



Monthly Memo
September, 2013

www.arcnm.org

(T) 505- 883-4630 ★ (F) 505-883-5564
3655 Carlisle Boulevard NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110-1644

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.

2013 Membership Goal: 200 Members

In October of 2012 The Arc Board of Directors amended by the by-laws to make membership free. Since then over 80 individuals have signed up to be members. Our goal is to have at least 200 members by December 31, 2013.

Why is Membership Important?

Advocacy is the Core of The Arc. When you become a member you join us and come along side us in our efforts to support, promote, and defend the rights of individuals with intellectual and development disabilities.

The Arc of New Mexico works everyday on behalf of individuals with disabilities and their families to ensure that they have the support to participate in and contribute to their communities:

- Public Policy Office promotes and protects the rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities by advocating on a broad range of state and local policy issues.
- The Guardianship Program helps over 200 individuals with decision-making at the level that each person requires. Arc Guardians regularly visit and monitor of each individual's home and other environments and advocate for each individual and ensure that programs and services are in each person's best interest.
- Master Trust Program helps almost 500 individuals retain their eligibility for government benefits such as Medicaid, SSI and SSDI because they have excess resources due to an inheritance, a lump sum back-payment from Social Security or a lawsuit settlement.

- Representative Payee Program helps over 50 individuals with their Social Security Benefits paying for individual's basic needs from their benefit checks including expenses for housing, food, clothing, medical needs, and personal expenses.
- Self-Advocacy Program provides leadership training and opportunities to hundreds of individuals in over a dozen NM communities.
- Southern New Mexico Office located in Anthony, NM, and home offices in Silver City and Santa Fe provide training, advocacy, information and peer support.
- Self-Determination Program for Individuals with Down syndrome provides travel stipends, person-centered plan, and Public Policy mentorship.
- Jackson Lawsuit - The Arc serves as an Intervener to represent the voice of the individuals with disabilities during all planning and settlement discussions.

Benefits of Membership

- Reduced registration rates for Summit on Social Equality/Arc Annual Conference
- The opportunity to vote for board candidates from your region
- Monthly Memo and other Program and Policy Updates
- Knowledge that you are making a difference in individual lives by supporting The Arc's efforts.

How to Join

It's Easy - Go to www.arcnm.org and click on Member Registration icon. For more information call 505-883-4640 or toll free 800-358-5564



Achieve with us.

The Arc's End the DD Waiver Waiting List

Rachel is a beautiful young girl with dark brown hair and a smile to light up any room. She is 11 years old and was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy.

Rachel's name was placed on the DD Waiver Waiting List Registry one year ago. Her family was not aware of the DD waiver and mom found out about it through a friend. The family lives in Las Cruces New Mexico and they have no family in this area. Rachel is completely dependent on mom for her care.



Rachel is non-ambulatory, nonverbal, and is unable to perform any daily living skills like feeding herself, bathing herself, dressing herself and cannot be left alone. Mother is the primary caregiver but she must also work between 10 to 12 hours a day to provide her family with the basic needs. Rachel's father also works 10 hour days to help his wife provide for the family. During the day Rachel is at school after school Rachel is cared for by a family friend until her parents get home from work. The mother is sad because she had no knowledge of the DD waiver and because the wait time is currently 9 to 10 years she fears that they cannot provide a private health insurance.

Some of mom's dreams are of being able to just stay home and spend more time with her daughter to simply just be the one to help her with her daily life and to be able to have community supports to involve Rachel in activities with other children her age. Right now the only times they have available are the weekends but mom and dad also feeling the pressure of providing for the family and could use a few hours for themselves. With the DD Waiver this would be possible for them. They could get the extra support for Rachel that she desperately needs. Mom would be able to spend more time with Rachel something that she so desperately wants. For now this is just a dream for her she must continue to work her daily job then come home to continue working with Rachel as well as keeping a home and tending to the other children. We hope that Rachel will get the help she needs soon.



People First of Anthony

Awesome News!! People First of Anthony was excited to show off new shirts for the first time on August 10, 2013 during a gathering held at the VFW Post 4384 in Anthony, NM. During the event the group decided to do a little fundraiser on their own during the dance by selling snacks such as Frito pies, drinks, and some desserts. Everything that was sold was donated by the individuals in the group. In all, group raised approximately \$72.00!!! Wow, not bad for their first fundraiser.



The group decided on this lime green color because the color stands out, and will make them stand out when they are out in the community. In addition to the shirts, “Anthony” was added to make it stand out, be recognized as the Anthony group, AND start putting People First of Anthony on the map. People First of Anthony is ready to make a difference in their communities!

We would like to thank Evangelina Ramos for screen-printing the shirts.

Governor’s Commission on Disability – NMTAP Program

Our mission is to help all New Mexicans with disabilities enhance their quality of life through the use of assistive technology. It is federally funded by the Assistive Technology (AT) Act of 2004. Services include:

- The ABLE Device Loan Program is designed for people with disabilities and their assisting service providers, to provide an opportunity to try out or evaluate an assistive device prior to purchase.
- Program Device demonstrations allow consumers to compare features and benefits of a particular device or category of devices. Demonstrations are for individuals, or a small

group of individuals, and are not the same as devices shown during an exhibit or public awareness event.

- Financial Loan Programs Securing loans to purchase devices can be difficult. NMTAP works closely with First Community Bank to prepare affordable loan solutions that will enable you to purchase the equipment you need to succeed in business or in a home-based business. If you have a disability and need help qualifying for a loan to purchase home office supplies, computers, typical tools of the trade, or vehicle modifications, let's discuss your needs and identify a financial assistance program that will work for you.
- Back In Use Program The purpose of the BackInUse program is to provide any equipment that assists a person with a disability to live more independently or safely. Donations for assistive technology or medical equipment may be submitted. Since BackInUse now operates the NMTAP Second Chance Computer Donation Program, computers, including laptops, desktops, computer monitors, and printers may also be listed. Vehicles with assistive modifications may also be listed.

Contact Information:

If you need further information
please contact Hazel Mella, Ph.D.

hazel.mella@state.nm.us

1-877-696-1470

(505) 476-0421

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 to make an on-line donation. Your support is greatly appreciated

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
New Mexico State Employees Charities

Albuquerque Ruff Ryders
Maloney's Tavern
Carmen Garcia
Dolores Harden
Doris Husted
Van Nunley
Steve Scarton
Dinah Padilla-Harvey
Roger Weinreich
Priscilla Salinas
Cindy and Bart Faris
Caitlin Kiennen-Breen
Cecilia and Reyes Gurule
Judith Greenfeld
Sarah Grace
Alma Mischke
James McNees
Bonnie Stepleton
Alma Mischke
James McNees
Debbie Chavez
Casa Verde Spa
Albuquerque Isotopes Baseball

Sally Faubion
Randy Costales
Donene Seelbach
Vicki Galindo
Bernadette LeRouge
Yolanda Tellez

Hinkle Family Fun Center
First Financial Credit Union
The Range Café
Dion's Pizza
Saba Rasheed
Amira Rasheed
Gabriel Silva
Cabot Creamery
Great Harvest Bread
Designs by Jennie
Christa Lopez
Alex Kiska
Connie DeHerrera
Eastern NM University
Daniel Ekman
Crowne Plaza Hotel