MN** — The Arc Minnesota is hosting **Protect our Future: Rally to Protect Disability Funding** at the Minnesota State Capitol to bring attention to harmful budget cuts that would take away important programs and services for people with disabilities.

**Date:** Saturday, May 3

**Time:** 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Location:** Minnesota State Capitol Mall, St. Paul

The rally is a **statewide call to action**. We are coming together to protect programs that support people with disabilities in living full and healthy lives.

The federal government is proposing cuts that would:

- End funding for the Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Cut the Minnesota Disability Law Center
- Take away funding for the Institute on Community Integration
- Remove funding for Head Start, SAMHSA, and more
- Add to earlier proposed cuts to Medicaid

These cuts would hurt people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and remove access to key supports.

#### **Speakers at the rally will include:**

- **U.S. Senator Tina Smith**
- Self-advocates sharing their experiences
- State leaders and lawmakers
- Disability program leaders

There will also be a **designated space for the press** to connect with self-advocates who are open to sharing their stories and perspectives.

**ASL and CART will be provided** to make the event accessible. Learn more about accessibility, parking, and drop-off at: [bit.ly/ArcDisabilityFundingRally](https://bit.ly/ArcDisabilityFundingRally)

**Everyone is welcome.** Whether you attend, share information, or offer a ride to someone else—your support matters. Please help us spread the word.

For more information or to connect with organizers, contact Angie Schimek, Director of Marketing and Communications at [angieschimek@arcminnesota.org](mailto:angieschimek@arcminnesota.org) or 507-513-7618.

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### **About The Arc Minnesota**

The Arc Minnesota works to protect the rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We support people and their families so they can be included in their communities throughout their lives.