



***For people with intellectual and
developmental disabilities***

2015 Chapter Activity Report

In 2015, The Arc of Colorado continued to focus on strategic priorities identified by the Board of Directors in 2013:

- **Public policy advocacy**
- **Public awareness and support for self-advocates**
- **Outreach to areas of Colorado not served by local chapters of The Arc**
- **Governance**
- **Financial Resources**

Public Policy

Federal

The Arc of Colorado regularly informed members of the Arc and other organizations who advocate with and for people with intellectual and/developmental disabilities (IDD) about federal issues affecting the supports and services that enable people with IDD to live healthy lives in the community of their choice. The first session of the 114th Congress was as gridlocked as the previous session, but The Arc persisted in informing members of Congress about key policy issues for people with intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities:

- Budget and tax issues—sufficient revenue must be raised to fund social insurance—Social Security and Medicare, safety net provisions such as Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income
- Civil Rights—vigilant enforcement of laws and regulations that protect persons with disabilities
- Community Based Long Term Supports and Services—services should be widely accessible and offer as much consumer control as possible without the requirement that people impoverish themselves to obtain assistance for activities of daily living
- Direct Support Professionals—these professionals must be well trained and fairly compensated
- Education—the education system must help people with I/DD to achieve full potential and independence through inclusive classrooms, high expectations, integrated instruction, and positive behavior supports
- Employment—supported employment must be expanded to provide more job development, coaching, training, and placement to help people with I/DD find and retain competitive wage jobs in integrated settings
- Family Support—counseling, support groups, respite, and other services must be made widely available to family caregivers especially those who are aging
- Health Care—people with I/DD must have timely access to high quality, comprehensive, accessible, affordable and individualized health care
- Housing—people with I/DD need safe, integrated, accessible, and affordable places to live
- Medicaid—must be rebalanced to make home and community based services the norm and institutional services the exception
- Technology—must be accessible and made widely available to people with I/DD from it to improve access to communication, education, employment, and independent living
- Transportation—accessible transportation programs must be expanded and anti-discrimination policies enforced
- Passage of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Support for Declaration of The Rights of People with Cognitive Disabilities to Technology and Information Access

Representatives from The Arc of Colorado and other CO local chapters of The Arc attended the annual Disability Policy Seminar sponsored by The Arc and UCP (United Cerebral Palsy), AAIDD (American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities), AUCD (Association of University Centers on Disabilities), SABE (Self Advocates Becoming Empowered), and NACDD (National

Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities). We met with members or representatives of both CO Senate offices and all 7 offices of the US House. Board members Vicki Wray and Mitch Routon were able to present their cases for federal action from a very personal and notably insightful point of view.

The Arc of Colorado Executive Director participates in bi-monthly calls on federal legislation with The Arc Policy office, and shares updates on critical issues with local chapter executives and others interested in The Arc policy agenda.

The Directors of The Arc of Indiana, The Arc of Arizona and The Arc of Colorado represented The Arc at the National Conference of State Legislatures annual conference in Seattle, WA in August, 2015.

Colorado Public Policy

The 2015 General Assembly was among the more “active” in recent years regarding issues that affect people with IDD. The Arc of Colorado, with local chapters and the support of our lobbyist, Mendez Consulting, actively participated in advocating for (and occasionally against) legislation that impact people with IDD.

In March, 2015, The Arc of Colorado hosted a luncheon for CO attended legislatures and staff and Board members of local chapters. The 2015 luncheon was well attended and followed a good day at the statehouse with both chambers of the General Assembly passing resolutions to honor The Arc.

Supplemental action—2014-15 budget—from DD Cash Fund

- \$175,000 for cost analysis of fully including people with IDD in the state Medicaid capitated Mental Health system—see HB 1368
- \$1 million for respite for families through the Family Support Services program
- \$ 500,000 for person centered training throughout the state for providers, self- advocates, families, advocates and others in the DD system

2015 Long Bill—SB 15-234

- \$2,387,292 to expand availability of Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services to the Supported Living Services waiver
- 1.7% rate increase for providers of services to persons with IDD
- \$352,213 for implementing new federal rules regarding person centered requirements in Long Term Services and Supports, including setting changes, and Olmstead plan implementation
- Enrollments for the DD Comprehensive waiver
 - 55 enrollments for youth turning 18 who age out of the foster care system
 - 40 enrollments for adults in crisis or who experience emergencies requiring immediate residential services
 - 61 enrollments for youth transitioning from the Children’s Extensive Services Waiver to adult services
- Enrollments for CES and SLS—153 new enrollments for Supported Living Services and 49 new enrollments for the children’s waiver

Other relevant 2015 legislation

HB 1182—Scope of Practice—Certified Nurse Aides—Reps. Landgraf and Lontine and Sen. Aguilar—allows a CNA deemed competent to perform bowel care, G tube and j-tube feedings and placement in a client’s mouth of medication that has been prepared by a nurse or pharmacist.

HB 1186—Services for Children With Autism—Rep. Young and Sen. Steadman—Joint Budget Committee bill—expands the Children with Autism Waiver to end the waiting list for that waiver; raises the age limit from 6 to 8 years of age; ensures that all children receive at least 3 years of service regardless of age at entry into the waiver; eliminates the cap of \$25,000 per year and allows the medical services board to establish annual limits; and increases the frequency of program evaluation. Coverage provisions are effective on or before July 1, 2016.

In September, 2015, Colorado was notified that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) did not approve the application to expand this waiver. Instead CMS informed HCPF that medically necessary services for children eligible for Medicaid should be covered under state plan Medicaid through requirements of the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment benefit. Administrative and budgetary authority is required to systematize these benefits. The Arc of CO will continue to work with CO HCPF to track the implementation of these benefits.

HB 1233—Respite Care Study Task Force—Rep. Landgraf and Sen. Aguilar—establishes a task force to study supply and demand for respite services in CO. Majority and Minority leadership will appoint 9 members. Report to General Assembly by January 2016.

HB 1242—Patient Caregiver Designation—Rep. Danielson and Sen. Aguilar—requires hospitals to give each patient or legal guardian the opportunity to designate a caregiver within 24 hours after the patient’s admission to the hospital and prior to release or transfer to another facility. Caregiver will be provided with information about discharge plan and instructions and training for aftercare of patient.

HB 1309—Protective Restorations by Dental Hygienists—Rep. Ginal and Sen. Crowder—allows a dental hygienist to place interim therapeutic restorations with approval by the dental board.

HB 1318—Consolidate Intellectual and Developmental Disability Waivers—Rep. Young and Sen. Grantham—Joint Budget Committee Bill—requires the dept. to submit a new waiver to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services by July 2016 to provide flexible benefits and services; guarantees that persons in service continue to receive same supports; requires the dept. to submit a plan for implementing conflict free case management with subsequent statutory changes required; requires the dept. to evaluate the process for eligibility determination and service planning assessment and to evaluate sufficiency of reimbursement rates.

HB 1368—Cross System Response Pilot—Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities—Rep. Young and Sen. Grantham—Joint Budget Committee Bill—establishes a cross system response for behavioral crisis intervention, stabilization, and follow through for people who also have an intellectual/developmental disorder. Pilots may be in more than one location. The bill provides funding for the first year of pilots with agreement that pilots can continue for up to 3 years and requires the dept. to conduct a cost analysis of fully including people with IDD in the state mental health Medicaid system.

The Request for Proposals for the pilot project was issued in early November, 2015. The Arc of CO, with JFK Partners and The Arc of Arapahoe and Douglas, has submitted questions and comments about the RFP.

SB 085—Mental Health Parity for Autism Spectrum Disorders—Sen. Kefalas and Rep. Primavera—requires covered state plans to provide autism services and supports as medically necessary—effective January 1, 2017; removes the cap on those services; allows coverage for services provided by registered behavior technicians; repeals a provision in law that specifies that autism is not to be treated as a mental health disorder for purposes of health care coverage.

SB 109—Mandatory Abuse Reporting for Adult with A Disability—Sen. Grantham and Rep. Young—**Joint Budget Committee Bill**—adds the requirement to include adults with a disability to mandatory abuse or exploitation requirement. Creates an implementation task force to review issues and make recommendations regarding implementation in 2016.

SB 213—Waive Gov. Immunity for acts of School Violence—Sens Cadman and Scheffel and Reps. **Hullingerhorst and Duran**—amends current law to require schools, districts, charter schools etc. to exercise a standard of reasonable care to protect staff, students, and others from harm. The bill waives sovereign immunity when violent actions result in serious bodily harm or death. Establishes limits on damages that may be recovered. The bill takes effect in July 2015 but no damages would be awarded for two years. Neutral on the bill.

SB 214—Interim Committee Safe Schools Youth in Crisis-- Sens Cadman and Scheffel and Reps. **Hullingerhorst and Duran**—establishes an interim legislative committee to study issues related to school safety, evaluate programs and methods for threat assessment, develop criteria for school personnel to use in assessing potential threats by students, evaluate the implementation of SB 213. Supported with caution.

Other State Public Policy Activity

The Arc of Colorado Executive Director serves on:

- **Regional Center Task Force**—The RCTF authorized by the 2014 Legislature and will conclude its work in December, 2015. The task force will make recommendations to the General Assembly about the number of Intermediate Care Facility resources that the state should operate, recommendations for ensuring a provider of last resort, as well as strengthening community resources and responsiveness for persons with complex needs. Additionally, recommendations will be forthcoming about how the state of CO should modify the resources at Regional Centers that are currently funded through Home and Community Based Waivers.
- **Adults with IDD HCBS Waiver Re-Design**—CO HCPF held a dozen public meetings throughout the state to present the broad recommendations identified in the Community Living Advisory Group and the task force that worked on waiver re-design. HB 1309 calls for HCPF to submit a plan for development and implementation of this waiver as well as plans for addressing conflict free case management and the issue of assessments to determine support and funding levels for adults with IDD receiving community based services.
- **SB 109 Task Force**—SB 109 expands mandatory reporting to law enforcement of mistreatment, abuse, neglect and exploitation. Current law, passed in 2013, requires certain persons including doctors and other health care professionals, health care workers, clergy, social workers, law enforcement, guardians, and conservators, EMS personnel, community

centered board staff, financial institution staff, care takers, staff or licensed facilities or agencies. The task force will present recommendations for changes in statute—CO Criminal code, Adult Protective Services laws, and CO laws regarding the Division for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities; CO rules; training requirements and funding needs to implement the law on July 1, 2016.

- **State Innovation Model—Policy Group**—Colorado received a \$65 million federal grant to develop a State Health Care Innovation Plan with a focus on improved integration of physical and behavioral health services. The plan is intended to cover Medicaid, Medicare, the Children’s Health Insurance Program, and services paid for through private insurance. The goal is to develop a plan to:
 - create a coordinated, accountable system of care that gives Coloradans access to integrated primary care and behavioral health;
 - leverage the power of our public health system to achieve broader population health goals and support delivery of care;
 - use outcomes-based payments to enable transformation; and
 - engage individuals in their care.

The Policy Group is charged with making recommendations to the administration for changes needed in statute, rules, and funding mechanisms to enable integrated services.

- **Colorado Community Choice Transition Advisory Group**—In 2013, CO received a federal grant through a program entitled “Money Follows the Person” to help transition Colorado Medicaid members out of nursing homes and long-term care facilities and into home and community-based settings. Qualified candidates would receive home and community-based waiver services (HCBS) plus CCT-enhanced supports and services designed to promote independence. CO hoped to transition around 500 people through the project. Some barriers—including the lack of affordable and accessible housing, guardian permission, and the inability to make home modifications before occupancy—may make that goal difficult to meet. However, the program has provided a wealth of information useful across all long term services and supports regarding the resources needed for individuals to transition from
- **Community First Choice**—The CFC Council provides input to CHCPF for possible implementation of a provision of the Affordable Care Act which would increase the share of federal support for Medicaid long term services and supports. Community First Choice is intended to encourage states to make benefits such as personal care, home-maker services, health maintenance, and other supports available in the community to avoid costly nursing home or institutional placement. Cost estimates for implementing CFC in Colorado are being revised and refined to more accurately reflect projected expenses. States using CFC receive an additional 6% in federal Medicaid match for all HCB services.
- **CMS Settings Rule—Non Residential Work Group**—All states using Medicaid funds for Home and Community Based Services must present plans to CMS to comply with a long awaited comprehensive new rule which was issued in 2013 and went into effect in March, 2014. CMS worked on the definition for several years soliciting and responding to over 2,000 public comments. In the final rule, CMS moved away from a definition of HCB setting based on a

setting's location, geography, or physical characteristics. CMS decided to focus on the nature and quality of people's experiences to describe HCB settings.

CMS' stated intention in promulgating the final rule was to maximize opportunities for people to have access to the benefits of community living, including receiving services in the most integrated setting and to ensure that Medicaid funding and policy support needed strategies for states in their efforts to meet their obligations under the ADA and the Supreme Court decision in *Olmstead*.

The rule emphasizes personal autonomy, community integration, and choice in HCBS. The regulation establishes more stringent rules for provider owned or controlled residential settings. States must work with CMS to develop transition plans (full assurance of compliance to CMS must be made by January 2019) to bring non-compliant programs into compliance and must provide opportunities for public input into those transition plans.

The rule focuses on 1) how people receive services; their rights to choice while receiving services; programs; employment and assurance of individual rights, 2) conflict free case management plans, 3) person centered focus for all services. The rule affects ALL HCBS services not just those receiving services under HCBS waivers for people with IDD.

The setting rule work group began in November, 2015, and will serve as one of the many vehicles for public input on CO's transition plan

Additional Representation of The Arc

The Arc of Colorado participated in:

- JFK Advisory Council
- CANDO—Medical/ Mental Health Subcommittee
- Adults without Dependent Children Medicaid Expansion Advisory Task Force
- Rocky Mountain Human Services Mill Levy Advisory Committee
- CHCBC—Katie Beckett Work Group
- HCPF Person Centered Training Summit

Public Awareness/Community Outreach

Film Festival

The Arc of Colorado with all local chapters of The Arc celebrated national Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in March with the 4th annual *Achieve with Us* Colorado Film Festival. Showings were held in Colorado Springs, at the Candlelight dinner theater in Johnstown, and Denver. About 850 people attended one or more showings.

Sponsors: Colorado Chapters of The Arc, Alliance, arc Thrift, Rocky Mountain Human Services, Colorado Springs Gazette, Colorado Springs Independent, Developmental Pathways, 1st Bank, JFK Partners, PASCO, The Legal Center for People with Disabilities and Older Adults, The Resource Exchange,

Community partners: The Autism Society of Colorado, Colorado Cross Disability Coalition, Colorado Developmental Disability Council, Candlelight Dinner Playhouse, Colorado Fund for People with

Developmental Disabilities, Colorado Gerontology Society, Colorado Respite Coalition, Colorado Special Education Advisory Committee, Denver Children's Advocacy Center, Denver Film Society, Denver Film Center, Easter Seals of Colorado, El Grupo VIDA, Ecographics, FASD Council, Hooligan Productions, Parent to Parent, Peak Parent Center, People First of Denver, Phamaly Theater Company, Rocky Mountain Down Syndrome Association, Timberline Church Network, Troy's custom Tee's, Tri-County Health Department, and People First of Larimer County.

Plans are underway for the 2016 series.

Families in Action

The Arc of Colorado with the Association for Community Living in Boulder County, The Arc of Larimer County and The Arc of Weld County successfully launched Families in Action in 2014 as an annual event to bring together families of young children with IDD for networking, education and an introduction to the life-long value of engagement with The Arc. The second annual event was held in August, 2015. Parents, grandparents, and children with IDD from 30 families gathered with staff and volunteers from chapters of The Arc for a jam packed "retreat" at the Estes Park YMCA camp. All told, more than 230 people in sky blue Families in Action T shirts learned and played together in the Rocky Mountains.

Chapters of The Arc and other sponsors, including arc Thrift, covered all the costs of the event so that families could participate. Break-out sessions covered topics ranging from "How a Bill Becomes a Law" to "Advocacy Q and A." The days and evenings were filled with activities for adults and for all the children who attended.

The third annual FIA event is planned for August, 2016.

Calabrese Life Opportunity Fund

In 2013, The Arc of Colorado dedicated a portion of a bequest from the Calabrese family to establish the Life Opportunity Fund. The primary purpose of the fund is to provide technology devices (along with training) not covered by insurance or state funded programs and accompanying training for persons with IDD.

The committee approved the purchase of 4 iPads in 2015 and also approved the purchase of three iPads, and one HP stream to use these devices at a learning lab we hosted with The Arc US to show people the many ways technology could be useful in their lives. We will also use the devices to let people test a tablet vs. laptop, apple vs. windows operating systems, etc. when choosing a device. We will use the tablets to help generate interest and donations for the Calabrese fund by using them as part of our table displays at conferences.

Promoting a Lifetime of Activity for Youth

In 2014, the Professional Baseball Athletic Trainers Society (PBATS) and The Arc launched a partnership to promote the inclusion of people with disabilities in sporting activities nationwide.

The Arc of Colorado, with local chapters, participated in the PLAY (Promoting a Lifetime of Activity for Youth) campaign with the Colorado Rockies at Coors Field. In July, 2015 30 kids and their families from throughout CO joined Rockies players for a morning of physical and nutrition education and the opportunity to see the Rockies play later that weekend.

Self-Advocate Outreach

People First

Heidi Haines, Project Specialist for The Arc of Colorado serves as the advisor for the Denver area People First Chapter. The chapter meets regularly at The Arc of Colorado—Logan Towers Conference room. The Board meets at Advocacy Denver. Heidi routinely assists the Denver group in board as well as membership meetings and provides support for the chapter when they engage in statewide events with other self-advocacy groups.

People First of Denver, in partnership with self-advocacy groups in Arizona, Texas and New Mexico was awarded the Regional Self-Advocacy Technical Assistance Grant: The purpose of these projects is to provide regional support to self-advocacy organizations that focus on individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Although a region must include at least four states, each project will define its 'region' and select the States to be in its region. Each project will have a board or an advisory committee where a democratic process will be used to appoint representatives to a regional coalition. The representatives will be used to ensure that the self-advocacy movement is evident at the state and regional levels.

Heidi and other People First members traveled to Arizona twice in 2015 to work with the partners on the grant to develop state plans for improving self-advocacy at the state level.

Speaking For Ourselves

Speaking for Ourselves (SFO) is the statewide consortium of self-advocacy organizations (such as People First of Denver) in Colorado. The Arc of Colorado became fiscal agent for SFO in 2015 after some unfortunate incidents resulting in the theft of SFO's funds. A new bank account has been established and several local chapters of The Arc contributed funds to make up for the loss. SFO held their annual conference in 2015 at Easter Seals Camp. Heidi Haines participated as the advisor for People First of Denver.

Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered

Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) is the self-advocacy organization of the United States. Founded in 1990, SABE members have worked hard for the full inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in the community throughout the 50 states and the world for 24 years. Our non-profit advocacy organization is run by a board of self-advocates representing 9 regions of the country.

Heidi Haines was selected by SABE's executive committee to be a National Advisor. Advisors are non-voting members of SABE who are willing to actively support the goals of SABE and to assist the Board of Directors. Advisors and helpers for SABE must know how to help people understand information and how to help people without taking over the responsibilities of the board.

Vicki Wray, member of the board of directors of The Arc of Colorado, was elected as a Regional Representative for the SABE Board at the 2014 convention.

Technology Navigator Fellows and Learning Labs

Through expertise scattered throughout The Arc's chapter network, The Arc is helping to connect people with I/DD to technology to expand opportunity in their lives. To do this, The Arc created a fellowship program, offering the chance for staff at any chapter of The Arc to apply to be a part of a dedicated, connected group of people across the country that are already helping people with I/DD use technology, but could benefit from sharing with their colleagues and learning from Comcast through their regional centers.

Over 100 colleagues from across The Arc's chapters applied for the Fellowship and 16 were selected—including Heidi Haines. The Fellows work across a range of The Arc's functions, including residential programming, IT, education, employment, travel training, and more, and serve all sorts of communities, in rural and urban settings, and who have been actively supporting people with I/DD to achieve more in their lives. The Fellows are also running physical Learning Labs, where people with I/DD and their supporters can learn about technology that meets their needs. Some of these Learning Labs will collaborate with staff from local offices of Comcast, which is a sponsor of this work. Heidi held the first learning lab in Colorado on November, 6 2015.

Other community outreach activities:

In 2014, The Arc of Colorado has participated in, exhibited at, or provided sponsorship for:

- JFK Partners 50th anniversary gala
- Colorado Respite Coalition
- Alliance Leadership Summit
- Colorado Cross Disability Coalition Awards Luncheon
- Phamaly!
- Parent 2 Parent Mothers' Day Tea
- Colorado Center on Law and Policy
- Rocky Mountain Human Services annual event
- 2015 Coleman Institute Conference
- CO Non-Profit Association
- Developmental Pathways gala
- Colorado Respite Coalition
- Alliance Person Centered Training coalition
- Arc Thrift Annual Gala
- Brain Injury Alliance annual breakfast and legislative event
- Firefly Autism Services gala
- IN!—Colorado
- Colorado Fiscal Institute Budget 101
- Colorado Lawyers Committee
- Ability Connection
- Autism Community Store
- Families at the Forefront of Technology
- Disability Law Colorado
- CO Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice

- Atlantis - ADA celebration

Local Chapter Support

Staff and/or Board members of The Arc of Colorado attended annual meetings for

- The Arc of Weld County
- The Arc of Larimer County
- The Arc—Jefferson, Clear Creek & Gilpin
- The Arc of Arapahoe-Douglas
- Advocacy Denver

We participated in and/or provided support for other local chapter activities including:

- The Arc—Jefferson, Clear Creek & Gilpin Summit of Hope
- Pathways to Justice™--The Arc of the Pikes Peak Region
- The Arc of Pueblo Golden Tortilla Fundraiser
- The Arc of Aurora Anniversary gala
- The Arc of Arapahoe and Douglas—criminal justice forum
- The Arc—Jefferson, Clear Creek & Gilpin Annual Picnic
- The Arc of Pueblo—case management symposium
- Advocacy Denver annual picnic
- The Arc of Arapahoe and Douglas Anniversary picnic
- Meeting with new Board of Directors for The Arc of Southwest Colorado
- The Arc of the Pikes Peak Region Valentine’s Day Dance
- The Arc of the Pikes Peak Region Annual Awards Dinner
- The Arc of the Pikes Peak Region/The Resource Exchange Town Hall
- Inclusive Education conference featuring Dr. Richard Villa

Expanding the Arc to Areas of Colorado not Served by a Local Chapter

In May, 2015 the Board of Directors authorized the establishment of The Arc of Southwest Colorado - to serve 5 counties in the southwest area of the state. The Arc of CO provided \$15,000 per year for three years to help the new chapter with start- up costs. The Arc of CO Board of Directors met in Durango in September of 2015 to welcome new members of the board and staff. The Arc of CO also provided assistance for the Board president of new chapter to attend The Arc national convention.

Beginning in 2014, The Board of Directors of The Arc of Colorado agreed to assist (\$30,000) The Arc of Weld County to expand advocacy and parent education to some of the under-served eastern counties. That support will continue through 2017.

The Arc of Colorado has met with and will continue to assist families in Delta, Colorado and the Roaring Fork Valley to establish local chapters of The Arc in 2016.

Additionally, The Arc of CO provides financial support to The Arc Mesa for advocacy on the western slope and also contributed to the cost of sending two staff members from The Arc of Mesa to The Arc National Convention.

Lastly, The Arc of Colorado staff provides advocacy to people who have family members with an I/DD in areas not served by a local chapter. In 2015, staff assisted approximately 20 families from Cañon City to Summit County.

Governance

Board of Directors

All local chapters of The Arc in Colorado have appointed members of their chapters to serve on The Arc of CO state board. Six of eight member-at-large positions are filled as of Nov. 15, 2015. The majority of Board members are family members of persons with IDD or self-advocates.

The Board approved a comprehensive set of personnel policies in 2015.

The Executive Committee continued the practice of working with the Executive Director on budget development and financial reporting.

In 2016, the Governance Committee will contract with a board development specialist to provide training in non-profit governance for The Arc of CO Board as well as support board development activities for other local chapters.

Financial resource development

Across the country, state chapters of The Arc often struggle with securing sufficient financial resources to carry out the primary mission of public policy advocacy. State chapter structures vary from state to state but most derive resources through a combination of local chapter affiliation fees or dues, fund-raising and revenue producing projects such as management of pooled trusts. Fund-raising for state chapters requires a careful balancing act to ensure that the state organization does not compete with local chapters for the same resources.

The annual allocation to The Arc of Colorado from the arc Thrift Allocation Committee was increased in 2015. That allocation, sound resource management and an increase in individual donations, allows The Arc of Colorado to fulfill its mission.

A new accounting firm was hired in 2014 and worked with staff and the Treasurer in 2015 to refine financial reports and establish practices to account for temporarily restricted funds.

Respectfully submitted

Marijo Rymer, Executive Director

Heidi Haines, Project Specialist

Nov. 14, 2015

