

The Arc of NC
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The Arc Talks...

www.arcnc.org

June 2007

DATES TO REMEMBER

Awards Deadline
7/02

Distinguished Affiliate
8/02

Carey Fendley
8/02

Convention
9/14-9/15

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PAVING THE WAY!



SEPT. 14-15, 2007

The Arc of NC's Annual Convention "Paving the Way"

Featuring Al Condeluci
an advocate and catalyst
for building community
capacities and
understanding culture

September 14-15, 2007
The Marriott at the Civic Center
Durham, North Carolina

2007 NCE Summer Leadership Institute

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!
<http://www.ncearc.org/main/>

New Address

The Arc of Greensboro
100 Revolution Mill Drive Studio 4
Greensboro, NC 27405
Phones and Fax remain the same

New Website

www.arcofdavidson.com

Coalition Rally Day

About 400 people attended the 2007 Coalition Legislative Rally day this year. They swarmed the halls of the General Assembly on June 15th. Music was provided by TROSA and participants enjoyed hotdogs on the mall.



Members from The Arc of High Point pause for a photo op with Senator Kay Hagan

Resources

ADA TOOL KIT FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

<http://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/toolkitmain.htm>

"On December 5, 2006, February 27, 2007, and May 7, 2007, the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice issued installments of a new technical assistance document designed to assist state and local officials to improve compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in their programs, services, activities, and facilities. The new technical assistance document, which will be released in several installments over the next ten months, is entitled *"The ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Governments."* The Tool Kit is designed to teach state and local government officials how to identify and fix problems that prevent people with disabilities from gaining equal access to state and local government programs, services, and activities. It will also teach state and local officials how to conduct accessibility surveys of their buildings and facilities to identify and remove architectural barriers to access."



PLAY AREA ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES - FREE ON-LINE TRAINING

www.access-board.gov

The US Access Board released an On-Line Training Program on the Play Area Accessibility Guidelines on April 23, 2007. This program is intended to provide training for designers and operators in using the accessibility guidelines for play areas. Additionally, this training can be a resource for parents, teachers, and others interested in play area accessibility. It was developed as a collaborative with several organizations including the National Center on Accessibility and the National Parks and Recreation Association among others.

The interactive program explains how to apply and follow the guidelines for proper access. It covers the scope and application of the guidelines, including the number of play components required to be accessible and technical provisions for accessible play equipment, surfacing in play areas, ramp and transfer system access to elevated structures, and access to soft contained play structures. The course covers all sections of the guidelines, which are one of the first of their kind in providing detailed criteria for accessible play areas. In addition, multiple choice exams are provided for each segment of the program.

INTERACTIVE AUTISM NETWORK

The Kennedy Krieger Institute recently launched the first national online autism registry. The Interactive Autism Network (IAN) is designed to promote autism research by linking researchers and families. Anyone impacted by an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) can join IAN's online community to stay informed about autism research, provide feedback, share information and become part of an important National research effort. For more information go to <http://www.ianproject.org/>

NECTAC eNotes - April 20, 2007

Source: Kennedy Krieger Institute - Retrieved April 16, 2007

NC PARTNERS IN POLICY MAKING IS TAKING APPLICATIONS!

Partners in Policymaking™ is a leadership training program designed for adults with disabilities and parents of young children with developmental disabilities. The program teaches leadership skills, and the process of developing positive partnerships with elected officials and other individuals who make the policy decisions about services that you and your family use.

The North Carolina Partners in Policymaking is funded by the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities and is free to participants selected to attend. To apply or get more information visit their website at: <http://www.ncpartnersinpolicymaking.com/>

Any questions may be directed to Jill Rushing at NC Council on Developmental Disabilities by calling **1-800-357-6916** or **919-420-7901** or by emailing partners@nccdd.org.

Application Deadline: October 13, 2007

THE JOSEPH P. KENNEDY, JR. FOUNDATION PARENT PUBLIC POLICY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM 2008

The Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation is seeking a parent or close family member of a person with mental retardation, intellectual and developmental disabilities for an intensive one-year Public Policy Fellowship in Washington, D.C.

During this year-long Fellowship, the successful applicant will learn how legislation is initiated, developed, and passed by the Congress, or how programs are administered and regulations promulgated by federal agencies. Fellows will also participate in an advocacy training workshop, national disability policy seminars and the intensive week-long Bioethics course at Georgetown University's Kennedy Institute of Ethics. Former Public Policy Fellows describe the Fellowship as a major turning point in their lives, not just careers.

The coming year offers exciting opportunities to contribute to policy and program or legislative development in key areas such as special education, health and mental health care for persons with mental retardation, child care, housing, justice, child welfare and other areas related to improving the quality of life for individuals with mental retardation/intellectual disabilities.

The program provides a one-year full-time exposure to the federal public policy making process, and includes a stipend and relocation expenses. Selected fellows must be prepared to live in the Washington, DC area during their fellowship year beginning in January 2008, and to devote themselves full-time to the fellowship.

Follow the link below for additional information and application process

http://www.jpkf.org/Fellowship_guidelines/Parent_Fellow_app.html

Application Deadline September 2007

EXCITING NEWS.....!

**THE PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY AGENCY (GACPD) WILL MOVE
OUT OF STATE GOVERNMENT TO CAROLINA LEGAL ASSISTANCE;
A PRIVATE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

North Carolina
Department of Administration
Michael F. Easley, Governor
Britt Cobb, Secretary

Date: May 21, 2007
Contact: Jill Warren Lucas
Release: Immediate
Phone: 919-807-2496

**CAROLINA LEGAL ASSISTANCE DESIGNATED AS NORTH CAROLINA'S
PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SYSTEM**
CLA will assume responsibilities on July 2, 2007

RALEIGH – North Carolina's Protection and Advocacy System was today redesignated to Carolina Legal Assistance (CLA). CLA will assume the protection and advocacy responsibilities on July 2, 2007. These services are currently provided by the Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities (GACPD), a division of the N.C. Department of Administration.

This action was taken at the request of the disability community and after consulting with the GACPD governing board. Feedback determined that advocacy services can be provided more efficiently and effectively in an independent agency. CLA is independent of the state and will be exclusively responsible for advocating for people with disabilities in North Carolina. CLA meets all of the requirements of a statewide Protection and Advocacy (P&A) System and shall have all of the powers and duties vested in it by applicable federal statutes and regulations. There will be no charge for P&A services.

P&As are required to have the authority to pursue legal, administrative, and other appropriate remedies or approaches to ensure the protection of, and advocacy for, the rights of such individuals within the state who are or who may be eligible for treatment, services, or habilitation, or who are being considered for a change in living arrangements, with particular attention to members of ethnic and racial minority groups; and provide information on and referral to programs and services addressing the needs of individuals with disabilities. P&As have the authority to investigate incidents of abuse and neglect of individuals with disabilities if the incidents are reported to the system or if there is probable cause to believe that the incidents occurred. ###

Information/Assistance on the Web

NCSET

The National Center on Secondary Education and Transition (NCSET) coordinates national resources, offers technical assistance, and disseminates information related to secondary education and transition for youth with disabilities in order to create opportunities for youth to achieve successful futures. NCSET is headquartered at the Institute on Community Integration in the University of Minnesota's College of Education and Human Development. <http://www.ncset.org/>

NC PAT

Partnerships in Assistive Technology is a private nonprofit organization whose mission is "to increase knowledge about and access to assistive technology and information technology for North Carolinians with disabilities." On this site there is the Assistive Technology Exchange Post where people can buy and sell assistive technology. <http://www.pat.org/>

GENERATIONS-TADPOLE

Generations-Tadpole lends and delivers low-tech assistive technology devices and toys FREE to families and professionals all across North Carolina. Anyone working with an individual with a disability is eligible to borrow items and to receive free shipping. <http://www.tadpole.org>

PIF

PARTICIPANT INVOLVEMENT FUND FOR SELF-ADVOCATES AND FAMILIES

The NC Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) is committed to promoting the involvement of people with developmental disabilities in public policy, advocacy and community building. Many policy, procedure, and program decisions affecting the lives of people with developmental disabilities are made without input from the disability community. The Participant Involvement Fund (PIF) was designed to help people with developmental disabilities, their family members, or their guardians by reimbursing some of the costs of going to events.



Events are conferences, trainings, public forums, focus groups, committees, task forces, hearings and other similar non-recreational activities, which provide consumers resources and information they need to learn best practices, to make informed choices, to learn advocacy and/or to enhance their quality of life. The PIF cannot help with treatment or consultative services; conferences with very limited registration may be judged to fall in this category. <http://www.nc-ddc.org/pages/pif/pif.html>



T h e
Arc

of North Carolina

Important Award Deadlines

Annual Awards	July 2
Victor Hall Leadership Award	July 2
Distinguished Affiliate	August 2
Carey Fendley	August 2

The annual membership awards and chapter delegate votes at convention are based on your chapter's membership number as of July 31, 2007 so please be sure to send in all new and renewing memberships as early as possible in July.

The Arc

of North Carolina

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The Arc Talks... is a monthly publication designed for local chapters of The Arc of North Carolina. If you have received this publication and are not a member of The Arc in North Carolina, please consider joining. To find the chapter in your area call The Arc of NC at 1-800-662-8706 or visit the website at <http://www.arcnc.org>

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