

70 YEARS

1954 - 2024



June 9, 2024, marks the 70th Anniversary of The Arc of Wabash County. Founded as the School of Hope in 1954, The Arc of Wabash County transformed through the years to the organization it is today. The Arc of Wabash County is one of over 600 local chapters of The Arc in the United States. Indiana's 44 local Arc chapters are more than any other state in America. The Arc is the oldest and the largest organization in the world supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). From day one 70 years ago, the mission has been access, opportunity, and inclusion. All citizens should have equal access to products, services, resources, and opportunities, and be included in the fabric of local community and culture based upon the intrinsic value of being human. Society has misunderstood and misrepresented what equity means. Equity does not mean that everyone gets the same; equity means everyone has the same access and opportunity. What one does with that access and opportunity is up to them. The Arc of Wabash County exists to "put people before disability and provide opportunities and support for individuals with disabilities to learn, live, play, and work in their local communities." The Arc of Wabash County strives to persuade people that disability is not inability. People with disabilities have intrinsic human dignity and value and make contributions to local community life every day. The Arc of Wabash County is not the only one who has come a long way over the last 70 years, so has Wabash County. Enterprises thrive best in collaboration and partnership and Wabash County has shown tremendous support for The Arc of Wabash County through the years. And we believe the best is yet to come. The Arc of Wabash County is proud to be a homegrown organization founded by grassroots citizens of Wabash County for 70 years. This platinum anniversary is for all of Wabash County. -Jeff Patton, CEO

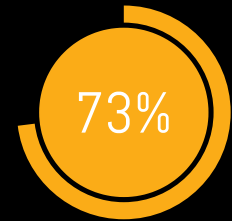
Celebrating 1954! →



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70 YEAR CAMPAIGN



We are at 73% of our goal of raising \$70,000 before December 31, 2024, in celebration of our 70th Anniversary. This fundraising campaign will be used directly for programs and services for individuals with disabilities. Help us meet and exceed our goal by giving today!

Donate \$70 today by mail, online, or by dropping by our office.

QR Code to
Donate Online!



YOUR GENEROSITY
CHANGES LIVES!

70TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION
The Arc of Wabash County

Dinner | Live Music | Door Prizes | Awards

Saturday | July 13, 2024 | 6-9pm
Honeywell Center Legacy Hall
275 W Market Street, Wabash, IN 46992

Help us celebrate 70 years by bringing together our friends with disabilities, businesses, community members, and government leadership to celebrate progress and the future growth of The Arc of Wabash County.



form.jotform.com/
ArcWabash/Celebration



Tickets and Sponsorship
Opportunities

or RSVP to Kellie Minkler
kminkler@arcwabash.org or 260-563-8411

Staff & Clients - Free to Attend
Family/Guardians of Clients - \$25
Individual Tickets - \$40

TRIATHLETES!

Matt and Kim are now triathletes, completing the Winona Lake Triathlon on June 22nd. They completed cycling, swimming, and running with MyTeam Triumph of Wabash County.

Next up for our Captains is the Firecracker 5K!



PROJECT SEARCH GRADUATION

The Project Search interns graduated the program at Parkview Wabash Hospital on June 12th. Project Search's primary objective is to secure competitive employment for people with disabilities. Our interns worked in areas such as dietary, environmental services, and facilities departments. Thank you Parkview Wabash Hospital for your partnership. We are so excited to continue on this journey with Bri, Maddy, and Hunter.

Congratulations!



CHANGE IN PRE-VOCATIONAL TRAINING

The Indiana Division of Disability and Rehabilitation Services (DDRS) recently made a major announcement about the Waiver service known as Pre-Vocational Facility-Based Training, also known as The Arc's workshop. For several years there has been a nationwide movement away from facility-based employment training for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and toward community-based employment and services. The goal is community inclusion for people with disabilities, and competitive, integrated employment for those who want it. When an Arc client chooses to work in our workshop, The Arc bills Medicaid for this pre-vocational service. Indiana DDRS has announced that it is phasing out the facility-based pre-vocational service billing option over an 18-30-month period beginning July 1, 2024. What does this mean? What does this not mean? Most importantly, this does NOT mean The Arc is closing its employment workshop. The Arc Wabash County will continue to offer workshop employment - we will simply not bill Medicaid for this service after December 31, 2026, we WILL continue to offer workshop employment to those who want it. The type of employment an individual chooses is completely up to them. A person may choose to continue to work in the workshop, work in the community, or a combination of both, and be able to participate in other activities at The Arc as well. The Arc of Wabash County is ahead of the curve for our clients on this change. We are working with all our pre-vocational training participants to continue their skills training and their employment at The Arc. Every participant at The Arc has an individualized plan that supports each part of their life, including employment and training.

Please contact Jeff Patton or Mary Ogle at The Arc of Wabash County if you have any questions

PRE-ETS SUMMER SESSION

The Summer events planned for our Pre-ETS students provide them a chance to explore jobs they may never have considered, while having fun learning and socializing. There will be learning experiences for managing money, communication, skills, cooperation, and patience. They will also learn independent living skills through being exposed to community resources, like banks, police stations, and local libraries. There will be opportunities to volunteer and get involved in the community. All of these experiences lead to confidence and empowerment for the students.



WHAT'S THE BUZZ...

At Travel Bee Coffee House, our mission is to provide a coffee house experience that opens new doors for an inclusive community by advocating employment for individuals with disabilities. As we partner with vendors to sell their products at Travel Bee, we look for similar missions. We have two new vendors to highlight at Travel Bee.

Do Goodies popcorn out of Valparaiso, Indiana sells popcorn and other goodies that support an entirely inclusive workforce. 100% of Do Goodies profits help provide job opportunities and services for more than 1,000 individuals with disabilities in Indiana. Grab a bag of their delicious popcorn at Travel Bee Coffee House!

Continuing the sweetness, with **Howdy Homemade Ice Cream** from Indianapolis, Indiana. Their mission is to provide employment opportunities to individuals with disabilities. "Amazing ice cream served by amazing people."



Arc of Wabash County, Inc.

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A FUTURE THAT INCLUDES EMPLOYMENT

The employment team hosted a family training workshop for families with young adults. Sean Roy, with TransCen Inc, presented on why employment is important for young adults with disabilities, available community support, and prepping for success. The Arc of Wabash County will continue to work with families to help guide and support employment training and opportunities for young adults. If you would like more information about our employment programs please contact Mary Ogle.



Thank You!



HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?



Five acres of land have been purchased at the entrance of the Field of Dreams in the Morrett Business Park for the future home of The Arc of Wabash County. This land will give us the opportunity to build something that better suits our needs for our expanding programs. Our next plans are a capital campaign to raise funds for the building process.

Stay Tuned!

Make sure you are following our social media pages and check out our new website at www.arcwabash.org!

