



The Arc

Pennsylvania

A Year in Review

2022-2023



Who We Are

The Arc of Pennsylvania promotes the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively supports their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.





Tracy Gross-Fritz- T...



Sarah Taglang



Anthony Chan, The ...



Sherri Landis



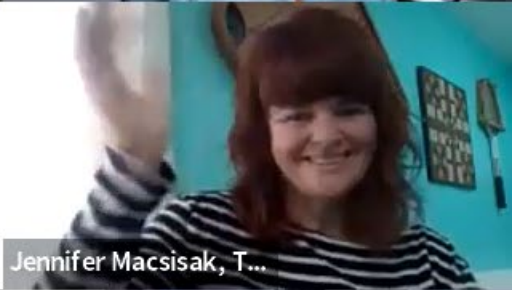
Emma Nolan



Nicole Turman



Kristen



Jennifer Macsisak, T...



S. F. Woskabond



Nicole Meier Emery - ...



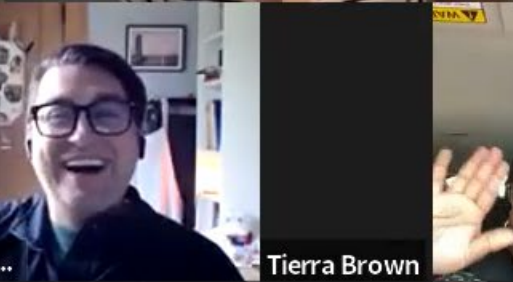
Eleni Burd



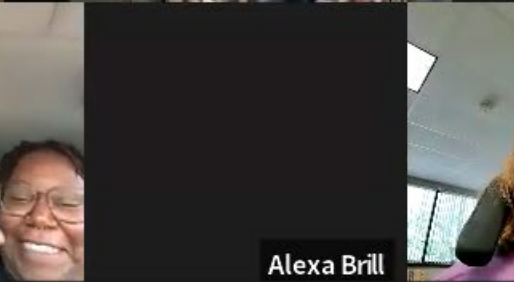
Mikeisha Mobley, Th...



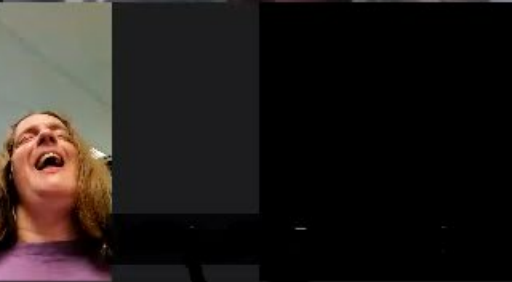
Nick Webster, The A...



Tierra Brown



Alexa Brill





74 years of
Advocacy

Covering 50
Counties in PA

Archives Project

Historical Archives Records Care Grant will enable the preservation and assessment of historical documents and artifacts from The Arc of PA's 74 years of work and advocacy in Pennsylvania to promote the human rights of individuals with IDD.

EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Arc of Pennsylvania has received a historical & Archival Records Care Grant through the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission!

This grant funding will be used to create a digital & hard copy Archive of The Arc of Pennsylvania's historical documents, photos, films, etc. amassed over our 73 year history!

The Arc Archives Project
Pennsylvania
PA Message, 1990

IT'S OUR FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL TOGETHER!

by Melanie Brozek Stabile
That day, August 28, 1989, I was scared, excited, happy and nervous. After over a year long fight, I was getting what I struggled so hard for. I watched my two sons, Eddie (9 years old) and Mike (7 years old), walk down the hill, get on the bus together for the first time ever! The whole way down the hill, Eddie jumped and sang, "It's our first day of school together!"

Eddie Stabile proud Third Grader...

But more than that, Eddie and Mike are on the Soccer team and in Cub Scouts. Eddie is becoming connected, a part of our community. Wherever we go, kids come up to Eddie and say "Hi!" He has friends! One of his new friends from our room came over to visit over everyday activity

We still have to work at helping true friendships, but that will as it does for any of us. Eddie is happy and accepted of the school and his com other kids, teachers and oth To those of you who especially Chris Grandy Kingsley, THANK YOU! who helped and supporte my husband, our famil Sharon Grez Laksy and THANK YOU! Every smile after school grateful to all of you! After nine years again. We have a ph ty. Most importan his rightful place! FEELS GREAT! LY WORTH I worth it! I would certainly hope!

The Arc Archives Project
Pennsylvania

Speech from for institutions at conference.



Row, center in photo

Alternatives to Institutions

Presented by Elsworth S. Zelman
Chairman, NAR Residential Services and Facilities Committee
at the 3rd Congress of The Caribbean Association on Mental Retardation
October 19-23, 1974, Bridgetown, Barbados

The preparation of this paper was a process which was approached with a sense of humility. Our goals - to help people who are mentally retarded, to grow, to develop, and to live a good life, - are the same, but our problems are different.

Typewritten speaker biography for Nettie Claiborne from 1986.

Photo of Ms. Claiborne with PA House Speaker K. ... as she gavels the House to order.



The Arc of Pennsylvania Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities among People with Disabilities is actively exploring two questions:

- To what extent have we used a disability-inclusive approach to combat COVID-19?
- To what extent will we use a disability-inclusive approach to prepare for future emergencies?

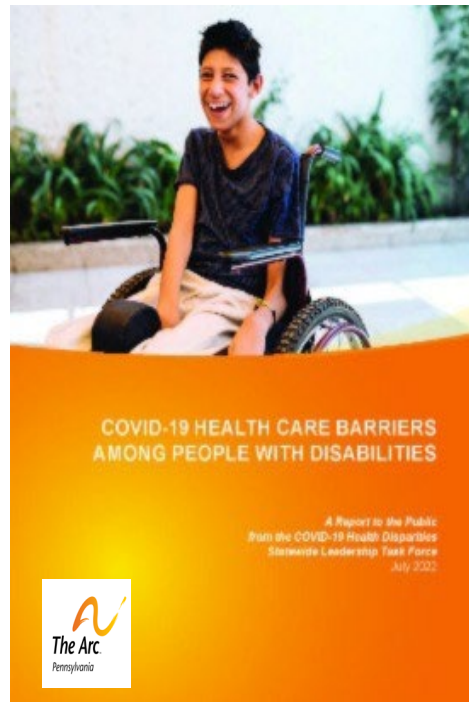
The Arc of PA's Department of Health (DOH) Grant

- Held 4 quarterly meetings with 13 Regional Community Work Groups totaling over 272 members – representing 36 counties
- Held 4 quarterly meeting with a Statewide Task Force totaling 32 members - representing 22 organizations, agencies, and health care related companies
- Launched 4 English and Spanish radio ads
- Launched COVID-19 e-Learning Module
- Presented to multiple outside groups and agencies
- Selected as a CDC Novel Emerging Practice Evaluation Project



The Arc of PA's DOH Grant

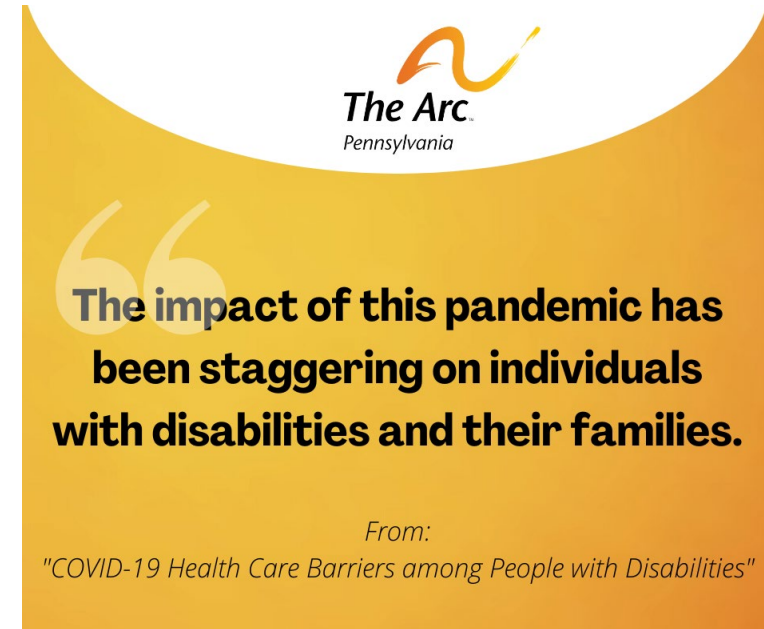
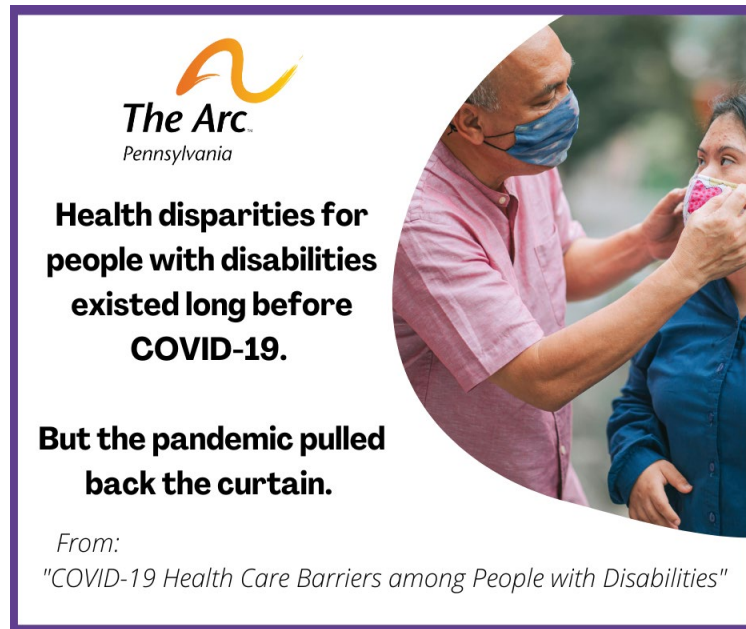
The Statewide Leadership Task Force released COVID-19 Health Care Barriers among People with Disabilities to the public on August 23, 2022 in English, Spanish, plain language, and braille upon request.



Articles regarding the report appeared in:

- PennLive
- The Philadelphia Inquirer
- The Tribune-Review
- In-Touch
- Slice of PIE
- Action Alert System

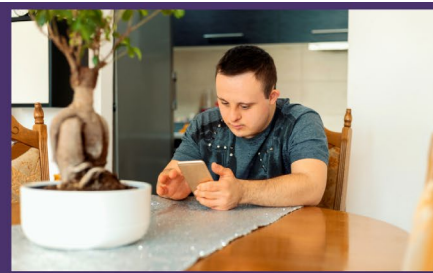
Reaching approximately 8 million subscribers



DOH Digital Media Campaign



New COVID-19 home tests for blind & low-vision individuals. **Call: 1-800-232-0233**
Paid in part by the PA Department of Health.



Questions about COVID-19?

Call the PA Helpline for answers
1-877-PA HEALTH (1-877-724-3258)



New options are available for easy access to free COVID-19 testing this winter.

Learn more by calling 1-800-232-0233



Find a COVID
"Test-to-Treat" Site Near You.



Get COVID-19 tests mailed directly to your home for FREE.

Call 1-800-232-0233



Find a COVID
"Test-to-Treat" Site Near You.



Questions about COVID-19?

Call the PA Helpline for answers

- 7 disability inclusive digital ads
- 20,225,599 impressions delivered
- 30,013 Clicks of Engagement

Advocacy in 2022-2023



Closure of PA's
State Centers



Living Wage for
Direct Support
Professionals (DSP)



Early Intervention
– Rate Increases

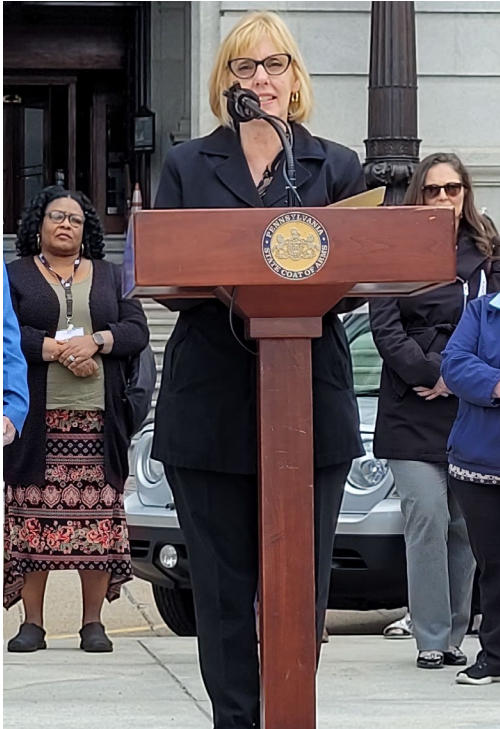


Increasing Special
Education Funding



Addressing the
Waiting List

Advocacy in 2022-2023 continued



Inclusive Education
for All

Employment 1st

Funding for Home
and Community
Based Services

Applying the
Special Education
Funding Formula

Fetal Alcohol
Spectrum Disorder
Task Force

State Task Force on
the Right to
Education

PA Schools Work
Campaign

Key Advocacy Issue in 2022-2023

Throughout the year, The Arc of PA has participated in press conferences and virtual advocacy meetings highlighting the importance of raising the wage for Direct Support Professionals



- 18 Meetings with Freshman Legislators
- 20 Budget Meetings with Appropriation Members

REGISTRATION DEADLINE ALERT!

VOTING IS POWER

TODAY is your FINAL day to
Register to Vote in the
2022 PA Primary

To register online, visit:

<https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/VoterRegistrationApplication.aspx>.



The Arc of PA
Voter & Voting Resources Webpage

<https://thearcpcpa.org/vote-2022/>

The Arc of Pennsylvania
announces the

Meet the Candidate Series!

Pre-recorded Q&As of candidates
running for election for an open
seat in the 2022 General Election.

These interviews will focus on key
issues that affect the Disability
Community.



Key Advocacy Issues in 2022-2023 - VOTE

SPECIAL EDUCATION DAY



Fifty years ago PARC v. Pennsylvania was one of the first cases to establish that children with intellectual & developmental disabilities should have the same access to education as all other children.



NATIONAL
SPECIAL
EDUCATION
DAY
DECEMBER 2



WHAT ARE SOME BENEFITS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROVIDED IN GENERAL EDUCATION CLASSROOMS?

Students with disabilities in inclusive classrooms:

- ▶ Develop stronger academic skills
- ▶ Tend to outperform disabled peers who attend segregated settings
- ▶ Are more likely to be employed, pursue further education after high school, & live independently
- ▶ Have more social interactions & relationships with peers without disabilities

Increasing Special Education Funding – Key Advocacy Issue in 2022-2023

Collaboration with Pennsylvania Schools Work

The Arc Informs



Facebook – 6093 Followers

Twitter – 1295 Followers

Instagram – 1045 Followers

TikTok (New)- 46 Followers and growing



The Arc
Pennsylvania ————— Fall 2022 - Volume XXIII, Issue 2

Pennsylvania Message

VOTING AND DISABILITY IN PENNSYLVANIA FROM DISABILITY RIGHTS PA

Submitted by Jennifer Garman, Director of
Government Affairs, Disability Rights PA

Voting is a fundamental right, privilege, and duty. It is also a key means to make your voice heard. For people with disabilities, voting is important to ensure that elected officials work to protect and advance the rights and interests of the disability community. The General Election will be held in Pennsylvania on November 8, 2022.

You cannot vote in Pennsylvania unless you are registered to

**“ My voice matters. I want them
(elected officials/candidates) to
know I vote. I care about my services
and funding, and I watch and vote. I
want to help people who care about
me.” — Harper, self-advocate**

PA Message

8399 SUBSCRIBERS



[Click on the pictures above to find The Arc of PA's Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, &](#)

[Website! To stay in the know, follow and subscribe!](#)



March 3, 2023

[View this email in your browser](#)



**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
AWARENESS MONTH**

March 2023

In Touch

BI-WEEKLY ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER
THAT GOES OUT TO ROUGHLY 1,600
DIGITAL SUBSCRIBERS

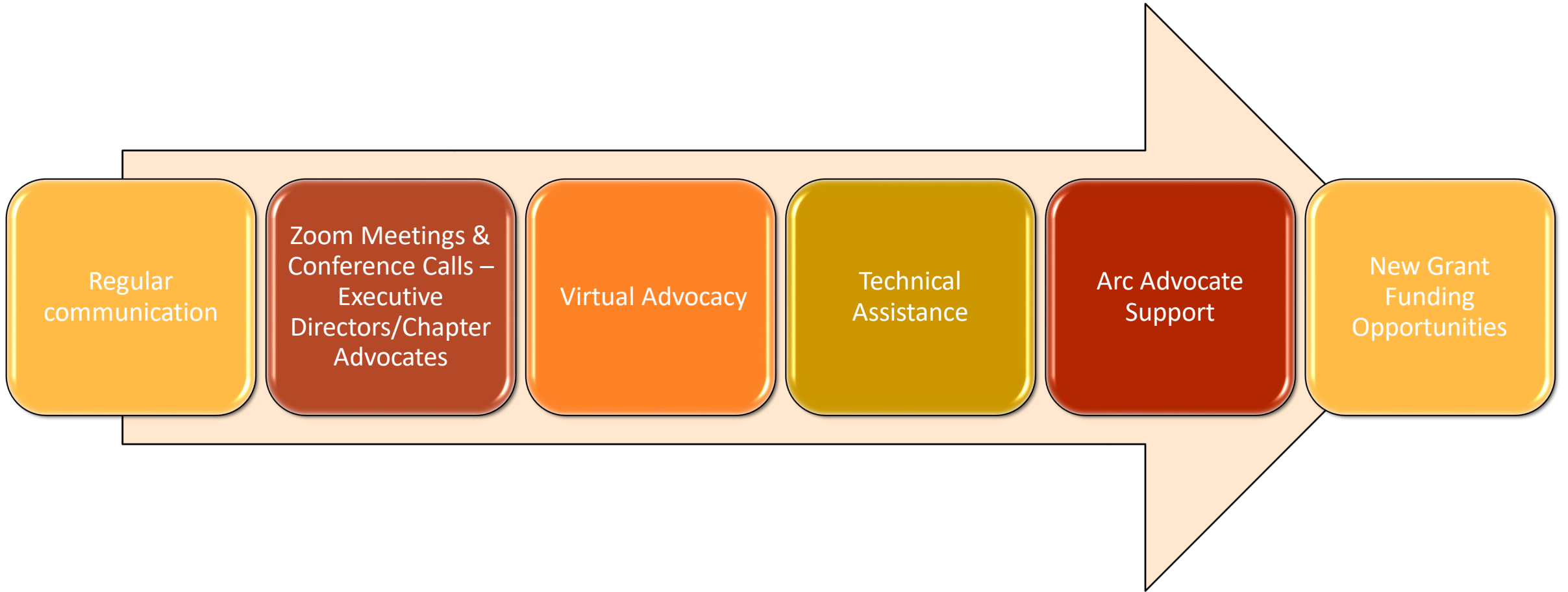
Action Alerts

Circulated Calls to Action on:

- Increasing the wages for Direct Support Professional
- Call to Action addressing Governor Shapiro
- Call to Action addressing members of the General Assembly
- Additional school year for students with IDD



Support to Local Chapters



Programs
that Make
a
Difference

Include Me School Age

ADEPT

ACRE Training



Includi-Con
 A 3-day Virtual Gathering on
INCLUSION & ACCESSIBILITY

For educators, parents, paraprofessionals,
 advocates, and all committed allies

JUNE 21-23
 #EmpoweringALL

The Arc
 Pennsylvania
 include me
 An Initiative of The Arc of Pennsylvania

Include Me School Age – Build Inclusion Capacity

- Served 21 School Districts
- Reached 1302 through Professional Development
- Reached 7099 through Outreach and Informational Activities
- Attended 39 Local Task Forces with 500 Families

AFTER SCHOOL Hangout Series **VIRTUAL** **FREE!** **AGES 10+**

Wed., Dec.21, 2022 at 4:30 pm
 Designed for ALL learners!!

**All the World's a Stage:
 Using Theatre to Improve Social Skills**

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Register at: bit.ly/ashangouts

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THE AFTER-SCHOOL Hang-Out Series

DESIGNED FOR ALL LEARNERS
 (SUGGESTED RANGE: 4TH - 8TH GRADE)

A one hour, virtual hangout series
 for students to explore:

SELF-IDENTITY

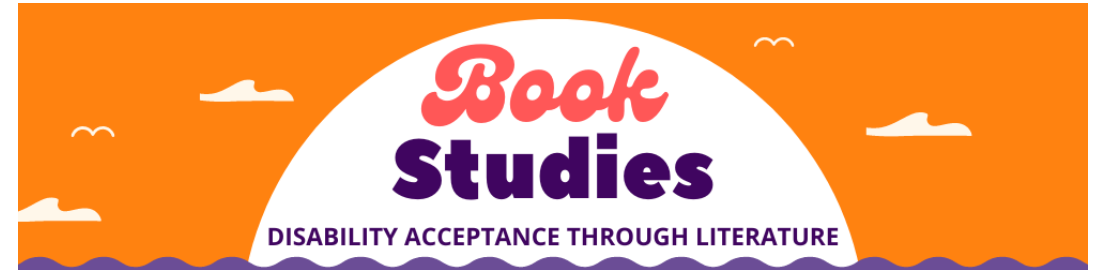
Join Celia & Nick!

**TUESDAY
 MAY 17
 4:30-5:30 PM**

HOSTED BY:
 include me
 An Initiative of The Arc of Pennsylvania

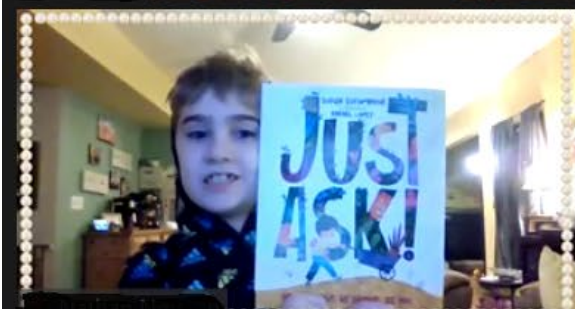
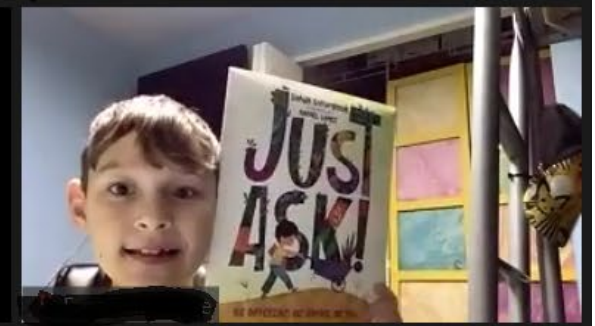
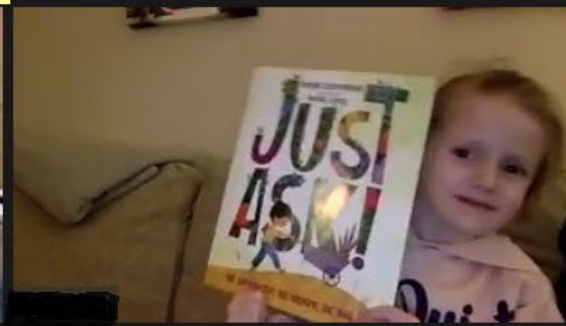
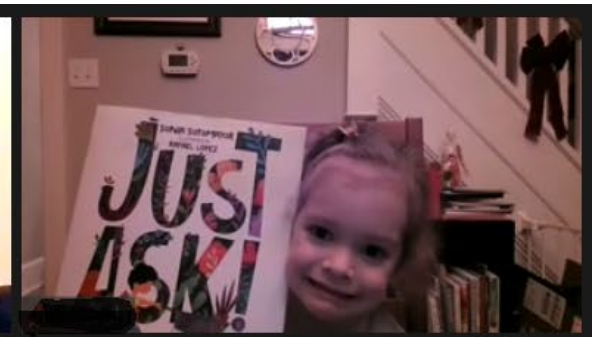
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16 Books – 4 Age Groups

- **64** Participants 4-8 Years Old (picture books)
- **60** Participants 8-12 Years Old
- **9** Participants 12-17 Years Old
- **12** Participants 17 Years Old and up



CUSTOMIZED JOB DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

- 3 Day online training
- Learn to develop an employer-focused approach to negotiating customized job descriptions on behalf of people with disabilities.
- Certification available with additional fieldwork after training.

April 12 - 14, 2023

include me

SPRING TRAINING SCHEDULE

MAY 10 - 12 Discovery Training	MAY 17 - 19 Customized Job Development
MAY 22 - 24 Making Employment Work	JUNE 5 Intentional Teaching

INTENTIONAL TEACHING

Learn strategies to identify & analyze skills into teachable steps that can be customized & taught to people of all abilities & learning styles.

LIVE Webinar!

DISABILITY: PART OF THE EQUITY EQUATION

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

A "WIN-WIN" STRATEGY

Customized Employment

A process to adapt a community-integrated, competitive job so that it matches both an employer's needs & also matches the interests, strengths, & conditions needed for

We provide high quality, competency-based training to improve opportunities & support for community employment success of people with disabilities.

ACRE CERTIFICATE* HOLDERS THAT WE HAVE TRAINED

20,000

*National Certification from the Association of Community Rehabilitation Educators (ACRE)

Discovery Training

- Learn the Discovery Process, an alternative to traditional vocational assessments. This 3-day online training provides a comprehensive overview & instruction on facilitating the Discovery process.
- January 16 - 18, 2023
- Online via Zoom

REGISTER:

thearcpa.org/discovery

EARN A BASIC ACRE CERTIFICATE

OCTOBER 12 - 14, 2022

MAKING EMPLOYMENT WORK

- 3 days online, followed up with course assignments & self-paced online content
- Training qualifies individuals to provide Supported Employment services with PA's Office of Vocational Rehabilitation & Office of Developmental Programs.
- Access to Zoom and a webcam is needed

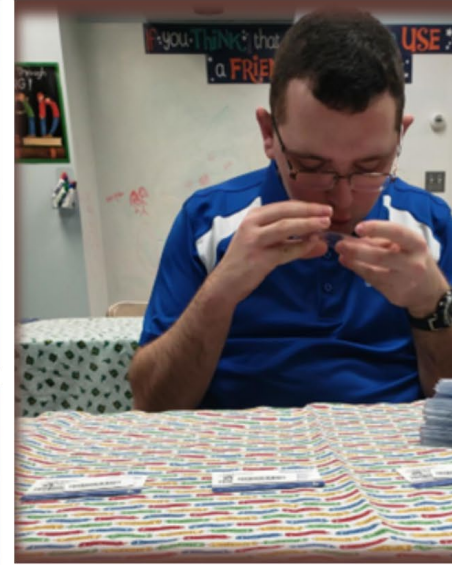
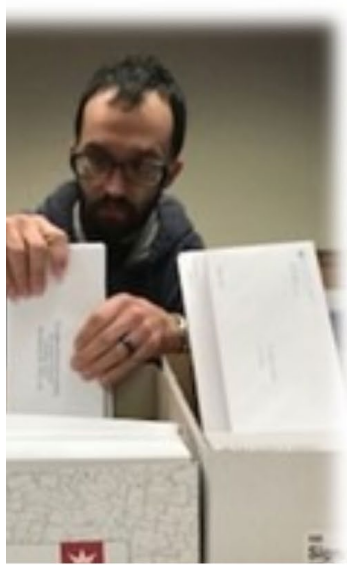
ADEPT – Programs that Make a Difference

Our ADEPT (Arc Discovery Employment Transition) Program provides customized employment training for providers in Discovery, Job Development, and Systematic Instruction. The Arc also provides this service to individuals through OVR (Office of Vocational Rehab) and BSE (Bureau of Special Education) funding. Customized Employment matches the individual's skills, interests, and talents with the needs of a business.

- 268 Individuals ACRE Certified
- 45 Individuals attending Marc Gold & Associates
- 36 Public Outreach Events with 2,289 attendees
- Job Support
 - 9 Funded through Bureau of Special Education
 - 5 Funded through Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

ADEPT

Programs that Make a Difference!



The Arc of Pennsylvania Partners

Bureau of Early
Intervention
Services

Childcare
Information
Services

Early Intervention
Technical
Assistance

Intermediate
Units and Local
School Districts

State and Local
Intermediate
Units

Department of
Human Services

PA Choice

PA Schools Work

Disability
Coalitions

Disability
Transportation
Alliance

The Arc of United
States

Local Arc
Chapters

PA DD Council

PA Department of
Health

PA Department of
Education

Office of
Vocational
Rehabilitation

Disability Rights
of PA

Provider
Organizations

Thank You to The Arc of Pennsylvania's

Board of Directors

Chapter Executives and Presidents

State Chapter Staff

Countless Volunteers



Local Chapter Support

Thank
you!

