



Monthly Memo  
August, 2012

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**The mission of The Arc of New Mexico is to improve the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities of all ages by advocating for equal opportunities and choices in where and how they learn, live, work, play and socialize. The Arc of New Mexico will promote self-determination, healthy families, effective community support systems and partnerships.**

## **New DD Waiver Postponed Until January 2013**

The State of New Mexico Department of Health Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD) has decided to move the implementation of the new Developmental Disabilities Waiver from October 1, 2012 until January 1, 2013. According to a letter from Cathy Stevenson, DDSD Director, people with an ISP expiration date of March 1, 2013 will start planning to move into the new system in January 2013.

The following are Instructions for ISP Development for Individuals with ISP Expiration Dates between 7/1/12 and 9/30/12:

The Developmental Disabilities Supports Division is revising previous instructions to Case Managers regarding those individuals whose annual ISP dates fall between July 1, 2012 and September 30, 2012.

Individuals with ISP dates between July 1, 2012, and September 30, 2012, will continue to receive services under the 2007 DDW Service Standards and the Medicaid rate schedule published January 1, 2011. ISPs and budgets for these individuals will be developed, using the “ARA” budget methodology.

DDSD is directing Case Managers to complete the following steps:

1. Hold IDT meetings for these individuals in time to submit a revised budget to Molina, no later than Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012.
2. Plan for the entire ISP year. This is an annualized budget which includes services from the interim ISP and budget. Therefore the ISP and budget submitted to Molina should reflect the entire 12 month span of the ISP year; from the original start date to the annual expiration date.

3. Submit requests for Outlier and Awake services, (which are approved for 6 months at a time), and exception units for Therapies and Employment according to current procedures.
4. Distribute approved ISPs and budgets to the IDT promptly, upon receipt from Molina.

## **Arc of NM SIS Survey**

The Arc of New Mexico has developed a survey for individuals and family members who have gone through the SIS assessment process. We are interested in learning about each person's individual experience with scheduling, the interview and the resulting score. The survey is included as an attachment. Arc staff will be meeting with representatives from the New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD) and a representative from American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) in early September. Please send us your responses by Friday, August 31.

## **Arc Conference Stipends for Individuals with Down syndrome**

Good News! The Arc of New Mexico has received funding from The Arc of the United States Isabel Gonzales Fund to provide stipends for ten individuals with Down syndrome (two from each region of the state) and ten support persons (staff, parent or sibling) to attend the 2012 National Arc Convention. The Convention will be held in Washington, DC on October 25 through October 29, 2012. The event is a great opportunity to learn, network and meet other members of The National Arc Movement.

The stipends will cover hotel, airfare and registration costs and ground transportation. Stipends will not be approved on a first come first served basis but will be reviewed and approved by a program committee. Applicants must be clear why they are applying for the stipend. Interested individuals must complete and submit the form to The Arc of New Mexico by **September 7, 2012** to be considered for a stipend. The application is attached to the email.

## **New Mexico Delegation to Attend National SABE Conference**

The Arc of New Mexico and the New Mexico Department of Health - Developmental Disabilities Supports Division are sponsoring self advocate leaders in New Mexico to attend this year's Self Advocates Becoming Empowered National Conference August 30 through September 2 in St. Paul Minnesota. The 2012 conference is a gathering of self advocate leaders representing over 1250 state and local groups from around the nation celebrating disability rights, human rights and the joy of being together.

Steve Scarton, The Arc NM Self Advocacy Coordinator will be accompanying Adam Shand, People First Statewide Advisor, Amira Rasheed, People First President - Albuquerque Chapter and Sergio Resendiz, Vice President People First of Southern NM. In addition, this year's conference participants from New Mexico include a group of seven individuals from the New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Planning Council's Center for Self Advocacy.

The New Mexico delegates are looking forward to carrying the New Mexico flag during the opening ceremony and hearing from Sharon Lewis, Commissioner of the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, who will be announcing breaking news about the future of self advocacy in this country.

## **Thrift Town Loses Co-Founder Brandt “Bud” Norquist**

Roseville, CA, August 24th, 2012 – On August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Thrift Town suffered the loss of a great leader and friend, Co-Founder Brandt “Bud” Norquist, after a courageous battle with lymphoma. Bud co-founded Thrift Town, along with his wife La Vey Norquist, and brother-in-law Steve Moore, in 1972. Their goal was to make Thrift Town a clean, well-lit, and organized place to shop with well-priced merchandise. They were whole heartedly committed to making an honest living, as well as helping to raise funds for charity. This same commitment, along with a “boots to the ground” work ethic was instilled in the next generation currently running the business. Bud’s passion of making a difference every day will continue to be the heartbeat and driving force of Thrift Town.

The partnership between The Arc of New Mexico and Norquist Salvage started in the mid 1970’s and has resulted in over 10 million dollars of income to The Arc.

## **I Am Waiting**

I am waiting!

Axel Brian Jaimes  
Albuquerque, New Mexico  
Bernalillo County



Axel Brian Jaimes is a very active and creative 15 year old. Axel attends Cibola High School. Axel was born normal. At the age of 2, Axel developed encephalitis. This caused Axel to develop a cognitive disability. Axel also has ADHD. Axels’ mom, Ms. Alcocer has taken him to several doctors to see how he can be helped. Ms. Alcocer and Axel’s sister Lizbeth now take care of Axel. His progress in school is very slow. Both Ms. Alcocer and Lizbeth work with Axel on his reading, writing and other skill development. Axel does not like school and does not like to be in big groups. Axel loves to draw and would like to take classes in art. Axel’s dream is to become an artist. Axel would also like to take classes in karate.

Axel currently gets only 2 hours of speech therapy per month. If he is to see any improvement increased hours with a speech therapist would be good. He would also benefit from Occupational, Physical Therapy and social skills development. Axel requires 1:1 or small group instruction with clear expectations. He does not make friends easily. Axel is a very good

looking young man. He is starting to notice young ladies. He needs to learn how to deal with his feelings.

Axel has been on the waiting list for one year. If Axel was on the DD Waiver, he could get the behavior supports that he needs so he can lead a more productive and independent life. One doctor told mom that Axel is capable of learning, if he has the proper help. The DD Waiver could provide this help. Axel would like to grow up and be a productive citizen. Ms. Alcocer would like Axel to reach his full potential. Axel would like to work when he gets older. Axel is on SSI and Medicaid and income is very limited for the family.

Ms. Alcocer is very concerned about Axel's future. Ms. Alcocer would like Axel to live a meaningful life. She would like to see him live on his own or in a group setting where he can be comfortable and safe. Ms. Alcocer would like Axel to have a good future. She worries about Axel as he gets older and his needs change.

## **Be an Arc Ally - Donate to The Arc**

The Arc of New Mexico is a statewide, non-profit agency that was born 56 years ago as a grassroots movement of families working vigilantly to create services for children and adults with disabilities who were being denied opportunities to receive an education, to work and to participate in their communities.

The Arc works on behalf of individuals with disabilities and their families every day to ensure that they have the support to participate in and contribute to their communities. The Arc serves as the Corporate Guardian for over 180 individuals, administers Special Needs Trusts for over 400 individuals and helps over 50 individuals with their Social Security Benefits in our Representative Payee Program. We also serve hundreds of people with disabilities and their families through our Self-Advocacy Programs and our Southern New Mexico Office located in Anthony, NM.

The Arc of New Mexico depends on public donations to sustain our work. You can make a one-time gift or a recurring gift. [Make a donation now](#) to support our mission to benefit all individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in New Mexico.

A memorial gift is a beautiful and lasting tribute for a loved one or to a family as an expression of sympathy.

Family and friends can be recognized with a gift in their honor. This might be for a special occasion such as a birthday, anniversary, holiday, wedding, retirement, etc.