### The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute

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## The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute

Provides families with the necessary resources and education to access the appropriate supports and services for their loved one with an intellectual and developmental disability.





# Our Program

The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute provides families with the information they need to stay informed to better advocate on behalf of their loved one through:

### **Information:**

- Email updates about important issues and action alerts for upcoming legislation
- Fact sheets, Go Bags, Navigation at a Clip, County Roadmaps
- Monthly e-newsletters
- Resource and referrals

### Individuals and Systems Advocacy

- Creating changes on the local and state level that will benefit people with IDD and their families
- Providing one to one assistance to help families with NJ service systems and special education

### Engagement

- Facebook- @thearcofnjfamilyinstitute
- Twitter & Instagram- @The ArcNJFI
- Attendance at resource fairs

### Training & Education

- Webinars
- Podcasts
- Workshops and Presentations
- College Tours



### Our Newsletter

**The Family Advocate** provides updates regarding important state issues that directly impact individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and their families. Our newsletter is for families, professionals and caring citizens.

- ✓ Monthly governmental affairs update
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Kids Corner
- ✓ Chapter highlights
- https://www.thearcfamilyinstitute.org/what\_we\_do/archive.html





### What Makes Our Website So Special?

http://www.thearcfamilyinstitute.org

√User Friendly

√Comprehensive (We like to archive)

 $\checkmark$ Up to date information

√Versatile learning tools

√Several different outlets

√Relevant and original content

Vebsite tools (stuff that just makes your website better)



### What's In Your Go Bag?

The Go Bag was created to help you be the best ADVOCATE you can be for your loved one with IDD. A Go Bag is a simple collection of necessary resources about a specific topics.

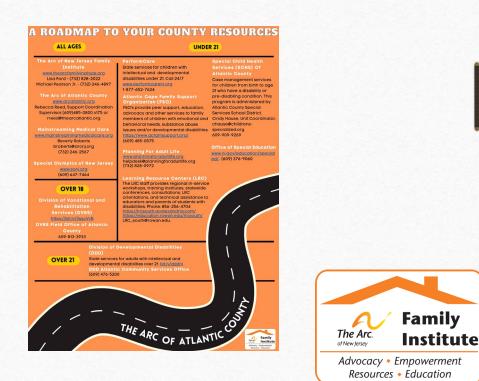
#### Topics include:

ABLE Accounts Advance Care Planning Assistive Technology DVRS Early Intervention Guardianship and Alternative Options Health Care IEP College Options Public Policy Respite Step by Step Process to DDD Eligibility Special Needs Trust Support Coordination And I recently added a new one: Transportation!



County Roadmaps This roadmap is great for:

- This roadmap is great for:
   ✓ Individuals
  - ✓ Family Members
  - ✓ Professionals
  - ✓ School Personnel
  - ✓https://bit.ly/2m1MkWJ



### Fireside Chats FI's Fireside Chat Series

✓ A series of chats during the Fall and Winter seasons with experts in their field as it relates to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

### Some examples:

- Series with Ombudsman
- Planning for Adult Life
- Division of Disability Services
- PLAN/NJ
- Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund





## **FI** Calendars

FI's Tips, Topics and Interests

30 for 30 Summer -Time Resources 31 tips to make traveling easier for individuals with IDD 30 Tips for Back to School 30 helpful tips for Parents Getting Ready to attend an IEP Meeting 31 Days To An Easier Transition 30 Helpful Resources You Will Only Find At The Arc of New Jersey 31 Days of The Arc 31 Winter Activities for Individuals with IDD 28 Transportation Resources for Individuals with IDD 31 Resources to Better Understand Guardianship and The Supported Decision-Making Process 30 Resources to Summer Camp For Individuals with Intellectual And Developmental Disabilities 31 Resources to Better Understand Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Accounts 30 Resources to Better Understand Supported Employment & Job Tips for Individuals with IDD Assistive Technology Resources for Individuals with Intellectual And Developmental Disabilities Travel Resources for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Driver Training Resources for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

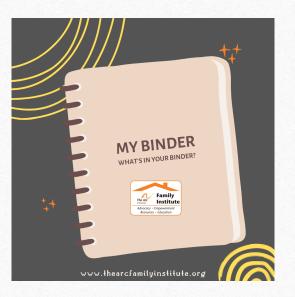


## My Binder

My Binder is a helpful virtual tool to keep you organized. This tool provides easy access to pertinent information.

### We have a Binder for :

- ✓ DDD Documents
- ✓ <u>DVRS Documents</u>
- ✓ <u>IEP Documents</u>
- ✓ <u>PerformCare Documents</u>
- ✓ <u>SSI Documents</u>





### Quick Notes

Keeping your records organized and keeping track of important numbers and contact information, can be challenging.

- ✓ Quick Notes are agency specific forms: These forms keep all pertinent information together
- ✓ Some examples: Division of Vocational and Rehabilitation Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities, IEP Meeting, Children's System of Care
- ✓ A Quick Note helps you record critical information needed to navigate the system. Additionally, each Quick Note comes with a Call Log to help you record phone conversations.





## Family Advisory Committee

The Family Advisory Committee is a vital part of The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute. We meet 3 to 4 times a year to discuss a variety of topics, share information and broaden understanding of the many issues affecting families caring for a loved one with IDD.

### The purpose of this committee is to:

- ✓ Identify common needs and goals among families
- ✓ Develop strategies to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute
- ✓ Provide feedback
- ✓ Let us know about emerging issues expressed by families
- ✓ Serve as an advisory committee that makes recommendations and provide feedback



## Children's Advocacy

Provides individual and systems advocacy related to services and supports for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families, specifically in:

- Early Intervention (EI)
- ✓ The Children's System of Care (CSOC)
- ✓ Special Education- Education Advocate
- ✓ Systems Advocacy

Adara Heilmann- Director of Children's Advocacy E: aheilmann@arcnj.org





## Request an Advocate

The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute is happy to assist families with children who receive special education and related services. We provide information, education, and advocacy for families who are experiencing difficulties with their child's school district. We can:

- ✓ Attend IEP meetings
- ✓ Review the IEP with a family
- ✓ Create an Outline to use at their child's IEP meeting
- ✓ Advocate on their behalf with the school district



## Medicaid Storytelling

The Arc of New Jersey received a subgrant from The Arc of the US on "Medicaid Storytelling", with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

During the course of the grant year, we must provide a total of 10 Medicaid stories to The Arc of the US:

5 of the stories will be short videos and 5 will be short written stories. A short video is just 2 or three minutes long.

• The goal is to have Medicaid stories submitted by caregivers of persons representing racial and ethnic minority groups, or if feasible, a self-advocate from a minority group can record a video.

• We are seeking assistance from a few of our local chapters to identify individuals who have compelling Medicaid stories. Initially, we would like The Arc chapter to decide if there are a couple of individuals who might be good candidates for Medicaid storytelling.

- We have grant funding for these expenses:
- 1. Payment of \$1,000 per chapter of The Arc that provides assistance in obtaining two short videos or written stories from a minority group.
- 2. Funding for travel reimbursement for staff if they need to be onsite to help a storyteller in recording a short video.
- 3. A stipend for each storyteller whose video or written story is accepted: \$300 for each short video and \$250 for each written story.



### DDD Funded Services Available Through Supports Program- Fact Sheets

Why Community Based Supports?

#### **COMMUNITY BASED SUPPORTS**

Community Based Supports provides direct support and assistance for participants, with or without a The Arc Institut caregiver present, in or out of the individual's residence, to achieve and maintain the outcomes of Advocacy • Empowerment Resources • Education increased independence, productivity, enhanced family functioning, and inclusion in the community.

Examples of Community Based Supports	Community Based Supports and Job Site Assistance	Why People with intellectual of community-based supp
Support from staff to enable an individuals to attend an event or take a class.     Support from staff to assist an individual participating in activities such as:     Assistance with daily living skills     Ordering off a menu     Furchasing items     Learning basic cooking skills     Learning basic cooking skills     Etiquette     Travel training     Accessing activities in the community	<ul> <li>Community Based Supports can help with job site assistance in :</li> <li>basic self-care</li> <li>social skills</li> <li>activities of daily living</li> <li>**Community Based</li> <li>Supports can be used in addition to but cannot replace Supported</li> <li>Employment Services (such as job coaching).</li> </ul>	as possible. This includes support wit • Getting dressed • Taking medication • Preparing meals • Job coaching • Residential supports • Managing money



Institute



#### Service Limits and DDD

Self-Directed employees providing Community Based Support Services may be members of a participant's family except provided that the family member has met the same standards as providers who are unrelated to the individual.

For more information about Community Based Supports visit: <u>bit.ly/3WeiTQN</u>

#### **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (OT)**

Occupational therapy is the only profession that helps people across the lifespan to do the things they want and need to do through the therapeutic use of daily activities. Occupational therapy practitioners enable people of all ages to live life to its fullest by helping them promote health, and prevent-or live better with injury, illness, or disability.



Examples of Occupational Therapy Goals	OT Interventions
Independent dressing	Common occupational therapy interventions can include:
Eating	<ul> <li>Helping children with disabilities to</li> </ul>
<ul><li>Grooming</li><li>Using the bathroom</li></ul>	participate fully in school and social
<ul> <li>Fine motor skills like writing, coloring, and</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>situations.</li> <li>Helping people</li> </ul>
cutting with scissors.	recover from injury to regain skills, and
<ul> <li>Understanding boundaries and</li> </ul>	providing supports for older adults

#### **Division of Developmental Disabilities** For Rehabilitation • A person's Support Coordinator (SC) will check the NJ CAT to show an indication that OT is a need. The person or family member will need to

Steps to Access Occupational Therapy through the

provide a medical prescription for OT from an appropriate health care professional. If the primary insurer/MCO approves the OT, the person will access therapy through their primary insurer/MCO. But if the insurer denies OT, the person will receive an Explanation of Benefits (EOB). The EOB will need to be shared with the Support Coordinator and then the SC will help the person identify providers of OT and make sure to add OT to the person's Individualized Service Plan(ISP). · A person's Support Coordinator will review the NJ CAT to identify an indication that OT is needed. • The Support Coordinator will include Occupational Therapy in the Individualized Service Plan (ISP)



#### **Occupational Therapy Services**

OT services typically include:

personal space

Body awareness

- An individualized evaluation, during which the person, family and occupational therapist determine the person's goals.
- Customized intervention to improve the person's ability to perform daily activities and reach their goals.
- An outcomes evaluation to ensure that the goals are being met and or make changes to the intervention plan.

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changes.



