



Achieve



Community Living and Working into the Future-Breakfast October 21 with Congressman Kennedy

On October 21, several chapters of The Arc of Massachusetts will join together for a discussion on disability issues focused on “Community Living and Working into the Future” at the Holiday Inn Mansfield, 31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA starting at 8:00am. Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy III from the Fourth Congressional District will be the special guest speaker, along with Leo Sarkissian, Executive Director of The Arc of Massachusetts and Elin Howe, Commissioner for the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services. Guests will have a chance to meet the congressman and be part of the discussion with our guest presenter who will speak to disability issues now and into the future on the National, State and Local levels. “It’s important that self-advocates and families have a chance to discuss with their legislators how their policy and budgetary decisions impact their lives. I hope anyone in this district who have concerns



about individuals with disabilities, will join us,” remarked Michael Andrade, President and CEO of The Arc of Bristol County.

Registration and breakfast is at 8am, and the program will begin at 8:30am. The breakfast is complimentary, but reservations are required. Please call The Arc of Bristol County at (508) 226-1445 to reserve your place today.

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Welcome

Dear Friends
of The Arc,

Looking back
over the last
quarter, I'm
reminded
how much
The Arc of
Bristol County
is part of our
community.
For example:



The Arc marched in Attleboro's
100th Anniversary Parade

Project Sunshine, The Arc's Family
Advisory Council fundraising
committee, helped raise funds at
Mass Cruiser Night at Patriot Place
in Foxboro, becoming part of the
cruiser's community

Over 50 employees attended The
Arc's Employee Appreciation event,

a fun evening to thank our hard
working and committed staff

Troy Hixon took the Ice Bucket
Challenge to our Project Rec-
Connect Arc Angels softball team,
raising \$100 for The Arc

proAbility Recreation took numerous
trips and participated in dozens of
activities throughout the year, with
the help of community volunteers
who funded and organized these
events for youth and adults with
challenges

Another sell-out Clamcakes and
Chowder Dinner was held in Fall
River, where our Southeastern Bristol
County families show their support
for all The Arc has done in that part
of the County

Taunton families are preparing for
the 12th Annual Pancake Breakfast
on October 25th, showing a deep

and longstanding commitment to
The Arc its services for the greater
Taunton community

There are many more examples
of The Arc's work, presence
and contributions to the many
communities we serve. Assisting
individuals with intellectual and
developmental disabilities to take
active roles in their community is
what The Arc is about, along with
advocating for the rights to be
treated with equity and fairness.

Sincerely,



Michael Andrade
President and CEO

SE Massachusetts Family Leadership Series 23

The 23rd Family Leadership Series
is about to begin! The Series
focuses on supporting families
and individuals to live in their
communities as naturally and
typically as desired. Applications
from families with children or adult
family members of any age who
are Department of Developmental
Services eligible are encouraged to
apply.

The Family Leadership Series has a
twofold purpose. The first is to offer
information about "best practices"
for people with disabilities. The
second is to assist families in
creating a vision for their family
member and a process to achieve
the vision through leadership and
advocacy.

The dates of the SE Family
Leadership Series 23 are: November
7-8, 2014, January 23-24, March
6-7, and April 17-18, 2015. Each
session is two days in length.
Participants are required to attend
all four sessions.

Food and overnight lodging for
each family at the Holiday Inn in
Mansfield is paid for by the

Department of Developmental
Services. Respite/child care/nursing
for family members is also funded.

Families who have completed the
Series have had a tremendous
impact on systems change for
families and individuals with
disabilities in Massachusetts. Family
members have been active in
policy and decision making locally,

regionally and statewide and some
have decided to do legislative
advocacy work. Some families
have been involved in community
organizing and advocacy on a local
level. Others have used their talents
and skills to create change for their
child with a disability and/or their
families.

For an application: please feel free to
call Emily Murgu Nisenbaum at The
Nemasket Group,
508-999-4436, or email:
emilynisenbaum@nemasketgroup.org
or mfofc@mfofc.org

Ice Bucket Challenge for The Arc

Thanks to Project Rec Connect Coordinator Troy Hixon, The Arc benefited from this summer's fundraising craze. Troy offered the Arc Angels Softball Team the chance

to give him an ice bucket shower, for a donation to The Arc. \$100 was raised. Thanks Troy for taking one for the team!



The 2014 Arc Angels Softball Team



Troy Hixon

Magic at proAbility

This summer, proAbility got a treat when the "Magic Man" (better known to his peers and day program staff as Bryan) wowed a capacity crowd with his amazing illusions and comedic style. The Magic Man had a volunteer pick a card from a deck of standard playing cards, show it to the audience, placed it back into the deck, made the card disappear and then re-appear in front of every one's eyes. He then linked solid steel rings together to form a chain to the amazement of every one. These were just two of the amazing illusions this high school student performed in his twenty-minute magic thrill ride show. Bryan shared with the crowd that he has had an interest in magic and illusions for a long time and that learning to be a proficient magician is hard work and requires practice to perfect the craft. Both staff and day program participants enjoyed the show and gave Bryan a big round of applause for his efforts.





Special Education Empowerment Program

Coaching and Advocacy for Better Outcomes

The Arc of Greater New Bedford: (508) 996-8551

The Arc of Greater Fall River (508) 679-0001

The Special Education Empowerment Program

(Formerly Education Advocacy)

What we do:

Navigating the Special Education Process can be challenging. Our Special Education Empowerment Program is designed to assist families in better understanding the processes and procedures, and to educate and empower families to advocate for the services and supports necessary to ensure their child's educational success.

How we do it:

The Arc offices in New Bedford and Fall River currently offer 1-1 Educational Consulting. Trained professionals, who are knowledgeable about the Special Education process, State and Federal Special Education Laws and Collaborative Relationship Building are available to:

- Explain the Special Education Process, including Eligibility
- Review the Parents Rights and Procedural Safe Guards
- Explain and Decipher Relevant Federal and State Special Education Laws
- Interpret Evaluations and Reports from Specialists and School Personnel
- Develop Strategies for Organizing and Retaining Important Information
- Assist in creating a Parent Vision for the Individualized Education Program
- Create documents and correspondence to be shared with the school team
- Explore options for dispute resolution
- Attend meetings as a support for the family*

*The Arc team may not be able to attend all school meetings. Meeting attendance is based on client need and staff availability.

To learn more, please visit our website at: www.arcnbc.org or call our offices at:

The Arc of Greater New Bedford: (508) 996-8551

The Arc of Greater Fall River (508) 679-0001

The Educational Empowerment Program is funded by the Generosity of the United Way of New Bedford and the United Way of Fall River

Cruisers Night

The Family Advisory Committee's Project Sunshine helped with a fundraiser at the Mass Cruisers night at Patriot Place on August 14th. This is the second year Mass Cruisers has invited The Arc to benefit from their fundraising activities. Thanks to all the volunteers and Mass Cruisers who helped us raise funds for Child and Family Services.



The Arc Marches in the Attleboro 100th Anniversary Parade

The Arc of Bristol County was invited by Attleboro Mayor Kevin Dumas to take part in the city's 100th Anniversary Parade in September. Individuals, Board Members and Employees all took part in representing The Arc's role in Attleboro's history. Thanks to all who marched, and all who cheered us on in the parade.



Save the Date

**South Attleboro
Knights of Columbus
Annual Dinner**

Celebrate the Holidays!

Sunday, Dec. 7th • Noon

So. Attleboro

Knights of Columbus

304 Highland Ave
Attleboro, MA 02703

*Thanks to the Knights, Sensata
and Chemawa Golf Course for
creating this annual event for
those served by The Arc.*

Want to Learn More About Social Security Benefits?

Have you ever asked yourself any of the following questions?:

- What is my son or daughter entitled to?
- What's the difference between SSI & SSDI?
- Have there been any recent changes?



If you have, then join guest speaker Kim Thacker, as she explores and explains the ins & outs of Social Security Benefits as they pertain to people with developmental or intellectual disabilities. Kim Thacker is a Disability Specialist at Mass Rehab Commission (MRC).

Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2014
6:00pm
The Arc of Bristol County
141 Park Street
Attleboro, MA 02703

If you are interested in attending, please contact your Family Support or AFC Coordinator by November 1st 888-343-3301 or 508-226-1445. If childcare or transportation is a barrier for your attendance to this training, please let us know.

This training is sponsored by The Arc's Family Support Center

The Arc holds Employee Appreciation Event



On September 17th Employees and Board members gathered at the Home Plate Bay Street Grill in Taunton to show appreciation for the hard work and dedication of our staff. Guests enjoyed dressing in their favorite sports team attire. Thanks to the Workforce Development Committee for organizing this annual event.

Pictured: Donna Brown, Amanda Masi and volunteer Therese LaPorte enjoy the Employee Appreciation event.

Employees Honored with 2014 Years of Service Awards:

Aimee Caminiti - 5 years	Tanya Viveiros - 5 years
Carla Turner - 5 years	Theresa Braun - 10 years
Heather McPherson - 5 years	Jane Sears - 10 years
David Arena - 5 years	John Enloe - 20 years
Beth Perrault - 5 years	

Caregivers Needed

Do you have an extra bedroom in your home? Have you ever thought about sharing your home and your life with someone who can benefit from your friendship and care? Would you like to be paid for doing something that you love to do?

If you answered yes to these questions, please contact The Arc of Bristol County and learn about the Adult Family Care (AFC) program.

The Arc is looking for individuals and/or families to open their hearts and homes to people who need support with their activities of daily living. These individuals might need assistance due to a developmental or intellectual disability or might be

someone who is aging or has some other type of health need.

In return for providing a home and support to an AFC member, the caregiver will contract with our agency and receive training, support, a tax-free stipend, and so much more!

Caregivers must pass extensive background checks, a home safety assessment and be able to provide appropriate care.

Interested candidates should contact the Outreach Coordinator Rebecca Barry at (508) 226-1445 or toll free at 888-343-3301 ext. 3121

Location: Throughout and Surrounding Bristol County

What is transition?

Transition is about planning for life!

The transition your son or daughter will make from school to adult life in the community is a long journey. This journey can be difficult for anyone, but for a child with a disability, determining where to go, the best way to get there, and then completing the journey can be especially challenging. This is why it is so important for you to think, as early as possible, about the important steps your child will need to make and to develop a plan for his/her future.

There are federal and state laws that guide the delivery of transitional educational services to children with disabilities. It is important for parents to understand these laws.

For more information please contact Family Support or go to www.arc.mass.org.

Chowder and Clamcakes Supper



Chowder and Clamcakes Supper held on September 26th at The Liberal Club in Fall River was a great evening. Guests enjoyed wonderful food and a wide variety of prizes. Thanks to everyone who attended or contributed to the success of this annual event. Pictured is one of the lucky raffle winners!

Buy a Bravelet - Help The Arc

The Arc of Bristol County is now an official charity of Bravelets. Their motto "Be Brave" is found on every item they sell. Please check out our Cause page at <https://bravelets.com/bravepage/the-arc-of-bristol-county> or go to Bravelets.com and enter "The Arc"

in the search field to find our cause page. There are lots of styles of jewelry available.

\$10 of every purchase comes to The Arc of Bristol County to support our work. Pass on the word about this wonderful way to support our cause.



Administration Office

141 Park Street
Attleboro, MA 02703
Tel: (508) 226-1445 • Fax: (508) 226-1476
Toll Free: (888) 343-3301
Web: www.arcnbc.org

Child & Family Services

146 Pleasant Street
Attleboro, MA 02703
Tel: (508) 226-1445 • Fax: (774) 203-3523

Day Habilitation Services

5 Mill Street
Middleboro, MA 02346
Tel: (508) 946-2121 • Fax: (508) 946-2195

Hillside Adult Day Health Care

50 Walton Street
Attleboro, MA 02703
Tel: (508) 226-6150

proAbility

333 George Washington Hwy.
Smithfield, RI 02917
Tel: (401) 233-1634 • Fax: (401) 233-1674

Taunton Area Resource Center

437 Bay Street
Taunton, MA 02780
Tel: (508) 884-2971 • Fax: (508) 884-2964

The Arc of Greater Fall River

182 North Main Street
Fall River, MA 02720
Tel: (508) 679-0001 • Fax: (508) 679-9375

The Arc of Greater New Bedford

412 B County Street
New Bedford, MA 02740
Tel: (508) 996-8551 • Fax: (508) 996-8553



Achieve with us.

Family Support Center Groups

Moms' Night Out

Where: Café @ the Attleboro YMCA
When: 2nd Wednesday of each month
from 6:00-8:00pm.
Light food & drinks are provided.

Dads' Night Out

Dads' returns this Fall!
Where: The Arc at 141 Park St. Attleboro
When: 3rd Monday of the month from
6pm until 7:30pm
Pizza & drinks are provided.

Brothers' & Sisters' Sibshop

Sibshops will be back in the Fall! The next 6-week session starts on October 16 at The Arc at 141 Park St. Attleboro!

Transition Age Parents' Group

This group is for parents of children ages 16-22, who are making the transition from school to DDS Adult services.

Where: This group meets at The Arc at 141 Park St. Attleboro
When: 2nd Tuesday of the month from 10am until 11:30am.

For more information about any of these groups, please call Amanda Masi at 508-226-1445 or 1-888-343-3301 ext. 3130, or by email at amasi@arcnbc.org.