



The Arc™

Jefferson, Clear Creek
& Gilpin Counties



2011 Annual Report



Achieve with us.



Our People



Want to see more photos of our activities? Check out our photo albums on Facebook (www.facebook.com/TheArc.Jefferson.ClearCreek.Gilpin) or click the Facebook link on our home page www.arcjc.org.

The Arc in Motion



Throughout 2011, The Arc – Jefferson, Clear Creek & Gilpin Counties marked its 50th Anniversary of providing advocacy for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) like autism, cerebral palsy, and Down syndrome. The celebration began early in the year with the swoosh of our vibrant new logo, visibly connecting this chapter to the power of The Arc's national advocacy movement. Building on that momentum and this important milestone, we paused to look back at our roots and to honor the decades of work that have immeasurably changed the lives of so many people in our community. These are the contributions that have made The Arc movement what it is today, and drive us to continue our work into the future.

As part of our year-long celebration, we honored the individuality of people with I/DD through decades of jazz music at our *Anthology of Jazz II* concert in May. Dez Rubano, one of this chapter's first board members, took to the stage once again in his role as creator and emcee of one of The Arc's first fundraising events. We also celebrated this chapter's many pioneers at our Annual Meeting & SPARC Awards, where we recognized champions in our community today, and looked toward the Arc's role in the challenges of tomorrow.

Our award-winning *Mobilizing Families* training also celebrated its 20th anniversary of empowering parents to advocate for their children with disabilities. This exceptional series is just one of many trainings we offered throughout the year to help parents, family members, and self-advocates address those vital concerns that can change the course of a person's life.

The Arc has worked tirelessly to ensure that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities have access to the services and supports they need to lead full and satisfying lives. Our 50 year legacy of positive change provides us with an undisputable energy – an energy which propels us into the future to face its uncertainties and continue to push forward.

We are The Arc, and we are driven by the opportunity for hope, growth and change. In 2012, we invite you join us and achieve with us!

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What We Do

The Arc works to ensure that the estimated 13,000 people with I/DD in Jefferson, Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties have the services and supports they need to become valued, contributing members of their communities and achieve their dreams.

Individual Advocacy

Our advocacy team works one-on-one with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their caregivers to address concerns in many areas, such as: education, insurance, government benefits, housing, employment and connecting with other community agencies. Individualized support can take minutes, hours, weeks, or months, depending on the complexity of the concern. As supports for people with I/DD change rapidly, it is common for people to need individualized advocacy multiple times throughout a person's lifetime. **In 2011, our staff provided individualized advocacy to 764 individuals of all ages.**

Community Outreach & Events

Through educational presentations and community events, The Arc works to open hearts and minds to create a community that embraces people with disabilities. Outreach activities include presentations with civic groups and community partners, as well as our annual Summit of Hope luncheon – an event designed to inform the public about The Arc and celebrate people with I/DD. **Our team conducted 33 outreach activities and events for 5,068 people in 2011.**

Legislative & Systemic Advocacy

As part of our goal to help people with I/DD achieve greater levels of independence and inclusion, we provide a critical voice in policy decisions, from community and civic organizations to federal, state and local government. The Arc maintains a variety of partnerships to ensure that the human and civil rights of people with disabilities are protected in all policy and programming decisions that affect them and their families. For more information on our current Public Policy Agenda, please see the section on page five. **We maintained 50 community partnerships during 2011.**

Sponsorship of Self-Advocacy Groups

The Arc provides leadership and service opportunities for adults with I/DD through our sponsorship of several groups. People First of Jefferson County is a local chapter of Speaking For Ourselves, a national organization led by self-advocates. In addition to learning the business of self-advocacy through People First, The Arc also promotes relationship-building by hosting Coffee House, a monthly social gathering for self-advocates. Rocky Mountain Partners Aktion Club is a Kiwanis Club for adults with disabilities and community leaders who work together on a variety of service projects. **Our team sponsored 38 group meetings attended by 2,014 people in 2011.**



The Arc is a voice for thousands of people who may not have the ability to be a voice for themselves. They educate the public about our world. They know what legislation helps my son, and they want what is best for him. I truly sleep better at night knowing The Arc is on our side. NATALIE A., LAKEWOOD



Advocacy Trainings

The Arc's advocacy team conduct numerous trainings for a variety of audiences throughout the year that empower people with disabilities and their families to achieve their dreams.

Started in 1991, *Mobilizing Families* is a nine-week training series that teaches families of young children with disabilities how to be strong and knowledgeable advocates for their children.

The *Life After High School* training series helps families and high school students prepare for the student's transition from high school into

community life. This training is presented in collaboration with Jefferson County Public Schools and the Developmental Disabilities Resource Center (DDRC).

Our adult advocates also partner with DDRC to present *Guardianship and Options*, a training that helps families and caregivers understand the many aspects of and alternatives to guardianship as it affects adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. **Last year, our staff conducted 49 trainings that were attended by 962 people.**

The Arc's 2012 Policy Agenda

For over 50 years, Colorado chapters of The Arc have advocated for the rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live independently, exercise choice and control over their lives and contribute to their communities by being fully included in educational, economic, social, spiritual, and cultural endeavors.

Below is the 2012 public policy agenda for the Arc chapters of Colorado:

Adequate funding for "lifeline" Medicaid and other services and supports for people with disabilities including sufficient appropriations for:

- Wait list placement for emergency cases, young people leaving the foster care system as well as those who age-out of the Children's Extensive Support waiver;
- Growth in Early Intervention services—resisting any changes that would limit or reduce the number of enrolled children;
- Maintaining or improving levels of services and supports for all

HCBS Medicaid waiver benefit, Family Support services and Special Education; and

- Supporting families with adequate home health care services and ensuring that the Home Care allowance continues to be available for individuals receiving SLS or CES Medicaid waiver benefits.

Simplification and improvement of the long term services and support system in Colorado including:

- Standardization of level of care requirements for all HCBS children's Medicaid waivers;
- Implementation of consumer directed options for HCBS Medicaid waivers for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities;
- Person-centered coordination of medical services and long term supports for people who are eligible for Medicare and Medicaid services recognizing the unique needs and desires of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities;
- Simplification and standardization of service

definitions among HCBS Medicaid waivers; and

- Robust stakeholder input and advice process to guide the potential transition of the Division for Developmental Disabilities from the Department of Human Services to the CO Department of Health Care Policy and Financing.

Promotion and protection of stronger civil rights legislation for people with disabilities including:

- Reform of school discipline policies to acknowledge behavioral issues related to disabilities including appropriate training of school resource officers and administrators;
- Expand rules of evidence to support prosecution of crimes against people with disabilities and clarify existing criminal statutes to ensure parity for crimes committed against people with disabilities; and
- Requiring charter schools authorized by local boards of education be structured to include students with disabilities.

What We Believe

The following Core Values and Guiding Principles were developed and adopted by The Arc's national headquarters. The Arc - Jefferson, Clear Creek & Gilpin Counties embraces these values and principles and embodies them in our work and lives.

Core Values

People First. The Arc believes that all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are defined by their own strengths, abilities and inherent value, not by their disability.

Equity. The Arc believes that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are entitled to the respect, dignity, equality, safety, and security accorded to other members of society, and are equal before the law.

Community. The Arc believes that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities 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. The Arc believes in self-determination and self-advocacy. People with intellectual and developmental disabilities, 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 (including but not limited to race, ethnicity, religion, age, geographic location, sexual orientation, gender and type of disability).

Guiding Principles

Participatory Democracy. The Arc acts to ensure that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their parents, siblings, family members and other concerned members of the public have meaningful opportunities to inform and guide the direction of the organization's advocacy, including determining policy and positions on important Arc.

Collaboration. The Arc works with individuals, organizations and coalitions in a collaborative fashion. The Arc values and promotes effective partnerships between volunteer and staff leadership at all levels of the organization.

Transparency, Integrity and Excellence. The Arc conducts its business with integrity, accountability, and open, honest and timely communication. The Arc is committed to quality and excellence in all its does.





Our Promise

The following statements were developed by this Arc chapter to articulate how we choose to work within the organization as well as in the community.

As advocates for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities,

- We base our interactions, whether internal or external, on The Arc's Core Values and Guiding Principles.
- We are responsive and honor our commitments to the people we serve, to one another, and to ourselves.
- We respect individuals and families wherever they are on their journey and meet them there.
- We begin all relationships from a position of trust, and make every effort to see all sides of any situation.
- We listen with both open hearts and minds.
- We communicate honestly, tactfully and with respect, always.
- We use our resources effectively and efficiently to best serve our community.
- We provide people with factual, unbiased information to enable them to make informed choices.
- We provide and gratefully accept constructive feedback given in the spirit of moving the mission forward.
- We strive to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes, as we value maintaining long-term, systemic relationships with our community and the people we serve.
- We commit to being informed on issues concerning and resources for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

Our Purpose

Founded in 1961, The Arc – Jefferson, Clear Creek & Gilpin Counties is one of more than 700 chapters of The Arc across the United States. More than 140,000 members strong, we are a part of the largest national organization of and for people with I/DD and their families, promoting and protecting their human rights and actively supporting their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes. We foster respect and access, giving people with I/DD the power to achieve full and satisfying lives.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Providing leadership in addressing the choices and needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families while safeguarding the rights of individuals with developmental disabilities, facilitating choices, and promoting independence and inclusion in community life.

Our Donors

Thank you to everyone who contributed to The Arc - Jefferson, Clear Creek & Gilpin Counties in 2011.
We appreciate your generous support of our community.

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The Community of Hope is a giving circle of donors who have made a significant investment in the future of The Arc - Jefferson, Clear Creek & Gilpin Counties and the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in our community.

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Our History

The Arc – Jefferson, Clear Creek & Gilpin Counties began in 1960 with a meeting of local parents of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and a handful of school district officials who were committed to creating educational opportunities for students with I/DD long before mandatory special education existed.

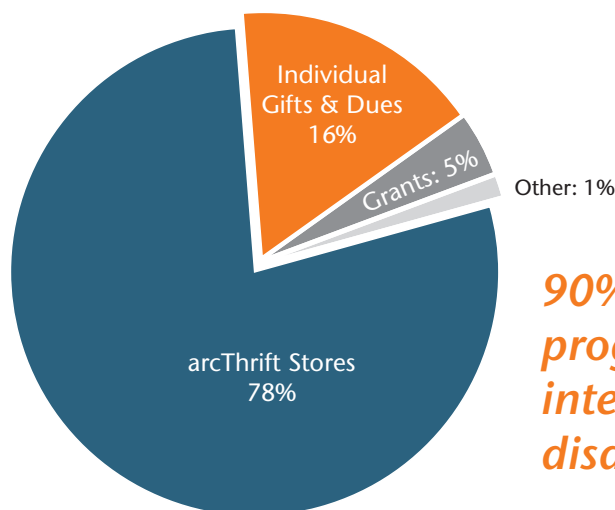
At the time, families of people with disabilities had no options to support their children at home, and in most cases their children were not allowed to attend public schools. Desperate for change, our founders came together to address the overall lack of resources for children with I/DD, working to create options to support their children in the schools and in their own homes. As resources increased and more families chose to raise their children at home, The Arc was there to ensure people with I/DD were welcomed into our community.

For more than 50 years, the core values of our founding members have continued to inform all of our organization's activities. We have promoted reform in schools, the workplace, residential life, and in the broader community, all with the intent to promote independence and inclusion for people with developmental disabilities.

Our Financial Position

The Arc – Jefferson, Clear Creek & Gilpin Counties has been fortunate to have earned revenue through our partnership with arcThrift Stores, a separate nonprofit organization formed in 1968 to provide financial support for Colorado chapters of The Arc. In recent years, the thrift store contribution has comprised 78% of our income. As the demand for services has increased, we have sought additional funding from grantmakers and individual donors to meet the growing advocacy needs of our community. Audited financial information for 2011 will be available on our web site during the summer of 2012.

Fiscal Year	2010	2009	2008
Total Revenues	\$685,887.00	\$730,572.00	\$556,550.00
Total Expenses	\$670,051.00	\$650,465.00	\$718,171.00
Revenues by source			
Foundations and Corporations	\$30,000.00	\$23,000.00	\$23,500.00
Individuals	\$109,865.00	\$73,361.00	\$121,991.00
Earned Revenue (arcThrift)	\$536,456.00	\$524,673.00	\$524,671.00
Interest and Dividend Income	\$6,385.00	\$96,804.00	-\$116,635.00
Membership Dues	\$1,903.00	\$3,050.00	\$3,023.00
Other	\$1,278.00	\$9,684.00	\$0.00
Expenses by Type			
Programs	\$600,049.00	\$573,155.00	\$629,412.00
Administration	\$49,594.00	\$70,657.00	\$72,851.00
Fundraising	\$20,408.00	\$6,653.00	\$15,908.00
Program Expense/Total Expenses	90%	88%	88%
Assets & Liabilities			
Change in Net Assets	\$15,836.00	\$80,107.00	(\$161,621.00)
Total Net Assets	\$912,655.00	\$896,819.00	\$816,712.00



90% of The Arc's funding supports programs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families



Jefferson, Clear Creek
& Gilpin Counties
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