

The Arc of Frederick County

FY 2023 Annual Report

(July 1, 2022—June 30, 2023)

Leading the Way for People with Disabilities, Their Families, and the Frederick Community for 65 Years!



This past year marked the 65th Anniversary of The Arc of Frederick County partnering with families and people with developmental disabilities to provide support and lead and promote inclusion within the Frederick community. With each decade, The Arc and families organized efforts to create change and support people with disabilities lead Enviable Lives! Enviable lives are the lives we all lead, filled with purpose and meaning, and with friends and family. This is accomplished by providing services, advocacy, and creating supportive communities. We invite you to celebrate with The Arc as we reflect on highlighted accomplishments from this past year.

FY 2023—The Year in Review

National Recognition

The Arc was honored to receive the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities' 2023 Full Community Inclusion Award. This award recognizes organizations or programs that have succeeded in promoting full community inclusion and participation for and with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Arc was recognized specifically for creating a model of service delivery where Support Coordinators partner with each person and family to provide navigation assistance with connecting to available resources and, when resources do not exist, collaborating with the community to create new pathways for inclusion. The partnership model builds on self-determination and individual responsibilities so that people have control over their lives, but also have clinical expertise and agency resources so they are not alone or left to do everything by themselves.



Special Honors

The Arc hosted an exciting opportunity for an intimate lunch and discussion among community leaders lead by Dr. Temple Grandin. Guests were thrilled to spend an afternoon with the prominent author and speaker for an exchange of knowledge. While in town, Dr. Grandin gave a presentation to a sold out audience as part of the Frederick Speaker Series. The Arc was honored that she highlighted our employment services as a model of best practice.

Catalyst for Change

This milestone year included 15 years of The Arc and Frederick Community College collaborating to provide pathways for students with disabilities to enroll in credit and continuing education courses to enhance their job skills. Valuing the importance of higher education, The Arc and Frederick Community College partnered to host an Employment Summit on the college campus to organize and lead our community to build an inclusive workforce. The summit highlights business leaders who currently partner with The Arc to audiences of recruiters who are invested in diversifying their businesses. Self-advocates play an important role in the summit as they highlight their employment successes.





Community Leader

In addition to empowering individuals, The Arc places emphasis on teaching the broader community how to include people with disabilities. Support Coordinators work with the local school system not only to advocate for individual accommodations, but also host schoolwide inclusion trainings. Support Coordinators collaborate with college students, art studios, employers, and other communities to teach them how to welcome people with disabilities. Support Coordinators provide formal trainings to all Frederick City Police cadets to promote safe emergency services. When Support Coordinators offer various trainings, they are done in partnership with self-advocates. This piece of community education provides the information and resources community members need, but might not feel comfortable asking for. This important, critical step helps bring inclusion full circle and broadens community responsibility.



Honoring the Past as We Operate Today

The Arc has an established history of over a decade of outreach, advocacy, training to others, and the creation of services for Spanish speaking families. The Arc cultivates leaders within the Spanish speaking community in ways that mirror the paths of the families who originally established The Arc of Frederick County. Assistance is provided in Spanish by a Support Coordinator who is fluent in the Spanish language as well as knowledgeable and competent with respect to cultural values. Through knowledgeable family engagement and empowerment practices, The Arc promotes the principles of self-determination to diverse communities with a focus on inclusion.



Systems Advocacy

The Arc is proud to promote inclusion and create sustainable change as we participate in local, state, and national committees such as: the Western Region Community of Practice; Maryland State Rehabilitation Council; Frederick County Public Schools Special Education Citizen's Advisory Committee; Frederick County Transition Council; Frederick County Commission for Women; The Arc Maryland Governmental Affairs Committee; AAIDD Community Interest Network; and Immigrant Affairs Commission.



Partners to Families

This year marked the full return of many in-person supports that were on hold. The Arc's Parents' Day Out Program once again provided free respite care to families and serves as a way to introduce volunteers to our agency. Sibshops connected brothers and sisters of children with disabilities to peer support and information in a lively, recreational setting to share their experiences. The Arc's Future Planning assisted audiences and individuals by providing information on Special Needs Trusts, Letters of Intent, ABLE Accounts, Alternatives to Guardianship and other planning resources. The Arc's Open House introduced Transitioning Youth Students and their families to The Arc's Support Coordinators as they learned how The Arc can support people at home, work, and in their communities.

Innovation

Leading the way in creative approaches to support people to work, The Arc collaborates with vested partners to offer Reverse Job Fairs. These fairs flip the script on traditional job fair models. Job seekers prepare by attending boot camp and dress rehearsal where they hone their resumes, practice elevator pitches, learn to dress for success, create visual displays that feature their skills, and participate in mock interviews. The day of the Reverse Job Fair, job recruiters go from station-to-station to meet with qualified candidates ready to work!



We thank all of our members and donors for helping us continue our work to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families during FY 2023.

\$5,000-\$19,999

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Thomas and Marilyn Draeger
William E. Cross Foundation, Inc.

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Gregory Wasserbach
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Jennifer Alford
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Senta Bennett
Timothy Becker
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Jonah Stephens
Lorraine Williams
Milton Tipperman
Patrick Bagnell
Philip Westcott
Sharina Staton
Ulla Henderson

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In FY 2023, donations were made in memory of

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Joanna Pierson

Dustin Darby

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Aaron Stephens
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Maya Howard
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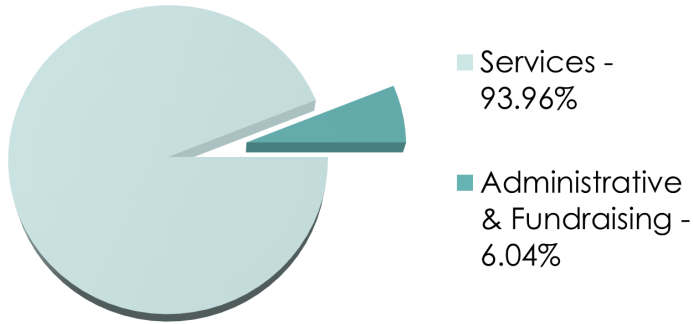
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Susan Palich
Tina and Duncan Barks
Wendy Andrews
William E Cross Foundation,
Inc.

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FY 2023



This information is summarized from The Arc of Frederick County's fiscal year 2023 audit. The complete audit is available for review at The Arc's office and also at Mullen, Sondberg, Wimbish, and Stone, P.A.

Charitable Income:

Contributions	\$ 333,460
Special Events	5,657

Total Charitable Income \$ **339,117**

Government Revenue:

MD State	\$ 11,611,828
Frederick County Schools	188,675
Frederick County	1,500

Total Government Revenue \$ **11,802,003**

Expenses:

Personnel	\$ 9,220,883
Purchase of Services	9,873
Other Operating Expenses	1,017,436
Equipment Acquisition	5,078

Total \$ **10,253,271**

The Arc of Frederick County

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www.arcfc.org

Executive Director

Shauna Mulcahy

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Mission Statement

The Arc of Frederick County helps people with developmental disabilities to live enviable lives. Enviable lives are the lives we all lead, filled with purpose and meaning, and with friends and family. This is accomplished by providing services, advocacy, and creating supportive communities.

Follow The Arc of Frederick County on Facebook for information, events, exciting accomplishments, and supports available to community members.