



A Year in Review

2024-2025



Who We Are

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







**DIAMONDS ARE
FOREVER.
SO IS OUR IMPACT.**



**Join us as we commemorate our
75th anniversary and look to the
bright future ahead.**

On November 16th, 2024, 150 family, friends and special guests of The Arc of PA gathered at the West Shore County Club to celebrate 75 years of making an impact in the lives of people with IDD. The theme for the evening:

**Diamonds are forever.
So is our impact.**

Thanks to the hard work of staff and support from family and friends, we will continue to shine for another 75 years and beyond.





75 Years of
Advocacy

Covering 50
Counties in PA



State Advocacy

Ending the Waiting List

Wages for Direct Support Professionals (DSPs)

Adequate Early Intervention Funding

Adequate Special Education Funding

Settings for Children with Complex Care Needs



Federal Advocacy



Saving Medicaid

Saving Section 504

Saving IDEA and Special Education

Coalition Advocacy

Disability Budget Coalition	PA Coalition for Oral Health
Disability Health Action Network	PA Statewide Independent Living Council
Early Intervention Coalition	Pennsylvania Cancer Coalition
EI Workgroup with RCPA	Pennsylvania Disability History Collaborative
Family Care Act Coalition	Pennsylvania Health Access Network
Health Equity Action Team	Pennsylvania Policy Center
ID/A Coalition	Pennsylvania School Works
Information Sharing and Advisory Committee	Policy Information Exchange
Office of Health Equity Advisory Committee	Rosemary Collaboratory
Organ Donation Advisory Committee	State Health Improvement Plan Goal Teams
Oral Health Progress and Equity Network	State Task Force



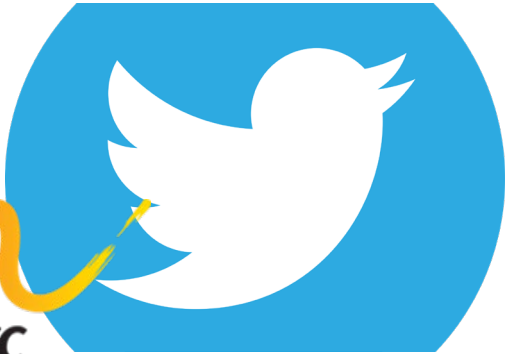
Action Alerts

Our action alerts about Medicaid cuts got **1,282 people** to speak up, leading to over **4,100 messages sent to U.S. lawmakers** from Pennsylvania. We used both broad and targeted outreach to get more people involved.

This is more than twice as many responses as our best past alert.



The Arc Informs



The Arc.
Pennsylvania

The Arc of PA followers:

Facebook: 8,608	(up 31%)
Instagram: 1,353	(up 16%)
X: 1,320	(down 2%)
LinkedIn: 458	(new)
Bluesky: 750	(new)

Include Me followers:

Facebook: 1,224	(up 10%)
Instagram: 522	(up 13%)
X: 165	(down 9%)
TikTok: 109	(up 51%)

Include Me's TikTok

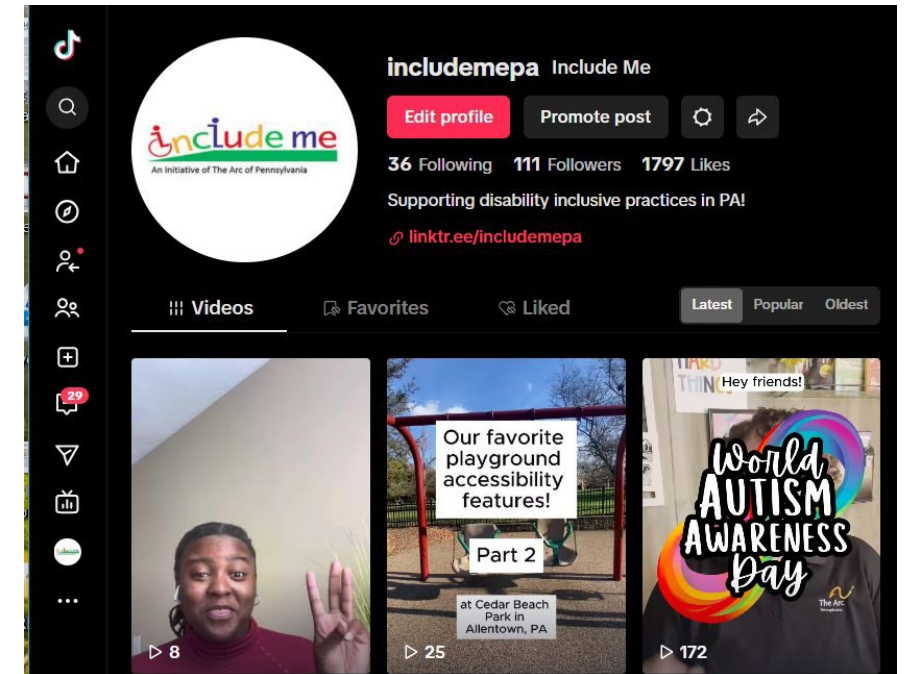


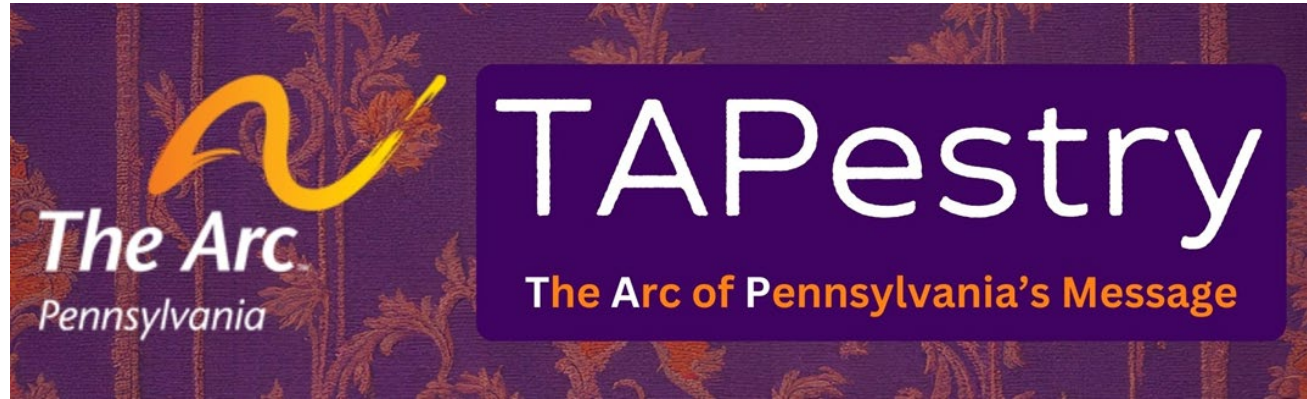
IM's TikTok account is **growing** steadily!

We're sharing videos that show **inclusive communities, give helpful tips for school staff and families, and spread awareness** about accepting people with disabilities.

We plan to group these videos into playlists and add them to our YouTube channels.

We also share the videos on Facebook, Instagram, and other social media to keep the conversation going about disability awareness, inclusion, and the work of The Arc of PA.





Our monthly electronic newsletter, **TAPestry**, has grown a lot and now has nearly **2,000 subscribers**.

In April 2025, we started sending it out **twice a month** because it had become a very useful source of information. This change helps The Arc of PA share more updates about our work, our local chapters, our national organization, and important news about policies, topics, and events that affect people with IDD.

Programs
that Make a
Difference



Health Initiatives

Include Me School Age

ADEPT

ACRE Training

Health Initiatives

The Arc of Pennsylvania Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities among People with Disabilities

- Acknowledged by the CDC as a Novel & Emerging Practice and added to their website
- Held 2nd Annual Disability Health Action Summit with over 120 attendees and 16 Vendors
- Presented at the AADMD One Voice Annual Conference in Phoenix, AZ
- Presented to the PA Department of Health's Health Equity Advisory Team





DHAN is a statewide collaborative committed to advancing the health and well-being of individuals with disabilities in Pennsylvania.

- Promoting equitable access to quality health care
- Fostering effective communication between stakeholders
- Enhancing the overall health outcomes for people with disabilities

6 Advisory
Committee
Meetings

In-person ½ day
Action Plan Meeting

Developed Action
Plan for 2026

Website
Accessibility Review

Emergency
Preparedness
Literature Review

Stakeholder
Listening Sessions

Poll of County
Emergency
Preparedness
Coordinators

Community Health
& Health Needs
Assessments
Research

42 Member
Advisory Committee

Website Creation as
Hub for Statewide
Disability Health
Resources



"Dental for All"

The Arc of PA coordinated **2 Dental Office Open Houses** to help people with IDD feel comfortable with the dental office, tools, and procedures.

The project also **educated local oral health professionals** about the best ways to care for people with IDD.



DENTAL OFFICE OPEN HOUSE
for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities

Tuesday
September 10, 2024
6:00-8:00 PM

Meadville Dental Center
640 Alden St
Meadville, PA 16335

The event is coordinated by The Arc of Pennsylvania

The Dental Office Open House is part of an initiative to promote healthy lifestyles for individuals with intellectual disabilities (IDD). This event allows individuals with IDD to familiarize themselves with a dental office setting, ask questions and get to know a local dentist to help reduce the anxiety and fear associated with visiting the dentist.

Families, individuals with disabilities, caregivers, staff and providers are welcome to attend. Giveaways and tips for promoting dental wellness will also be available for those in attendance.

TO REGISTER, VISIT
WWW.THEARCPA.ORG

THE ARC OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1007 MUMMA RD, LEMOYNE, PA, 17043 (717) 234-2621

**DISCOVER YOUR BEST SMILE:
JOIN OUR OPEN HOUSE**

📅 Thursday, September 12 🕒 4 pm - 6 pm

In partnership with Penn Dental Medicine and The Arc, Woods Healthcare is pleased to host a dental office Open House on Thursday, September 12.

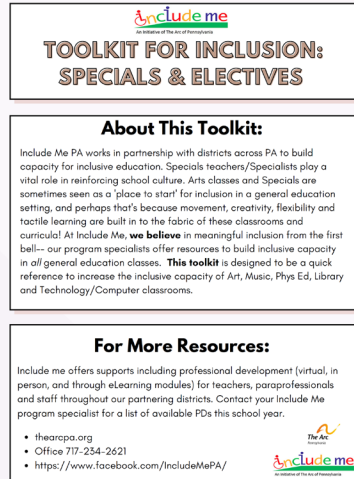
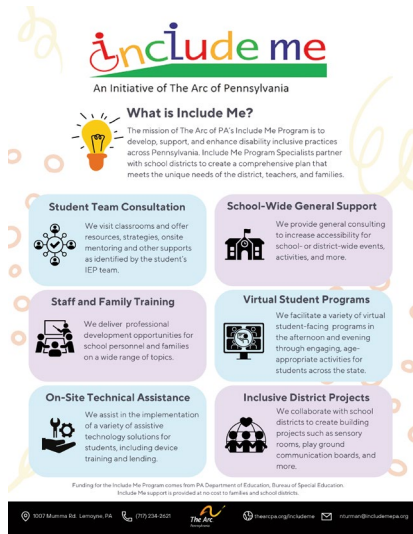
This event is part of an initiative to promote healthy lifestyles for individuals with intellectual disabilities and autism (ID/A), and mental health challenges. It provides an opportunity for individuals with IDD and their families to become familiar with the dental office environment at Woods, engage with the dental staff, ask questions, and reduce anxiety and fear associated with dental visits. Families, individuals with disabilities, caregivers, staff, and providers are welcome to attend. Attendees will also receive giveaways and valuable tips for promoting dental wellness. Remarks will begin promptly at 4 pm followed by light refreshments and activities.

REGISTER TODAY! [CLICK HERE](#)

Include Me School Age

Building Inclusion Capacity

- Served 14 school districts
- Trained 4,393 school staff through Professional Development
- Attended 59 outreach and informational events
- Expanded Pre-Ets programming from 1 to 5 separate offerings across PA
- Developed Webinar Transition Series to deliver information to families in recorded and live sessions on social media
- Internally reviewed and updated all Professional Development offerings for school teams





Making Employment Work
UPCOMING DATES

Earn a Basic ACRE Certificate

Below is our schedule for upcoming virtual training for those providing Supported Employment; Community Participation; or transition services for high school students.

August 17-19
September 12-14
October 12-14
November 14-16
December 12-14

LEARN MORE:
thearcpa.org/training

include me The Arc Pennsylvania




The Arc Pennsylvania
NEW
Customized Employment Certification Course

- Get certification in:
 - Discovery
 - Customized Job Development
 - Systematic Instruction
 - All in one course!
- New price!
 - \$650 vs \$3600

Register Now
thearcpa.org/training/

The Arc of PA's Making Employment Work
ACRE Basic Certification Training



Association of Community Rehabilitation Educators

ADEPT

Our **ADEPT (Arc Discovery Employment Transition) Program** offers training for service providers in Supported Employment, Discovery, and Job Development. This includes **ACRE certification** and training in **Customized Employment**—a way of helping people find jobs that match their skills, interests, and strengths with what a business needs.

We also provide this training directly to individuals through funding from the **Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)** and the **Bureau of Special Education (BSE)**.

This year's highlights:

- **599 people** received ACRE training (up from 341 last year)
- **12 individuals** attended Customized Employment training or worked toward certification (4 completed it)
- **Recertified as an OVR Supported Employment vendor**
- **Updated our ACRE curriculum** to meet new standards set by the ACRE board




The Arc
Pennsylvania

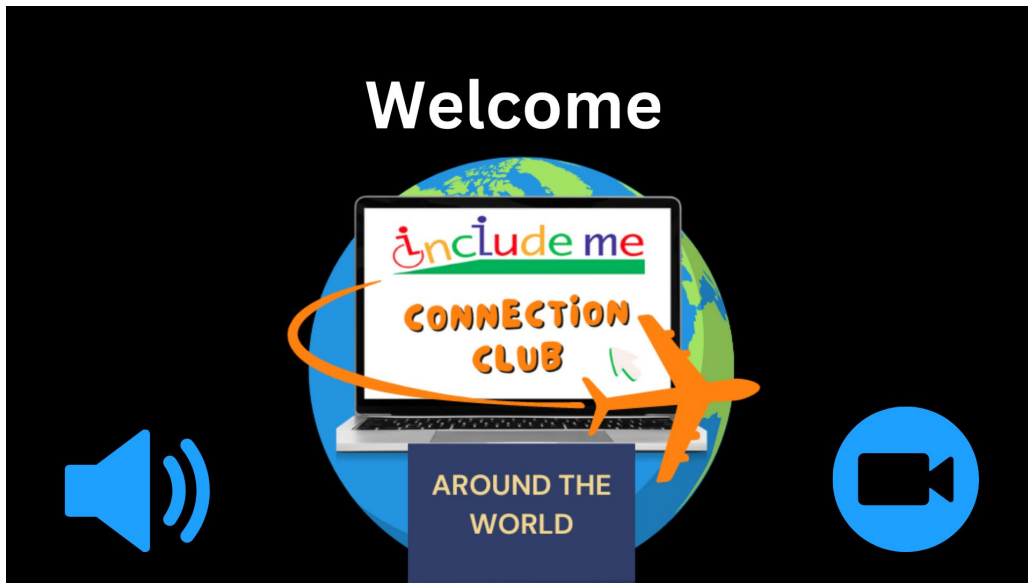




2024-2025 18 Books 4 Age Groups

We held **12 virtual book study sessions** and **6 in-person sessions**, including one with an entire 2nd grade level.

The Arc of PA is planning to support **inclusion during the Extended School Year (ESY) at 8 elementary schools** in the **School District of Philadelphia**.



Around the World Series

Sept 2024 - May 2025

Featured 2x/month meetings themed around:

- **7 Continents**
- **Worldly Winter Celebrations**
- **Oceans**

Camp IMCC Returns!

Year 3

July 1st- August 12th





2
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2
5



Includi-Con 2025



Sally Bailey

**Using Drama to
Rehearse and
Retain Executive
Functions in the
Inclusive Classroom**



Kelli Suding

**Session 1 - Slinging
Spaghetti: Access for
Every Learner
Session 2 - No Reader
Left Behind: How to
Create Accessible
Content**



Dr. Kerry Magro

**Teaching the Way
Our Students Learn:
Curriculum
Practices and
Inclusive
Classrooms**

Register at:
www.thearca.org/includicon

Virtual 3-Day Conference

**June 24th – June 26th
8:30am - 12:30pm**

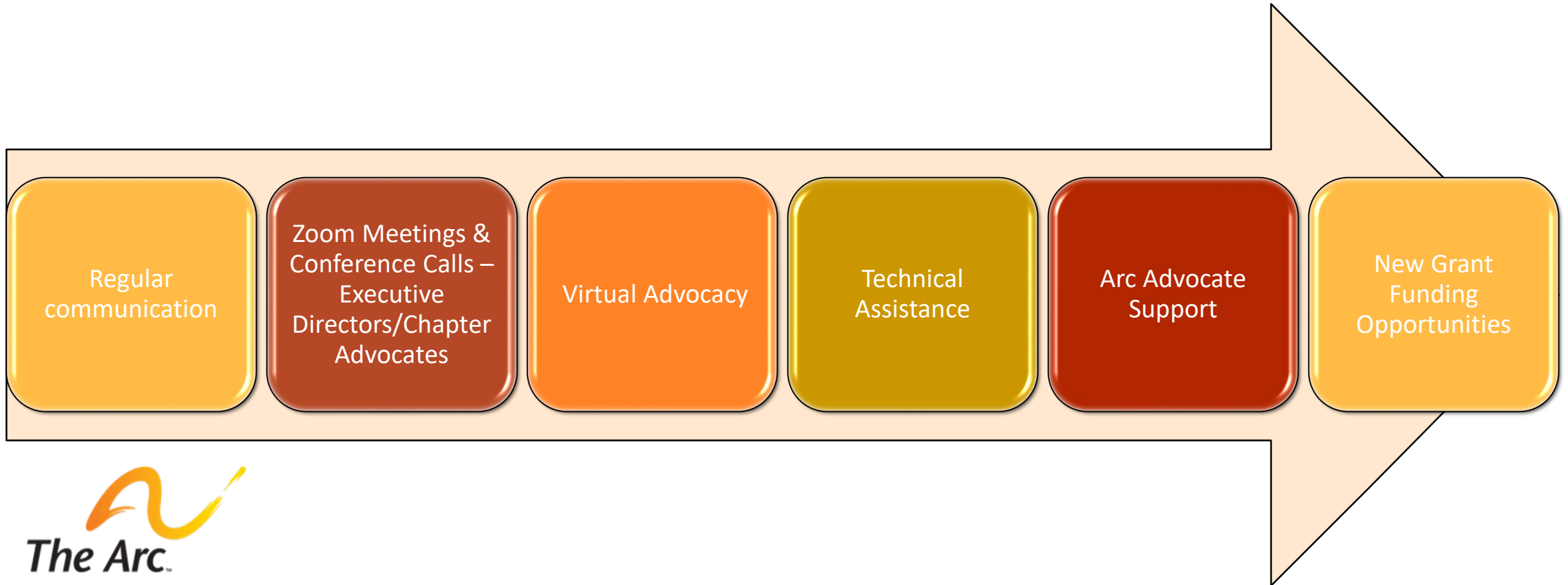
Includi-Con aims to promote, elevate, and educate about the importance of inclusive practices in education. This year's theme is:

**Alternate Angles:
Innovative Inclusion for
Students with Disabilities**

Attendees will hear from experts in the field of disability to gain tips, tools, and resources to incorporate inclusion in schools and their everyday lives.

The conference will be attended by educators and staff as well as interested family members and individuals with lived experience.

Support to Local Chapters



Wings for Autism with The Arc of Philadelphia



The Arc
Pennsylvania

The Arc of PA 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 PA's...

Board of Directors

Chapter Executives and Presidents

State Chapter Staff

Countless Volunteers



The Arc
Pennsylvania

For people with intellectual
and developmental disabilities

Achieve with us.

www.thearcpa.org



Thank you!