



THE ADVOCATE

An Update for I/DD Advocates

News and Events

Summer Leadership Institute

Summer Leadership Institute put on by NCE (National Council of Executives) will take place July 23--25 in Philadelphia, PA. Learn about programs and solutions implemented at other Arc chapters across the country. [Learn more](#)

([http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQpjNGY3YTUyNi0yMzhmLTQwMjAtMDc0Yi1jOTIhZTFhZGI1OWMNCmh0dHBzOi8vbmlXNsaS5vcmcNCi0tLQ)

[w=LS0tDQpjNGY3YTUyNi0yMzhmLTQwMjAtMDc0Yi1jOTIhZTFhZGI1OWMNCmh0dHBzOi8vZXZlbnRzY3JpYmUuY29tLzlwMTgvU0xJL2ZzUG9wdXAuYXNwP01vZGU9cHJlc0luZm8mUHJlc2VudGF0aW9uSUQ9Mzg5MjMxMjQotLS0](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQpjNGY3YTUyNi0yMzhmLTQwMjAtMDc0Yi1jOTIhZTFhZGI1OWMNCmh0dHBzOi8vZXZlbnRzY3JpYmUuY29tLzlwMTgvU0xJL2ZzUG9wdXAuYXNwP01vZGU9cHJlc0luZm8mUHJlc2VudGF0aW9uSUQ9Mzg5MjMxMjQotLS0)). One of the session subjects that affects all of us who are caregivers will be guardianship. Here is the [session overview](#)

([http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQpjNGY3YTUyNi0yMzhmLTQwMjAtMDc0Yi1jOTIhZTFhZGI1OWMNCmh0dHBzOi8vZXZlbnRzY3JpYmUuY29tLzlwMTgvU0xJL2ZzUG9wdXAuYXNwP01vZGU9cHJlc0luZm8mUHJlc2VudGF0aW9uSUQ9Mzg5MjMxMjQotLS0)

[w=LS0tDQpjNGY3YTUyNi0yMzhmLTQwMjAtMDc0Yi1jOTIhZTFhZGI1OWMNCmh0dHBzOi8vZXZlbnRzY3JpYmUuY29tLzlwMTgvU0xJL2ZzUG9wdXAuYXNwP01vZGU9cHJlc0luZm8mUHJlc2VudGF0aW9uSUQ9Mzg5MjMxMjQotLS0](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQpjNGY3YTUyNi0yMzhmLTQwMjAtMDc0Yi1jOTIhZTFhZGI1OWMNCmh0dHBzOi8vZXZlbnRzY3JpYmUuY29tLzlwMTgvU0xJL2ZzUG9wdXAuYXNwP01vZGU9cHJlc0luZm8mUHJlc2VudGF0aW9uSUQ9Mzg5MjMxMjQotLS0)).

Autism Shines Gala: Save the Date

ASA's premier event is coming soon! Save the date for August 11th at the newly remodeled Birmingham Marriott. Enjoy a great night out and help raise funds which support many programs offered by the Society. Make plans to attend and bid on fabulous trips and other neat items. Tickets are \$85 each and sponsorship opportunities are available. Want to donate an item for the auction? [Click here.](#)

([http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQoxZDM0YWJlYS1jZTg4LTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZjk3NzcNCmh0dHBz)

[w=LS0tDQoxZDM0YWJlYS1jZTg4LTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZjk3NzcNCmh0dHBz](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQoxZDM0YWJlYS1jZTg4LTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZjk3NzcNCmh0dHBz)

Oi8vYXV0aXNtLWFsYWJhbWEudXMyLmxpc3QtbWFuYWdlLmNvbS90cmFjay9jbGljaz91PTc3NjA5OWZIMzNiYzY3ZmUwM2Y4YWNlOWEmaWQ9ZDBkYTJIMWM0ZSZIPkzMjI3Mjg2N2QNCi0tLQ).

Spotlight on The Arc of Tuscaloosa

During May The Arc of Tuscaloosa installed their new Officers and Directors. Pictured below is Executive Director Delshonda Thomas (second from left) with several of her Board members. Awards were distributed and congratulations to all winners, especially Cody Pope for winning the Citizenship Award (see picture). During the event entertainment was provided by Sounds of Joy. For more information about their choir visit <http://www.thearcoftuscaloosa.org/what-we-do/soundsofjoy>.

([http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQoxZDM0YWJlYS1jZTg4LTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZk3NzcNCmh0dHA6Ly93d3cudGhYXJjb2Z0dXNjYWxvb3NhLm9yZy93aGF0LXdILWRvL3NvdW5kc29mam95Lg0KLS0t)

[w=LS0tDQoxZDM0YWJlYS1jZTg4LTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZk3NzcNCmh0dHA6Ly93d3cudGhYXJjb2Z0dXNjYWxvb3NhLm9yZy93aGF0LXdILWRvL3NvdW5kc29mam95Lg0KLS0t](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQoxZDM0YWJlYS1jZTg4LTQzMmQtZTU4ZS1kNWlzMlZjZk3NzcNCmh0dHA6Ly93d3cudGhYXJjb2Z0dXNjYWxvb3NhLm9yZy93aGF0LXdILWRvL3NvdW5kc29mam95Lg0KLS0t)) or call 205-556-4600.





Your Arc at Work

Local Chapter Visits

Executive Director Gena Richardson is visiting local chapters around the State to get acquainted and learn more about the issues and concerns of the chapters. Most recent visits included **The Arc of Fayette/Lamar/Marengo Counties**, **The Arc of Walker County**, **The Arc of Tuscaloosa**, **The Arc of Geneva County**, and **The Arc of Saint Clair County**. Thanks to everyone for the hospitality and the feedback.

At The Arc of Saint Clair County, we learned that the participants in their day program take periodic vacations. The clients select the destination and do the planning. Recent trips have included Disney World and a cruise. Hats off to ED Tracy Blake and her staff for the great job they're doing. We're

looking forward to seeing some photos from the next trip.

From National: United Way Support for Chapters of The Arc

Historically, United Way was a major supporter of chapters of The Arc around the country. In recent years, though, we've heard that support has waned. But is that true and, if so, why has it happened? Perhaps a dialogue with United Way Worldwide is in order. Please take a minute to [complete a short survey](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQo2MjA4OWZINS0xMTg2LTRjODktYTBjMC1jNDNiYjc5NzNmN2ENCmh0dHA6Ly9yMjAucnM2Lm5ldC90bi5qc3A_Zj0wMDFpeG53NVE5VHNnZ2JqcWpvUzR0Q1RhN0E3bHlTaWpUNkpaS0l0QjVHV2g4SkFIMVpOcVdVNmRXT0Y4OUlUOUUwwwVg1Rlg1Q0Y4TDVGy0ZMbzhqMWFoNXdoYm9SX1BTb0JzT3BBbTV5ZVVKc0xUTWF1WFZNcEVBa29kOENMZ3JkcWVRSUVIZ2sza2xMZnh1dWw3eFowSVZYa0FRMzdEVEsXUWFCEjdrQ05yRWs9JmM9aXIPZThsWVp3NnhSZUJ2VlpqMzdtXFlaUM3cWpUWGHjTknHlVM3WIFWx0hDbXpTZU1WTmZ3PT0mY2g9R1VWbFZjZ05mVnJ6V0lwSkFmRkNjBUE2WGtHdjFtNGxNb3N4dFZUcmNVYjYwR3U3ZHlRmRXBRPT0NCi0tLQ).

([http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQo2MjA4OWZINS0xMTg2LTRjODktYTBjMC1jNDNiYjc5NzNmN2ENCmh0dHA6Ly9yMjAucnM2Lm5ldC90bi5qc3A_Zj0wMDFpeG53NVE5VHNnZ2JqcWpvUzR0Q1RhN0E3bHlTaWpUNkpaS0l0QjVHV2g4SkFIMVpOcVdVNmRXT0Y4OUlUOUUwwwVg1Rlg1Q0Y4TDVGy0ZMbzhqMWFoNXdoYm9SX1BTb0JzT3BBbTV5ZVVKc0xUTWF1WFZNcEVBa29kOENMZ3JkcWVRSUVIZ2sza2xMZnh1dWw3eFowSVZYa0FRMzdEVEsXUWFCEjdrQ05yRWs9JmM9aXIPZThsWVp3NnhSZUJ2VlpqMzdtXFlaUM3cWpUWGHjTknHlVM3WIFWx0hDbXpTZU1WTmZ3PT0mY2g9R1VWbFZjZ05mVnJ6V0lwSkFmRkNjBUE2WGtHdjFtNGxNb3N4dFZUcmNVYjYwR3U3ZHlRmRXBRPT0NCi0tLQ)

[w=LS0tDQo2MjA4OWZINS0xMTg2LTRjODktYTBjMC1jNDNiYjc5NzNmN2ENCmh0dHA6Ly9yMjAucnM2Lm5ldC90bi5qc3A_Zj0wMDFpeG53NVE5VHNnZ2JqcWpvUzR0Q1RhN0E3bHlTaWpUNkpaS0l0QjVHV2g4SkFIMVpOcVdVNmRXT0Y4OUlUOUUwwwVg1Rlg1Q0Y4TDVGy0ZMbzhqMWFoNXdoYm9SX1BTb0JzT3BBbTV5ZVVKc0xUTWF1WFZNcEVBa29kOENMZ3JkcWVRSUVIZ2sza2xMZnh1dWw3eFowSVZYa0FRMzdEVEsXUWFCEjdrQ05yRWs9JmM9aXIPZThsWVp3NnhSZUJ2VlpqMzdtXFlaUM3cWpUWGHjTknHlVM3WIFWx0hDbXpTZU1WTmZ3PT0mY2g9R1VWbFZjZ05mVnJ6V0lwSkFmRkNjBUE2WGtHdjFtNGxNb3N4dFZUcmNVYjYwR3U3ZHlRmRXBRPT0NCi0tLQ](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQo2MjA4OWZINS0xMTg2LTRjODktYTBjMC1jNDNiYjc5NzNmN2ENCmh0dHA6Ly9yMjAucnM2Lm5ldC90bi5qc3A_Zj0wMDFpeG53NVE5VHNnZ2JqcWpvUzR0Q1RhN0E3bHlTaWpUNkpaS0l0QjVHV2g4SkFIMVpOcVdVNmRXT0Y4OUlUOUUwwwVg1Rlg1Q0Y4TDVGy0ZMbzhqMWFoNXdoYm9SX1BTb0JzT3BBbTV5ZVVKc0xUTWF1WFZNcEVBa29kOENMZ3JkcWVRSUVIZ2sza2xMZnh1dWw3eFowSVZYa0FRMzdEVEsXUWFCEjdrQ05yRWs9JmM9aXIPZThsWVp3NnhSZUJ2VlpqMzdtXFlaUM3cWpUWGHjTknHlVM3WIFWx0hDbXpTZU1WTmZ3PT0mY2g9R1VWbFZjZ05mVnJ6V0lwSkFmRkNjBUE2WGtHdjFtNGxNb3N4dFZUcmNVYjYwR3U3ZHlRmRXBRPT0NCi0tLQ)) about your chapter's experiences with United Way. Rest assured, if results are shared with UWW, it will only be done in the aggregate; individual chapters will not be named without your express consent and involvement.

Achieve with us.

Students Dream Up Assistive Devices For Kids With Disabilities

([http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD00Y2M1ZTA0MDRmJmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

[w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD00Y2M1ZTA0MDRmJmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD00Y2M1ZTA0MDRmJmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t))

Through an introductory engineering program, junior high and high school students are developing real-life solutions for kids with disabilities, all on a budget of just \$35. [Read More >](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD00Y2M1ZTA0MDRmJmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

([http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD00Y2M1ZTA0MDRmJmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

Study: Drivers With Autism Just As Good As Other Motorists

([http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD0yNDJjNGI1MGJiJmU9ZjlhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

[w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD0yNDJjNGI1MGJiJmU9ZjlhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD0yNDJjNGI1MGJiJmU9ZjlhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t))

People with autism appear to have more difficulty than others when first learning to drive, but a study suggests that with practice, they can be just as skilled behind the wheel. [Read More >](#) ([http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD0yNDJjNGI1MGJiJmU9ZjlhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

[w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD0yNDJjNGI1MGJiJmU9ZjlhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD0yNDJjNGI1MGJiJmU9ZjlhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t))

Respite Home Offers Overnight Stays For Adults With Special Needs

([http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD04ZmJkMmQwNmFmJmU9ZjlhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

[w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD04ZmJkMmQwNmFmJmU9ZjlhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD04ZmJkMmQwNmFmJmU9ZjlhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t))

With a bed-and-breakfast feel, a new overnight respite home is providing a customized, fully-staffed getaway for adults with significant disabilities so that their parents can get a break.

[Read More >](#) ([http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD05MjMwMWRhYTl1JmU9ZjlhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

[w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD05MjMwMWRhYTl1JmU9ZjlhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQozODdmM2YwMi1hZjQ3LTQ0M2QtY2NmYi1iINDNjZmJjZjc2NTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGloeXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD05MjMwMWRhYTl1JmU9ZjlhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t))

We want to share your activities and achievements with our readers. Please submit material to bkopy490531@gmail.com ([http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQowZmYwMzkwMC03YTI1LTRkM2ltMTg0Ny04Zjg0Y2U0MjAwODcNCm1haWx0b2pia29wcHk0OTA1MzFAZ21haWwuY29tDQotLS0) [w=LS0tDQowZmYwMzkwMC03YTI1LTRkM2ltMTg0Ny04Zjg0Y2U0MjAwODcNCm1haWx0b2pia29wcHk0OTA1MzFAZ21haWwuY29tDQotLS0](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQowZmYwMzkwMC03YTI1LTRkM2ltMTg0Ny04Zjg0Y2U0MjAwODcNCm1haWx0b2pia29wcHk0OTA1MzFAZ21haWwuY29tDQotLS0)). 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

From National: This is not Fake News!

Here at The Arc we believe that the work we all do should be well informed by the real life experience of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. That's why we are so happy to share with you the results of our 2017 survey of Family and Individual Needs for Disability Supports (aka the FINDS study).

(<http://www.thearc.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?>

[w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWI0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCmh0dHA6Ly9yMjAucnM2Lm5ldC90bi5qc3A_Zj0wMDFKM1VTU1hwcmh1QmREMUMjU0IGVWc1bEZDTVo1NUI3QTBPeHg4Vk14VGpOMUZvYjVSSXgyVVd2TGvXhXJNYjZhTIE4Q09nQWIFUEFnRERnT1ZFQ0c1LVNPNWlzTkZPQllqeW14NGx4TE1GVXhRZ3NueXJuWDAyS0JaRDhGc2JDVVI2Sk80Q0tkWEJ4cmd0dUx0WHNkQ0E9PSZjPWJheS1QTXpSQ2Q5OXNkMWFyRkswRkpxRkhrbEd5ZURhTDI3dIBscVIWTK9iQmN2a2RWbXVSQT09JmNoPUxndTJQZXBYeDBxWUxva013RnkwbUVXOEY2a0NBm1YZFZFR1NiX1BJVDhFNEdrZ3JGOWNNQT09DQotLS0](http://www.thearc.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWI0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCmh0dHA6Ly9yMjAucnM2Lm5ldC90bi5qc3A_Zj0wMDFKM1VTU1hwcmh1QmREMUMjU0IGVWc1bEZDTVo1NUI3QTBPeHg4Vk14VGpOMUZvYjVSSXgyVVd2TGvXhXJNYjZhTIE4Q09nQWIFUEFnRERnT1ZFQ0c1LVNPNWlzTkZPQllqeW14NGx4TE1GVXhRZ3NueXJuWDAyS0JaRDhGc2JDVVI2Sk80Q0tkWEJ4cmd0dUx0WHNkQ0E9PSZjPWJheS1QTXpSQ2Q5OXNkMWFyRkswRkpxRkhrbEd5ZURhTDI3dIBscVIWTK9iQmN2a2RWbXVSQT09JmNoPUxndTJQZXBYeDBxWUxva013RnkwbUVXOEY2a0NBm1YZFZFR1NiX1BJVDhFNEdrZ3JGOWNNQT09DQotLS0)). An update of our 2010 FINDS study, this new data will help you keep your finger on the pulse of our constituents. After you take a look, love to hear your observations via email to berns@thearc.org

(<http://www.thearc.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?>

[w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWI0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCm1haWx0bzpiZXJuc0B0aGVhcmMub3JnDQotLS0](http://www.thearc.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWI0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCm1haWx0bzpiZXJuc0B0aGVhcmMub3JnDQotLS0)).

Alabama Autism ID Card

This card is the 1st in the US for those with ASD and can be used by anyone with ASD. It was created to aid in independence for teens and adults who may be in contact with 1st Responders.

More Details (<http://www.thearc.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?>

[w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWI0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCmh0dHBzOi8vYXV0aXNtLWFsYWJhbWEudXMyLmxpc3QtbWFuYWdlLmNvbS90cmFjay9jbGljaz91PTc3NjA5OWZIMzNiYzY3ZmUwM2Y4YWNiOWEmaWQ9NzQyNzVhZDI4YSZlPTkzMjI3Mjg2N2QNCi0tLQ](http://www.thearc.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWI0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCmh0dHBzOi8vYXV0aXNtLWFsYWJhbWEudXMyLmxpc3QtbWFuYWdlLmNvbS90cmFjay9jbGljaz91PTc3NjA5OWZIMzNiYzY3ZmUwM2Y4YWNiOWEmaWQ9NzQyNzVhZDI4YSZlPTkzMjI3Mjg2N2QNCi0tLQ)).

Networking Groups

Are you or someone you know a parent or caregiver of an individual with autism? Did you know that we have Networking groups throughout the state? Get connected with others who "get it"! Click below to find a group near you.

More Details (<http://www.thearc.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?>

[w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWI0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCmh0dHBzOi8vYXV0aXNtLWFsYWJhbWEudXMyLmxpc3QtbWFuYWdlLmNvbS90cmFjay9jbGljaz91PTc3NjA5OWZIMzNiYzY3ZmUwM2Y4YWNiOWEmaWQ9ZWE3MTUzZWQ0MyZlPTkzMjI3Mjg2N2QNCi0tLQ](http://www.thearc.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWI0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCmh0dHBzOi8vYXV0aXNtLWFsYWJhbWEudXMyLmxpc3QtbWFuYWdlLmNvbS90cmFjay9jbGljaz91PTc3NjA5OWZIMzNiYzY3ZmUwM2Y4YWNiOWEmaWQ9ZWE3MTUzZWQ0MyZlPTkzMjI3Mjg2N2QNCi0tLQ)).

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.thearc.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?>

[w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWI0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCmh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRoZWYyY5vcmcvd2hhdC13ZS1kby9yZXNvdXJjZXNvbGlua3MNCi0tLQ](http://www.thearc.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQpmMTY5YWI0Zi1mYzg1LTRINDgtNzQxMy01MWJmODA1YzQ2YzgNCmh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRoZWYyY5vcmcvd2hhdC13ZS1kby9yZXNvdXJjZXNvbGlua3MNCi0tLQ)).

Articles of Interest

A Father's Thoughts

The father of a child with special needs provides a personal reflection on Father's Day.

Read the blog (<http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?>

w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjIhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHA6Ly93d3cudGh1YXJjb2ZhbC5vcmcvc2luZ2xlLXBvc3QvMjAxOC8wNi8xOS9SZWZsZWN0aW9ucy1vbi1GYXRoZXJzLURheT91dG1fY2FtcGFpZ249NTZIMjE0MjQtNTEwMC00MGJILWE2MmUtOTc5MTY2YjE3ZjE4JnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9c28NCi0tLQ).

Blood Test May Serve As Early Predictor For Cerebral Palsy

(<http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?>

w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjIhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlyYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNRl2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD0zZTAxNzUwYmYyJmU9ZjIhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

New research suggests that a blood test could one day help doctors flag children with cerebral palsy far earlier, allowing young kids with the condition to get a head start on intervention.

Read More > (<http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?>

w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjIhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlyYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNRl2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD0zZTAxNzUwYmYyJmU9ZjIhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

Low Medicaid Rates Preventing Children From Getting ABA Therapy

(<http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?>

w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjIhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlyYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNRl2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD0zYTY4NTMwYjI3JmU9ZjIhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

In some parts of the country, families say the reimbursement rates Medicaid pays for applied behavior analysis are so low that they're unable to find providers willing to serve them.

Read More > (<http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?>

w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjIhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlyYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNRl2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD0zOTI3YjI4NTYzJmU9ZjIhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

Families Strained By Caregiving Responsibilities, Survey Finds

(<http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?>

w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjIhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIM

TYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD01OGJiMTRiYzQ5JmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

A snapshot of thousands of caregivers across the country finds them overwhelmed by the demands of their loved ones with developmental disabilities and deeply concerned about the future. [Read More >](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjJhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD03NmFjNjkzNTA2JmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t) (<http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjJhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD03NmFjNjkzNTA2JmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t>)

Direct Support Workers In Short Supply As Demand Surges

([http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjJhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD03MDgzOWJmNGlzJmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)

[w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjJhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD03MDgzOWJmNGlzJmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjJhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD03MDgzOWJmNGlzJmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t))

Agencies that offer supports to people with developmental disabilities say they are struggling more than ever to attract workers, forcing some to terminate services and decline new clients.

[Read More >](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjJhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD03NTgxODRhMTk1JmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t) ([http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjJhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD03NTgxODRhMTk1JmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t)


[w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjJhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD03NTgxODRhMTk1JmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t](http://www.thearcofal.org/so/5MHJuBpc/click?w=LS0tDQowODZiY2I3YS04MjNmLTQ0ZjQtNjJhMC0xMDJiZjc3N2RIMTYNCmh0dHBzOi8vZGlzYWJpbGl0eXNjb29wLnVzMTAubGlzdC1tYW5hZ2UuY29tL3RyYWNrL2NsaWNrP3U9ZWRkMWI1YjVhYzEyOGVjOTY5ODE0ZTdjNCZpZD03NTgxODRhMTk1JmU9ZjJhZGlyYzY0Zg0KLS0t))

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