



Monthly Memo  
June, 2013

[www.arcnm.org](http://www.arcnm.org)

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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.**

### **Arc Summit/Conference Attended by over 200 People**

The Arc of New Mexico Summit on Social Equality/Annual Conference was held June 14 – 15, 2013 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel I Albuquerque. The theme was, “DREAM BIG!” The event was a great opportunity to connect with friends, meet new acquaintances, and attend a variety of breakout sessions. The Plenary Speakers were amazing and inspirational:

- Daniel Eckman from the New Mexico Center for Self-Advocacy, set the tone with a very touching personal message. He was transparent and honest as he shared his fears, doubts, dreams, struggles and triumphs.
- Sergio Resendiz, from The Arc’s Southern NM Office reminded everyone that just because you have a disability does not mean you stop being who you are, doing what you love to do and to never, never stop dreaming!
- Amira Rasheed, Project Assistant and Senior Trainer within The Arc’s Self-Advocacy Program, shared how she was determined to move from Gallup to Albuquerque to attend the University of New Mexico and receive two degrees.

Several awards were given during the Summit/Conference and the winners were:

- Sophia Hamilton – The Bob Thomas Award
- Lindsay Sloan and Roel Adamson– The Robert LeCompte Jr. Award
- Esther Trujillo– The Tenacious Tommy Award
- Anna Blea, Director, Phame, Inc. in Santa Fe – The Arc of New Mexico Achievement Award for Promoting the Arts and Abilities of People with Disabilities

#### **Thank you to our 2013 sponsors:**

The New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Planning Council, United Healthcare, The Governor’s Commission on Disability

## Centennial Care Frequently Asked Questions

Centennial Care is the new name of the New Mexico Medicaid program. Centennial Care will begin January 1, 2014 and services will be provided by four managed care organizations (MCOs). These services include physical health, behavioral health, and long-term care and community benefits.

Most people who are currently enrolled in a New Mexico Medicaid program are eligible for Centennial Care. Eligibility for all Medicaid programs requires that individuals meet certain federal guidelines. These include citizenship, residency and income requirements.

For more information read the FAQ's posted on the New Mexico Human Services Department website at [www.hsd.state.nm.us/CentennialCare](http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/CentennialCare).

## End the DD Waiver Waiting List Campaign

I Am Waiting!

Stacy

Mesilla, New Mexico

Dona Ana County

This is Stacy. Stacy is 27 years old and she lives with her mom and sisters in Mesilla, New Mexico. Stacy was diagnosed at birth with Down's syndrome. Her name was placed on the DD Waiver Central Registry List 13 years ago. She is still waiting for services and her mother worries, and wonders, just how much longer Stacy will have to wait.



Stacy's mom is a single parent. She works a full time job as a teacher to support herself and her daughters. She feels the responsibilities of being head of household have had a serious impact on Stacy. She would like for Stacy to receive much more of her time and attention but in order to provide she must continue to work fulltime. Stacy has limited access to therapy services and has regressed in some areas of gross motor skills. She has become more prone to falls and is less balanced.

Stacy's mom would like to see Stacy receive speech therapy services, but cannot work those services into her budget. The family relies on a family friend to take Stacy out to participate in the community. Stacy likes shopping and her passion is buying tote bags. Her mom states that sometimes Stacy will leave the house with as many as three tote bags filled with little personal items on outings to the community. Stacy enjoys being in a social setting. Like a lot of young people her age she likes going to the mall, parties, being around friends and dancing. Mom tries to keep her as busy as time allows.

Stacy is fortunate to also have the attention of her grandmother who sometimes takes Stacy for the weekend. Mom would love to see Stacy live independently one day. She wishes that her daughter would be able to maintain her own household and that would include learning how to budget and use public transportation on her own. With the DD waiver in place, some of her hopes and dreams may become a reality. The extra support may help Stacy develop into a self-advocate and she may gain the knowledge she needs to ease her mother's worries.

I Am Waiting!

Bethany

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Bernalillo County

Bethany is a 22 year old young lady with Fragile X. Bethany has been on the DD Waiver Waiting list since 2011. Originally, in 2009 Meredith (mom) tried to apply but was confused with the process. Meredith also has Fragile X. APS finally helped the family apply. Bethany graduated from the Access Program in APS, May 2013. Bethany works at Goodwill. She lives with her mom and grandma.



Bethany has a hard time with social situations and communicating with others. Bethany would like to be more involved in social activities. Bethany needs support and someone to help manage her needs like a case manager. Currently, Bethany's mom and grandma help her.

The DD Waiver would help Bethany live a better quality of life. She needs help with money, social skills and job coaching. Bethany needs help to make decisions. Bethany would like to do more social activities.

If she could say one thing to the legislators, it would be to hurry up! Funding for services is important.



***2013 – 2014 End the DD Waiver Waiting List Campaign funded by  
The New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Planning Council***

## **The Right to Learn and Yearn, Public Law 94-142:**

Check out The Arc of New Mexico's homepage ([www.arcnm.org](http://www.arcnm.org)) to view a 10-minute documentary put together by Ashlea Castleberry, an eighth grade student at Albuquerque Christian School, about Public Law 94-142.

The Law was a turning point in history that marked important shifts in how society views, educates, and treats people with disabilities. From lives of segregation to full educational rights, this law has changes the lives of thousands of children and families.

The documentary placed first in Ashlea's school competition, went on to win the Regional Competition, and was selected first place in the state New Mexico competition. Ashlea recently traveled to Washington DC for the national competition.

## **2013 – 2014 Arc of NM Board of Directors**

Congratulations to the following individuals who were confirmed (term continues) or elected (new members) to the Board of Directors at the Annual Business Meeting on Saturday, June 15:

- President: Loretta Silva (Parent)
- Senior Vice President John Hall (Sibling)
- Secretary Nik R. Hutchins (Parent)
- Treasurer Don Skaar (Parent)
- Immediate Past President Tanya Baker-McCue (Parent)
- Vice President – Northeast Region 1 Siri GuruNam Kaur Khalsa (Parent)
- Vice President – Southeast Region 2 Patricia Gull (Parent)
  
- Vice President – Central Region 3 Lisa Rossignol (Parent)
- Vice President – Southwest Region 4 Elaine Palma (Parent)
- Vice President – Northwest Region 5 Dolores Harden (Parent)
- Director – Northeast Region 1 Shawn Raymer (Self-Advocate)
- Director – Southeast Region 2 Ken Harmon (Parent)
- Director – Central Region 3 Melvin Brown (Self-Advocate)
- Director – Southwest Region 4 Kay Lilley (Professional)
- Director – Northwest Region 5 Vacant

Appointments At Large by President Loretta Silva:

- Rannita Henderson (Parent)
- Lourdes Rael (Self-Advocate)

The Arc expresses its gratitude for the service of retiring Board members: Corkie Blackwater and Dora Montoya.

## Join The Arc – It is Easy and Free

Join The Arc in the movement for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Show the world you support the basic human right of everyone to live, learn, work and play as valued, contributing members of their communities.

For 60 years, The Arc has promoted and protected the rights of people with I/DD and served more than 1.4 million individuals and their families through a strong national network of 700+ chapters. We advocate for the right of people with I/DD to live in homes of their choosing, have opportunities for meaningful and competitive education and employment, and have the supports and services they need to achieve their full potential.

Go to [www.arcnm.org](http://www.arcnm.org) and click on Member Registration icon. As a member you will be able to register and pay on-line for future Arc events including The Summit on Social Equality and State Conference. In addition, you will be given the opportunity to vote for board candidates from your region.

## Be an Arc Ally - Donate to The Arc

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.

Visit [www.arcnm.org](http://www.arcnm.org) to make an on-line donation. Your support is greatly appreciated.



Bank of the West Representatives Thomas Mitchell, Julie Guitard, and Glenna Gebara present \$7,500 check to Executive Director Randy Costales.

# *Achieve with us.*

**Thank you to our 2013 Arc Allies**

**Platinum – United Healthcare**

**Gold – Bank of the West**

Loretta Silva  
Phillip Grant  
Jean and Tom Payne  
Community Health Charities of New Mexico  
United Way of Central New Mexico  
Carmen Garcia  
Dolores Harden  
Doris Husted  
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Steve Scarton  
Dinah Padilla-Harvey  
Roger Weinreich  
Priscilla Salinas  
Cindy and Bart Faris  
Caitlin Kiennen-Breen  
Cecilia and Reyes Gurule  
Judith Greenfeld

New Mexico State Employees  
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