



Advocacy: Taking Action



The Arc
Southern Maryland

February 2019

THE MORE VOICES WE CAN JOIN TOGETHER, THE MORE IMPACT WE WILL HAVE.

Achieve with us.

Advocacy: Taking Action

As a self-advocate, family member, loved one, or active citizen, you may be wondering how you can get involved and where to start to make a difference in the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). We've collected some simple resources to share for you to get involved today!

Ways to Take Action

- 1.) [Join the Disability Advocacy Network](#)
"Be a part of the Disability Advocacy Network and get information about public policy issues impacting people with I/DD, and know when to take timely action. Receive information about what's going on in The Arc's network throughout the year..."
- 2.) [Join the Annapolis Insider](#)
"Stay up to date by checking the Annapolis Insider for weekly updates issued on Fridays during the Maryland General Assembly."
- 3.) [Follow The Arc's Action Center](#)
Check back often for more ways to get involved.
- 4.) [Follow the blog from The Arc US](#)
The Arc's blog aims to accomplish three things:
 - To provide real-time information on the issues surrounding people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and other topics The Arc cares about.

- To create a starting place for discussion (both online and offline) centered around the issues that the intellectual and developmental disability community want to talk about.
- To give you all the information you need to help promote and protect the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively support their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes."

5.) [Current Legislature](#)

Review the current legislature in the Maryland General Assembly.

6.) [Contact Your Representatives](#)

Find your Maryland representatives' contacts. Send them your stories and requests. Let them know how you feel about the things that impact you or your loved ones with I/DD.

Not sure how to get started? [Here are some tips](#) for getting prepared to reach out and make an impact.

Priority Initiatives

The Arc Southern Maryland is a member of The Arc Maryland, at the state level. We have aligned our legislative priorities with the



following matters. More info can be found [on The Arc Maryland's website](#).

- Funding for community programs
- Waiting list
- Transitioning youth
- Education and children's services
- Affordable housing
- Law enforcement and justice
- Civil rights

[Share Your Story](#)

The Arc Maryland is collecting stories on the impact that various bills and actions could have on individuals with I/DD and their families.

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