



The Arc of New Jersey Health Care Advocacy

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The Arc of New Jersey

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To sign up for listserv:

www.arcnj.org

Program Director

- ❑ Connor Griffin, MPH
- ❑ Director of the Health Care Advocacy Program
- ❑ Master's in Public Health from Rutgers University, New Brunswick, School of Public Health with a concentration in Health Systems & Policy
- ❑ Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy from the University of Delaware, with a minor in Public Health



About the Program

- ❑ The Arc of New Jersey Health Care Advocacy Program
 - ❑ Formerly the Mainstreaming Medical Care (MMC)
- ❑ Promotes quality health care for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout the state of New Jersey
- ❑ Funded by the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)



Health Care Topics

- ❑ Provide information and advocacy on a variety of health care matters and related topics for people with IDD, including, but not limited to:
 - ❑ NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid
 - ❑ Medicaid “Unwinding” and renewals
 - ❑ Dual Eligibles (Medicare + Medicaid)
 - ❑ Supplemental Security Income (SSI) & Social Security Disability Income (SSDI)
 - ❑ Disabled Adult Child (DAC) and Non-DAC
 - ❑ Oral health and dental care
 - ❑ Dual Diagnosis (IDD + mental health / behavioral health issues)
 - ❑ Medical care, services, and provider referral

New Website!

- ❑ Earlier this year, The Arc of New Jersey debuted a brand new website
- ❑ New look, reorganized webpages
- ❑ Updated information, fact sheets, and other news
- ❑ Be sure to visit us!



Program Offerings

- Individual and systems advocacy
- Information, resource, and referral
- Problem intake
- Presentations, webinars, and educational videos
- FaceBook Live biweekly series
- A Healthy Times virtual newsletter
- Annual webinar series presented by medical and health care professionals
- Fact sheets, flyers, and other materials

Individual Advocacy

- ❑ The Health Care Advocacy program chiefly advocates for:
 - ❑ Individuals with IDD
 - ❑ Their family members, caregivers, and loved ones

- ❑ Examples of individual advocacy issues:
 - ❑ An adult child with IDD is losing SSI and Medicaid due to receipt of SSDI from a parent's work record.
 - ❑ A parent is struggling to find an MCO healthcare provider for a family member.
 - ❑ A child is turning 21 and needs DDD services but receives a monthly benefit from a deceased parent that makes them ineligible for Medicaid.

Systems Advocacy

- ❑ Focus on broader, systems-based advocacy
- ❑ How the healthcare system and policies can better accommodate and be tailored to meet the needs of individuals with IDD
- ❑ The Arc of New Jersey advocates on a number of local, state, and federal issues

An example of health care systems advocacy:

- ❑ Advocating for higher Medicaid reimbursement rates so that more providers will participate with Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and be available to individuals with IDD.

- ❑ Fact sheets, flyers, informational emails
- ❑ Resources on different health care topics:
 - ❑ NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid
 - ❑ Medicaid Unwinding
 - ❑ SSI and SSDI
 - ❑ Dual Eligibility and Dual Diagnosis
- ❑ Fact sheets and flyers page on our website:
 - ❑ <https://www.arcnj.org/programs/health-care-advocacy/resources.html>
- ❑ Resource pages for Medicaid and Social Security:
 - ❑ <https://www.arcnj.org/programs/health-care-advocacy/medicaid-resources.html>
 - ❑ <https://www.arcnj.org/programs/health-care-advocacy/social-security-resources.html>

Problem Intake

- ❑ **[Medicaid Eligibility Problem Form](#)**

Family members and staff may use this form when a person with IDD is having difficulty obtaining Medicaid.

- ❑ **[Medicaid Problem Form](#)**

Family members and staff may use this form if an individual is currently enrolled in a Medicaid HMO and is having difficulty obtaining a medical, dental, or behavioral health service that should be covered by the HMO.

- ❑ New online problem form as well, can be filled out on our website

- ❑ https://www.arcnj.org/programs/health-care-advocacy/problem_forms.html

Presentations, webinars, and educational videos

- ❑ Offer in person presentations and staff trainings, upon request
- ❑ Virtual webinars and presentations offered throughout the year
- ❑ Webinar library on our website, includes presentations on many different topics over the past several years
 - ❑ <https://www.arcnj.org/programs/health-care-advocacy/webinars.html>



FaceBook Live Series

- ❑ Brand new FaceBook Live series
- ❑ **“Catching Up with Connor,”** will be a regular biweekly series that is live at **2:30pm EST on Thursday afternoons.**
- ❑ Brief, 10-15 minute educational presentations on specific health care issues, news, and other related topics for individuals with IDD
- ❑ Live from The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute FaceBook page: <https://www.facebook.com/thearcofnjfamilyinstitute>
- ❑ Next video coming this **Thursday, April 4th, at 2:30pm EST,** An Overview of NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid Part 2!



LIVE

Healthy Times Newsletter

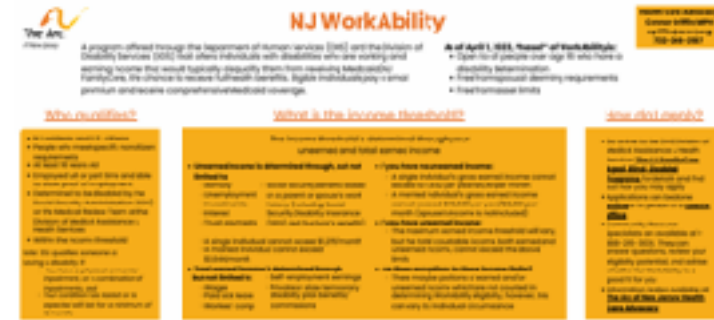
- ❑ The Healthy Times e-newsletter has returned!
- ❑ Distributed several times throughout the year



- ❑ Highlights new and existing resources, upcoming events, health care news, legislation, policies, and any other information of importance to people with IDD and their families.
- ❑ Includes information posted on our website (“What’s New” & “Latest Announcements”) and distributed via emails to our listserv
 - ❑ Sign up at the bottom of this page to receive our latest updates: <https://www.arcnj.org/>

Fact Sheets/Flyers/Materials

- ❑ We offer a variety of fact sheets, flyers, and other materials
- ❑ Over the past few months, the program has issued new fact sheets about
 - ❑ Split Application Medicaid
 - ❑ NJ WorkAbility
 - ❑ Health Disparities & Individuals with IDD
 - ❑ FAQs about Disabled Adult Child (DAC)
- ❑ Also updating existing fact sheets with new information



Annual Webinar Series

- ❑ Annual webinar series presented by medical and health care professionals, organized each spring
- ❑ This year's series: **“Back to Basics” - Health Care 101 for Individuals with IDD**, a 4 part series
- ❑ Overview of healthcare for individuals with IDD, topics that include accessing preventive care, treatment options, visiting providers, oral health and dental care, dual diagnosis co-occurring mental health problems in individuals with IDD, and care for aging individuals.
- ❑ Four Tuesdays - **March 19th, April 16th, May 21st, and June 25th** from 12:00pm - 1:30pm
- ❑ **Register here:** <https://www.arcnj.org/programs/health-care-advocacy/annual-webinar.html>

- ❑ Occurred on Tuesday, March 19, 2024
- ❑ **An Overview of Health Care, Provider Engagement, and Preventive Services**
- ❑ Included an overview of health care for individuals with IDD, evaluation and treatment, speaking with providers, being prepared for health visits, and the importance of regular preventive screenings and checkups.
- ❑ Presented by **Dr. John Nevins, D.O., FAAFP**, Medical Director, Overlook Family Medicine Residency/Chatham Family Medicine
- ❑ **The recording and slides are up on our website:**
 - ❑ <https://www.arcnj.org/programs/health-care-advocacy/annual-webinar.html>

- ❑ **Tuesday, April 16, 2024** from 12:00pm - 1:30pm
- ❑ **Oral Health and Dental Care**
- ❑ The importance of oral health and dental hygiene for individuals with IDD, including difficulties with finding providers, the need for specialized treatment and services, higher rates of poor oral hygiene and periodontal disease, and emphasis on dental hygiene and regular teeth cleanings.
- ❑ **Presenter: Dr. Evan Spivack, DDS**, Professor of Pediatric Dentistry, Rutgers School of Dental Medicine, Director, Special Care Treatment Center
- ❑ **Register here!**
 - ❑ <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/993162902588895322>

Please visit us!

- ❑ We encourage you to explore our many resources and program pages
 - ❑ thearcnjhealthcareadvocacy.org
- ❑ Sign up for our email list at the bottom of this page:
 - ❑ <https://www.arcnj.org/>



Contact Info

- ❑ If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me:

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Questions?

