The Arc of Northeastern Pennsylvania is a grassroots organization formed in 1955 by a group of parents seeking public education for their children with IDD. Since that time a growing number of parents, neighbors and members of the business and professional communities have faced numerous challenges in advocating for children and adults with IDD.

Throughout the United States, there are approximately 600 local and state chapters affiliated with The Arc of the United States. The Arc continues to be a strong voice for education rights, community supports, progressive legislation and public awareness. The Arc of the US is the largest organization dedicated to individuals with IDD and their families.

We are proud of our accomplishments over the past 65+ years. The Arc has led the movement to deinstitutionalize state centers across the country and is responsible for the Right to Education - (P.L. 94-142 - providing all children a free, public and appropriate education. The Arc believes in inclusive practice at all levels of society.

**Admissions, the provisions of services and referrals of clients shall be made without regard to race, color, religious creed, disability, ancestry, national origin, age, sex or Limited English Proficiency. Program service shall be made accessible to eligible persons with disabilities through the most practical and economically feasible methods available. These methods include, but are not limited to, equipment redesign, the promotion of aides, and the use of alternative service delivery locations. Structural modifications shall be considered only as a last resort among available methods.
**Vision** - People with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) are entitled to live full, self-determined and respected lives.

**Mission** - The Arc promotes and protects the human rights of people with IDD and actively supports their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.

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**Programs and Services**

**Recreation** - Informed decisions are born from a variety of experience... Fun filled, diverse opportunities to enjoy companionship, new places and things are the heart of Arc Recreation Services. Thursday evening events, bowling league, day trips and a summer day camp ensure smiles!

**Community Residential Program** - trained employees assist individuals in various aspects of household routines such as shopping, laundry, cooking, budgeting and entertaining. Each residence is staffed twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week.

**Supported Living** - with the assistance of a Coach, individuals are empowered by promoting increased independence and control in financial matters, socialization and recreation, employment and in maintaining a home or apartment.

**Lifesharing** - offers an opportunity for an individual with IDD and a family or individual to share their lives. Dedicated and trained families open their homes and embrace the individual as part of their family.

**Adult Day** - Qualified, caring staff provide supports uniquely designed to meet individual desire and need. Both facility based, community integrated and virtual opportunities for personal growth and social interaction are offered. In addition, the Adult Day Service offers support to promote the continued development of communication and job readiness skills. Services are available: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Supported Employment** - assists adults with IDD gain and maintain employment. A Job Coach is available to meet the needs of each individual. The Discovery process enables interested folks with IDD who are seeking employment with an employer who values and needs the talents they have to offer.

**Advocacy** - to promote and protect the civil rights of children and adults with IDD. The Arc’s professional advocates provide assistance and information sharing to individuals and families on such matters as available supports, public education, employment and housing. Information is shared with local, state and federal legislators to ensure policies promote the best interest of individuals with IDD.