



Governor's Proposed Budget Includes Funds to Support People with I/DD, DSPs

Governor Murphy delivered his annual Budget Address last week, and we're very pleased to report that his funding blueprint includes approximately \$100 million in new monies within the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). This is a tremendous commitment to our community and an important recognition of the needs of those we represent. In light of the financial difficulties facing the state brought about by COVID, we are especially appreciative that the Governor and his Administration heard our advocacy calls and prioritized people with I/DD in the proposed State Budget. \$100 million is a significant investment in our service delivery system, particularly at this incredibly challenging period of time. The proposed budget raises wages for Direct Support Professionals and continues supplemental payments for residential providers. For additional details, [click here](#).



Save the Date for June Medical Care Conference

The Arc of New Jersey's 31st Conference on Medical Care for Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities will be held virtually on Thursday, June 10th and Friday, June 11th. The conference will run from 9 am to 12 pm on both dates. The Conference is for everyone who is concerned about providing quality health care to individuals with I/DD. This includes health and mental health professionals, administrative and direct care staff, family members, social workers HMO representatives and employees of the New Jersey Departments of Human Services, Children and Families, and Health. Registration information will be available soon so be sure to mark your calendars for this outstanding event. Click the image to the right to view the Save the Date.

A promotional banner for a virtual conference. It features the Arc of New Jersey logo on the left and the text 'Save the Dates!' in a purple box on the right. Below this, the conference title is listed, followed by the dates and times: Thursday, June 10th from 9am - 12pm and Friday, June 11th from 9am - 12pm. It also mentions that exhibitor and contributor opportunities are available and provides contact information for Jennifer Lynch at conference@arcnj.org.

The Arc of New Jersey
*31st Annual Conference on Medical and Dental Care
For Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*

This will be a virtual conference
Thursday, June 10th from 9am - 12pm
Friday, June 11th from 9am - 12pm

Exhibitor and Contributor Opportunities Available

Please contact Jennifer Lynch at conference@arcnj.org for more information

Self-Advocacy Spring Luncheon Goes Virtual

Each year, the New Jersey Self-Advocacy Project and the New Jersey Statewide Self-Advocacy Network work together to host the annual [Spring Into Action Awards Luncheon](#). The event is an opportunity for Self-Advocates and allies to network, learn about current advocacy issues, and celebrate the accomplishments of Self-Advocates over the



past year. This year, the Spring Into Action Luncheon will take place virtually on Saturday, April 17, 2021. Registration is free with options to donate. Please [click here](#) to register.

News, Information & Updates for March

1. The Board of Directors from SCArc (The Arc in Sussex County) presented The Arc of New Jersey with a resolution last month commending the organization for its work to support people with I/DD and their families through the pandemic. This was a wonderful, and very-much appreciated, recognition and we thank SCArc for their support. [Click here](#) to read the full resolution.
2. If you are looking for more information on how to contact the local Social Security Office during the coronavirus pandemic, [click here](#) to learn more about the Social Security Office Locator.
3. The Caregiver Task Force is charged with a one-year mission to develop recommendations to the Legislature to help New Jersey's caregivers. The task force is staffed by the Division of Aging, within the Department of Human Services, and The Arc of New Jersey is among the various organizations who participates on this body. If you are interested in providing information to the Task Force during their March Listening Sessions, [click here](#) to access the dates and times of the sessions and the process for registering.
4. It is widely known that individuals who receive NJ Medicaid benefits cannot have more than \$2,000 in resources (with a few exceptions, including having an ABLE account or a Special Needs Trust). However, NJ Medicaid permitted recipients of the stimulus payment to exceed the \$2,000 resource limit -- but only for a period of 12 months. Medicaid beneficiaries with I/DD and their caregivers should keep in mind that the end of the 12 month "spend down" period will end soon. More info on this [by clicking here](#).



Camp Jaycee Seeks Staff for Summer 2021

Looking for a job during Summer 2021? [Camp Jaycee](#) is hiring a variety of staff for the upcoming summer season. Camp Jaycee is a residential summer camp for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, located in Effort, Pennsylvania. If you are interested in being a camp counselor, lifeguard, or other open positions, reach out to Camp Director Maureen Brennan at MBrennan@campjaycee.org or click the image to the right to download the flyer with more info.

DO SOMETHING GREAT THIS SUMMER!

WANT TO BE A PART OF OUR TEAM?

We offer a fun, engaging and rewarding summer camp experience for campers and staff!



WE'RE HIRING!

- CAMP COUNSELORS
- LIFE GUARDS
- NURSES
- ACTIVITY COUNSELORS
- KITCHEN ASSISTANTS

CONTACT:
MBRENNAN@CAMPJAYCEE.ORG
908-331-3977
CAMPJAYCEE.ORG



Research Survey: Healthy Relationships & Sex Education

You are invited to join a study being conducted for Temple University. The purpose of this research is to explore recommendations for best practices in and barriers to sexuality and healthy relationship curriculums in schools for individuals with I/DD. [Participation is completely voluntary and should take about 5-20 minutes to complete this survey.](#)

If you would like to participate in the Zoom interview, or if you have questions about this research, you should contact Melissa Rosen from Temple University's College of Public Health and intern at The Arc of New Jersey at mrosen@arcnj.org.

Participate in graduate level research with the College of Public Health at Temple University!

Research will be presented at Temple University's Research Day and will hopefully serve to improve education for individuals with IDD.

If you would like to participate or if you have any questions, please email tuj85377@temple.edu or mrosen@arcnj.org

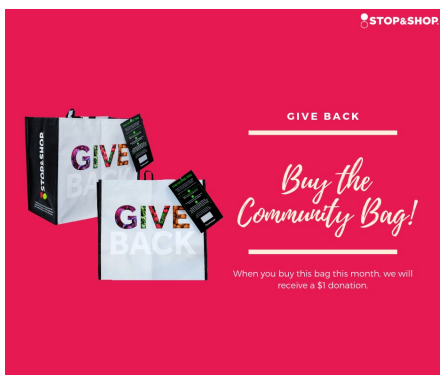
Looking for self-advocates to partake in a short interview on Zoom about healthy relationships and sexuality education!



Remember, this is completely voluntary. You can choose to be in the study or not. You will not be required to identify yourself by name and all responses will be coded to protect anonymity.



Support The Arc of NJ with Stop & Shop's Community Bag & Giving Tag Program



The Arc of New Jersey was recently selected by leadership at a local Stop & Shop store as the benefiting non-profit in the Community Bag Program! For the month of April 2021, The Arc of New Jersey will receive a \$1 donation from each purchase of the \$2.50 reusable Community Bag at the Stop & Shop store located at **24 Summerfield Boulevard, Dayton NJ**. The Stop & Shop Community Bag is a durable, reusable shopping tote that makes it easy for you to contribute to your local community. After purchasing your bag, follow the instructions on the Giving Tag within 7 days of purchase: Visit MyStopandShopCause.com, enter your tag's unique scratch off code and choose The Arc of New Jersey from the list of non-profits. If you don't see The Arc of New Jersey listed, you can submit it right there on the form!

Upcoming Virtual Events!

We've added additional webinars to help individuals with I/DD and their families during this difficult time. Register today and be sure to check out our [calendar](#) for other upcoming events.



Webinars:

- March 11 at 1 pm: [Preparing for Postsecondary Programs](#)
- March 18 at 2 pm: [Working with Families as a Defense Attorney for a Client with I/DD](#)
- March 24 at 6 pm: [Alicia's Law and the Graduation Process for Students in Special Education](#)
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Zoom with Us:

- March 18 at 6 pm: [Understanding Support Coordination](#)

Stay Healthy at Home - a webinar series hosted by the NJ Self-Advocacy Project - every Tuesday at 2 PM on GoToWebinar

The webinar series covers a variety of topics related to advocacy, life skills, employment, and civic engagement. Sessions are designed to be accessible to self-advocates, parents, and support staff. Live viewers can share comments, ask questions, and access resources.

- March 2: [Empowering Legislative Advocates Through Video](#)
- March 9: [REPLAY- You & Me, the DSP: A Conversation with DSPs and the People They Support](#)
- March 16: [Sexual Rights and Sexual Consent](#)
- March 23: [Lyft's Social Impact during COVID-19](#)
- March 30: [Brain Health and Nutrition](#)

Healthy Lifestyles Project LIVE! - every Wednesday at 11 AM on Zoom

This interactive series of events is hosted by the NJ Self-Advocacy Project and focuses on activities to promote health and wellness education for students and adults with I/DD. Live viewers will be able to share comments, ask questions, and participate in activities led by professionals *in real time*.

- March 3: [Food for Thought: Healthy Pasta Salad](#)
- March 10: [Barnyard Buddies: Virtual Barn Tour with Farm Chicks](#)
- March 17: [SproutFlix: Movie Screening and Discussion](#)
- March 24: [Look Who's Dancing: Inclusive Dance Class](#)
- March 31: [The Right Fit: Find Your Exercise with Adaptive Fitness](#)

NEW We also have Fitness Fridays at 1 PM: [Click here to register.](#)

A Message from The Arc of New Jersey

Thank You

Thank you to all our generous donors who, over the past few weeks, have made donations to support us. These critical funds will help us in our efforts to assist individuals with I/DD and their families, as well as our local county chapters, through the COVID19 crisis. To put your donation to work for individuals with I/DD and their families, [click here](#). If you have

questions or need assistance, our staff is here to help. [Click here](#) to access information about our Programs.

Use Your Amazon App to Support The Arc of New Jersey

If you are an AmazonSmile customer, you can now support The Arc of New Jersey, Inc. in the Amazon shopping app on your Android device! Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations.

1. If you have the latest version of the Amazon Shopping App, open the App on your Android device.
2. View Settings and select AmazonSmile.
3. Follow the in-App instructions to complete the process.

If you do not have the latest version of the Amazon shopping App, update your App. Click [here](#) for instructions.



Need help or more information? Want to become

active in our advocacy network?

- **Visit our website** to access lots of great information that can help you navigate service systems, find resources and keep you informed as to the important issues facing children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.
- **Join our advocacy network** to add your voice to the thousands who are working hard to promote and protect the quality of life of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Visit our website

Join an Advocacy Network

The Arc of New Jersey | 732.246.2525 | info@arcnj.org | www.arcnj.org

STAY CONNECTED

DONATE NOW!

