



THE ADVOCATE

An Update for I/DD Advocates

News and Events

National Conference

The Arc National Conference will be held November 8--10, 2018, at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Conference Center in Nashville, TN. [Details \(http://www.thearcocal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?w=LS0tDQoxZDM0YWJlYS1jZTg4LTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZjk3NzcNCmh0dHA6Ly93d3cudGh1YXJjb2ZhbC5vcmcvc2luZ2xiLXBvc3QvMjAxOC8wOC8yOS8yMDE5LUFsYWJhbWEtRGlzYWJpbGl0eS1Db25mZXJlbnNIP3V0bV9jYW1wYWlnbj02YjBkOWZmYy0zMjNjLTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZjk3NzcNCm1haWx0bzpnZW5hQHRoZW5hQW50aGVhcmMub3JnDQotLS0\)](http://www.thearcocal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?w=LS0tDQoxZDM0YWJlYS1jZTg4LTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZjk3NzcNCmh0dHA6Ly93d3cudGh1YXJjb2ZhbC5vcmcvc2luZ2xiLXBvc3QvMjAxOC8wOC8yOS8yMDE5LUFsYWJhbWEtRGlzYWJpbGl0eS1Db25mZXJlbnNIP3V0bV9jYW1wYWlnbj02YjBkOWZmYy0zMjNjLTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZjk3NzcNCm1haWx0bzpnZW5hQHRoZW5hQW50aGVhcmMub3JnDQotLS0).

2019 Alabama Disability Conference

After soliciting proposals from venues across the state and for dates in both the spring and the fall, the Planning Committee has finally selected September 8--11, 2019, at the Hyatt Regency (the Wynfrey) in Birmingham. Read about the [selection process \(http://www.thearcocal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?w=LS0tDQoxZDM0YWJlYS1jZTg4LTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZjk3NzcNCmh0dHA6Ly93d3cudGh1YXJjb2ZhbC5vcmcvc2luZ2xiLXBvc3QvMjAxOC8wOC8yOS8yMDE5LUFsYWJhbWEtRGlzYWJpbGl0eS1Db25mZXJlbnNIP3V0bV9jYW1wYWlnbj02YjBkOWZmYy0zMjNjLTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZjk3NzcNCm1haWx0bzpnZW5hQHRoZW5hQW50aGVhcmMub3JnDQotLS0\)](http://www.thearcocal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?w=LS0tDQoxZDM0YWJlYS1jZTg4LTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZjk3NzcNCmh0dHA6Ly93d3cudGh1YXJjb2ZhbC5vcmcvc2luZ2xiLXBvc3QvMjAxOC8wOC8yOS8yMDE5LUFsYWJhbWEtRGlzYWJpbGl0eS1Db25mZXJlbnNIP3V0bV9jYW1wYWlnbj02YjBkOWZmYy0zMjNjLTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZjk3NzcNCm1haWx0bzpnZW5hQHRoZW5hQW50aGVhcmMub3JnDQotLS0). Now we start developing the theme, the program, and the speakers. If you would like to be part of the planning process that will make this our best conference yet, contact [Gena Richardson \(http://www.thearcocal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?w=LS0tDQoxZDM0YWJlYS1jZTg4LTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZjk3NzcNCm1haWx0bzpnZW5hQHRoZW5hQW50aGVhcmMub3JnDQotLS0\)](http://www.thearcocal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?w=LS0tDQoxZDM0YWJlYS1jZTg4LTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZjk3NzcNCm1haWx0bzpnZW5hQHRoZW5hQW50aGVhcmMub3JnDQotLS0).

Junior Board Update

Members of our Junior Board recently attended The Arc of Central Alabama's gala, *An Arc Affair: The Next Chapter*. Pictured below are Gena D. Richardson (right) and Junior Board members Estelle Hebron-Jones (left), attorney with Equal Justice Initiative, and Lamar Barber, owner of Able Home Care Services.



Welcome Khandice

Our interns have started for the fall semester. Khandice Donalson is a student at Alabama State University where she studies Rehabilitation Studies. Khandice has a special interest in advocating for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and believes disability rights are human rights.



Your Arc at Work

Community Meeting

Our executive director recently did a presentation for members of Brundidge Rotary Club, an area without a local chapter. Presentation topics included advocacy, supports in Alabama, Medicaid waivers, and the importance of our state and local chapters.

If you don't have a Chapter of The Arc in your county, and you would like to find out more about starting a chapter, contact Gena Richardson at 251-423-2932.



The Arc of Shelby County Employment Program

The Arc of Shelby County Employment Program had a great summer hosting two job preparation Summer Programs for high school students throughout Shelby County. The Career Prep Program was a six-week program for 31 high school students who received on-the-job work experience. The JETS Summer Program was a two-week program for 11 high school students that featured one week of classroom work and one week of on-the-job experience. These Career Prep and JETS programs are a partnership between The Arc of Shelby County, the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, and Shelby County school systems. A big thank you to all the employers who partnered with us on these programs, giving students with disabilities the opportunity to gain valuable work experience.

Thank You To Our Partners!

YMCA
Sunbelt Paper & Packaging
Lazy Boy BBQ
Alabaster Parks & Recreation

El Gezira Riding Academy
Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex
BlackWatch Sports Performance
Cahaba Valley Animal Clinic
Oak Mountain State Park
Emergency & Specialty Animal Medical Center
Southern Paw Pet Parlor
Greater Shelby County Chamber of Commerce
Full Moon BBQ
Jefferson State Community College



From National's Peter Berns

Taking Stock and then Looking Ahead

The Arc's current long-term plan, the Strategic Framework for the Future of The Arc, 2010-2019 – A Clear Path Forward, will expire at the end of 2019. As we begin planning for the next phase in the life of The Arc, we would like your input about what have been the most important accomplishments under the current Strategic Framework. Please take a look at the [slide deck](#)

(<http://www.thearcofal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?>

w=LS0tDQo4NmJjZTI1MC04OGEwLTRiYzgtYzVmMy0yNzM0NTEzZTAxNWYNCmh0dHA6Ly9yMjAucnM2Lm5ldC90bi5qc3A_Zj0wMDFHNG5mdDFlekF4OEpJWEtBYmIWRfhwVWV0V2kzU05oTkF3aVB3Xzdld05FY1FrcTFyTThCR2FnaHZoNUxRY1VBSlhmQUhKYkVmNVVUczRuSTJHU2FMV1F0WUwwTFp2Z0VKMG0zLXVnNUNQM1ZQdTduemVLVx0cUg5YWFSVvpMQkZSWFc2TkRaN043eUxpYmY2Z2h6NUIteXd6bGZBdDhGT0VrVDI0RDQ5dGc9JmM9RiFuUlg4S1RERVh6eU01ZnhpZVAXN2IYWndINkpgNzU1cDI1MmtVT21NSFdIVGpHVfDvcEhnPT0mY2g9U2pyWmtfSXpETTJ1XzlmOUZ1QW1hU0ZoVzFNa3djYVR4RVVKS0pSUKZRTktsckZmVHVDZWxBPT0NCi0tLQ)describing 47 major accomplishments over the past 8 ½ years and [use this scorecard](#)

(<http://www.thearcofal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?>

w=LS0tDQo4NmJjZTI1MC04OGEwLTRiYzgtYzVmMy0yNzM0NTEzZTAxNWYNCmh0dHA6Ly9yMjAucnM2Lm5ldC90bi5qc3A_Zj0wMDFHNG5mdDFlekF4OEpJWEtBYmIWRfhwVWV0V2kzU05oTkF3aVB3Xzdld05FY1FrcTFyTThCR2FnaHZoNUxRY1VBYUJSY3U0Vi1ORmlJMWFJUHM3RjRLZW9wTjlxWXdl

We want to share your activities and achievements with our readers. Please submit material to bkcopy490531@gmail.com (<http://www.thearcotal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?w=LS0tDQowZmYwMzkwMC03YTI1LTRkM2ItMTg0Ny04Zjg0Y2U0MjAwODcNCm1haWx0b2pia29wcHk0OTA1MzFAZ21haWwuY29tDQotLS0>). Images and video welcome. Also, we are looking for guest bloggers who have experiences and ideas they'd like to share with our readers. Please use the same email to offer your post.

Helpful Resources

The 2018 Data Digest

MediSked and The Arc are pleased to announce the publication of the [2018 Disability Data Digest](http://www.thearcotal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWl0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCmh0dHA6Ly9yMjAucnM2Lm5ldC90bi5qc3A_Zj0wMDFpSzVNYkVMMHZsd2g4WFFRMFRpQ21ZR0Y5NW5PUW1mbG45WFirVEpNVjllVktRaXNydt0MjltWUllqTkdFaXFzFRbjlUWC1EYXkwX252NEF1U3lrTVJoWHBnSG9rT2xoeVVsM1J5WFBBRfc2TGc4Xzh2cTB6QmE5bVdnZkVJaGRIVER1OXVnUFF2dDlxNFJpdDJTdzNwRUNTbWV4X2xyUEF6Uk1DWjZaRzhVWDhjUnhOaFRWMWw5SE9BWjNKSXVxY3hoSy1PdVpZVT0mYz03eWVPM0hnbUxldDd6Y2g1S0U0d3JnOFN4WjJad05DRUZQcnpouU002ejlrdEkzUzFjWkppOXc9PSZjaD12bFIDaWoyWDNvREhWQmM5aGpCYWplUVg2V2tjQ3p1UIBjZVpocnk3Y0NMWkUxOW1EX0lzOHc9PQ0KLS0t) (http://www.thearcotal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWl0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCmh0dHA6Ly9yMjAucnM2Lm5ldC90bi5qc3A_Zj0wMDFpSzVNYkVMMHZsd2g4WFFRMFRpQ21ZR0Y5NW5PUW1mbG45WFirVEpNVjllVktRaXNydt0MjltWUllqTkdFaXFzFRbjlUWC1EYXkwX252NEF1U3lrTVJoWHBnSG9rT2xoeVVsM1J5WFBBRfc2TGc4Xzh2cTB6QmE5bVdnZkVJaGRIVER1OXVnUFF2dDlxNFJpdDJTdzNwRUNTbWV4X2xyUEF6Uk1DWjZaRzhVWDhjUnhOaFRWMWw5SE9BWjNKSXVxY3hoSy1PdVpZVT0mYz03eWVPM0hnbUxldDd6Y2g1S0U0d3JnOFN4WjJad05DRUZQcnpouU002ejlrdEkzUzFjWkppOXc9PSZjaD12bFIDaWoyWDNvREhWQmM5aGpCYWplUVg2V2tjQ3p1UIBjZVpocnk3Y0NMWkUxOW1EX0lzOHc9PQ0KLS0t), a compilation of the latest statistics from the disability field, **displayed in an easy to read infographic format**. This new resource provides a snapshot of today's disability community and includes a fillable fact sheet with links to resources and databases with state-specific data to support local-level advocacy campaigns.

We have downloaded a copy, and it is excellent. Everyone who advocates on behalf of the disability community should have a copy as a factual reference guide.

The Arc of the US Resources

Our National organization offers access to many resources to assist with a wide variety of needs. Check out their [list of resources](http://www.thearcotal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWl0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCmh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRoZWYyY5vcmcvd2hhdC13ZS1kby9yZXNvdXJjZXMvbGlua3MNCi0tLQ) (<http://www.thearcotal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWl0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCmh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRoZWYyY5vcmcvd2hhdC13ZS1kby9yZXNvdXJjZXMvbGlua3MNCi0tLQ>).

Articles of Interest

Facebook Makes Changes Following Disability-Related Discrimination Complaint

Just days after facing allegations of allowing advertisers to discriminate against people with disabilities and other groups, Facebook says it is taking steps to prevent such activity. [Read More >](http://www.thearcotal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWl0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCmh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRoZWYyY5vcmcvd2hhdC13ZS1kby9yZXNvdXJjZXMvbGlua3MNCi0tLQ) (<http://www.thearcotal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWl0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCmh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRoZWYyY5vcmcvd2hhdC13ZS1kby9yZXNvdXJjZXMvbGlua3MNCi0tLQ>).

w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjlhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGIzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD1iM2QyNTIhMzcwJmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

G (<http://www.thearcofal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?>)

w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjlhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGIzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD01MWM3ZDQ4MTIiJmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)roup Home Death Illustrates Challenges When Suspect has Special Needs

The latest government data shows that autism prevalence is on the rise, but a newly-adopted standard for diagnosing the developmental disorder may be muddying the numbers.

[Read More >](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?) (<http://www.thearcofal.org/so/cbMMG7C47/click?>)


w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjlhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGIzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD04NWQ2ZTVhMTQ0JmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

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(<http://www.thearcofal.org/so/cbMM>