



February 2021

---

---

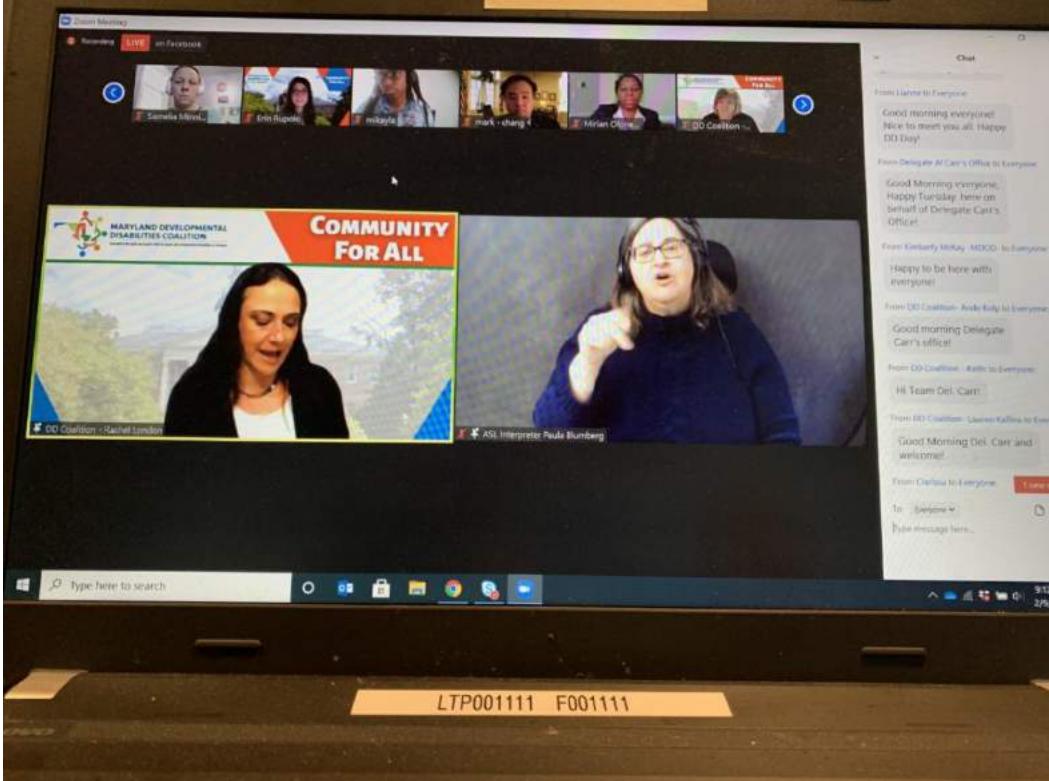
[DONATE](#)

## **People with Disabilities are Being Prioritized for COVID Vaccinations in Southern Maryland**



**Our nursing team partnered with officials from Calvert, Charles and St. Marys County Health Departments to provide comprehensive vaccination clinics and we are happy to share that 90% of people we support residentially have received either one or both vaccinations as have many of the front line staff who work with them daily.**

---



## DD Day at the Legislature

We joined over 1,000 Marylanders with IDD, their families, and professional supports online during a live stream with our state legislators to show them the strength of Maryland's I/DD Community! Keep your eye out for action alerts and updates throughout March. This is your opportunity to affect change for people with I/DD. You can even participate in hearings virtually.

**Sign up for Legislative Insider from The Arc Maryland**



**People on The Go Southern Maryland is now open to all self-advocates in the tri-county area**

People on the Go is a Maryland statewide self-advocacy group. These self-advocates believe all people, including those with intellectual and developmental disabilities should be active participants in their own communities and live fulfilling lives. People on the Go helps these individuals use their voices to be heard and be recognized and helps eliminate discrimination against those with disabilities.

People on The Go holds monthly meetings virtually (and in person if able, although not currently) and are typically the first Monday of every month, always at the same time.

They have now opened the self-advocacy group, People on the Go, to all self-advocates in the tri-county area and have transitioned our name from People on the Go Calvert, over to People on the Go Southern Maryland

Questions or Need More Info? Please contact Crystal Haislip or Thomas Grochowski at [pogcalvert@arcsomd.org](mailto:pogcalvert@arcsomd.org)

---

## Recent Promotions



### Meet Tommy, Asst. Manager of Community Supports

Tommy has been working with The Arc SOMD since March of 2019. Before joining the Arc he taught private guitar lessons in Massachusetts and often went in to play music for children with special needs. He often applied music to his

work with his clients, specifically the 1:1 he was initially hired for. He graduated from Berklee College of Music in May of 2014. Tommy says the best part of his job is how humbling it can be to work with the IDD population. It gives him a small opportunity to see the world through a set of eyes that keeps his own self importance in check. "We are all people with differing abilities. Each and every one of us has something wonderful to offer this world."

## Meet Andre, Residential Program Manager

### **How long have you worked at The Arc SOMD?**

4 years. I started in January 2017 as a 1:1 in the Day Program. I was recently promoted to Residential Program Manager.



### **What kind of work did you do before you came to The Arc SOMD?**

I worked in transportation.

### **When you aren't working what are you doing?**

playing video games, fishing, bowling, spending time with my family and watching cooking channels.

### **Tell us about your family.**

I have a wife and two children one boy and one girl.

**Night To Shine 2021 was virtual this year**



Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs ages 14 and older. On Friday, February 12, 2021, Night to Shine celebrated its seventh anniversary as thousands from around the world came together through socially-distanced and virtual formats to honor and serve those with disabilities. Though the festivities looked a little different this year due to COVID-19, nothing could keep Faith, Hope and Love from shining as bright as ever.

[Watch The Worldwide NTS Video](#)

# New Online Swag Store

The Arc Southern Maryland Online Swag Store is officially open! We have teamed up with local retailer, Wear Your Spirit Warehouse and are excited to offer you the opportunity to purchase your own Arc SOMD apparel and swag.

Our online store will be open year round, 24/7, with new items being added seasonally. Nothing is marked up and this is not a fundraising site.

Happy Shopping!

To shop click on the link below or visit [www.wearyourspiritwarehouse.com/thearcsomd](http://www.wearyourspiritwarehouse.com/thearcsomd)

\*Items can be picked up at Wear your Spirit in Huntingtown or shipped to your address.



[www.wearyourspiritwarehouse.com/thearcsomd](http://www.wearyourspiritwarehouse.com/thearcsomd)

# PANDEMIC PEN PALS

Looking to make a new friend?  
Enjoy sending and receiving mail?  
Want a safe rewarding way to be a part of  
The Arc SoMD?



People with disabilities are often socially isolated on a regular basis so being quarantined at home, without any of their normal supports or routines has been tough for so many of the people we support.

Helping someone through the pandemic can turn into a lifelong friendship!  
For more information or to become a Pen Pal email [lwaldbauer@arcsomd.org](mailto:lwaldbauer@arcsomd.org)



## Introducing Pandemic Pen Pals

People with disabilities are often socially isolated on a regular basis so being quarantined at home, without any of their normal supports or routines has been tough for so many of the people we support. Helping someone through the pandemic can turn into a lifelong friendship!

Know someone we support that would like a pen pal? Want to sign up to be a pen pal? Email Lyndee Waldbauer at [lwaldbauer@arcsomd.org](mailto:lwaldbauer@arcsomd.org) for more information.

[Sign up to be a Penpal](#)



**JOIN OUR TEAM TODAY**

## **INCLUSION IS WITHIN EVERYONE'S ABILITY**

**[www.arcsonmd.org/join-our-team](http://www.arcsonmd.org/join-our-team)**

**The Arc Southern Maryland is the leading advocate for children and adults with I/DD living and working in Southern Maryland.**

**The Arc provides an array of services including housing, job placement, and behavioral support services.**



---

**Current Employees can refer a friend to join our team and earn up \$1,000!**

# Employee Referral **BONUS** Program



**INTERESTED IN \$1,000?**

**Refer a friend to  
join our team  
If they stay on our team  
for 1 year you get the bonus\***

\*Contact Human Resources for more info.

**[www.arcsonmd.org](http://www.arcsonmd.org)**



For people with intellectual  
and developmental disabilities

**DONATE A CAR TODAY**  
Any condition | Free towing



**877.ARC.CAR.0**  
[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)

**DONATE NOW**



// CONNECT WITH US //

