

...Local Chapters

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The Arc[™]
California

Achieve with us.

We invite you to achieve with The Arc, the nation's leading and largest organization for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.



A Rich California History



The Arc California started in 1950 just prior to the development of the national association. Parents gained strength from the support of one another and began the fight for a community system for their sons and daughters.

60+ Years Later, What Are We Doing to Continue the Legacy?

Today The Arc California is involved with every public policy issue that impacts our constituency of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) throughout the life span. We focus our work under the following topic areas: Children & Families, Criminal Justice, Health & Medical, Housing, In Home Support Services, Mental Health, Olmstead Related, Special Education, Work, Prevention & Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, etc.

Core Values

People First: All people with I/DD are defined by their own strengths, abilities and inherent value, not by their disability.

Equity: People with IDD are entitled to the respect, dignity, equality, safety, and security accorded to other members of society, and are equal before the law.

Community: People with I/DD belong in the community and have fundamental moral, civil and constitutional rights to be fully included and actively participate in all aspects of society.



Self-determination: People with I/DD, with appropriate resources and supports, can make decisions about their own lives and must be heard on issues that affect their well-being.

Diversity: The Arc believes that society in general and The Arc in particular benefit from the contributions of people with diverse personal characteristics...

Why Join The Arc California



The Arc relies on advocates like you to participate in the development of meaningful public policy and creating systems change that benefit people with I/DD and their families.

We're an advocacy association of people with I/DD, their families, their providers, and volunteers of all experiences. Join the 10,000 plus members in our 22 county based local chapters - once you join a local chapter you're automatically a member of the state and national association.

The Arc California
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