



2014-2015

Annual Report



From our Leader

Thank you. Because of your support, The Arc of King County has had the privilege of partnering with people who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families for 80 years! Together, we support them to live full, meaningful lives; to give voice to their needs; and to champion their perspective. Like you, we respect individual choice as the guiding force in supporting people to advocate for themselves with the assurance that their desires, interests, and preferences will be honored.

For 80 years, The Arc of King County has partnered with you to expand inclusion in our community, and we see an unprecedented amount of progress ahead. It truly is a new era at The Arc of King County — an era of incredible opportunity for the nearly 21,000 children and adults in King County who are estimated to experience intellectual disabilities, epilepsy, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome and autism. As human citizens, we believe all individuals should be given the opportunity to have an education, a job, access to healthcare, the right to enjoy and

access their community, and to experience friendships and relationships. Yet, while most are no longer institutionalized, many adults with I/DD still live in isolation from relationships, are not meaningfully employed, and lack access to any real interaction outside their homes. Your support has brought many victories over the years, and I am certain our continued work together will accomplish more access and inclusion in the years ahead.

As I reflect on the accomplishments included in this report, and many more stories of success we have shared over the years, I know we still have a lot of hard work ahead. We are honored to continue this work with your partnership, and as always, thank you for your commitment.

With warm regards,



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Executive Director

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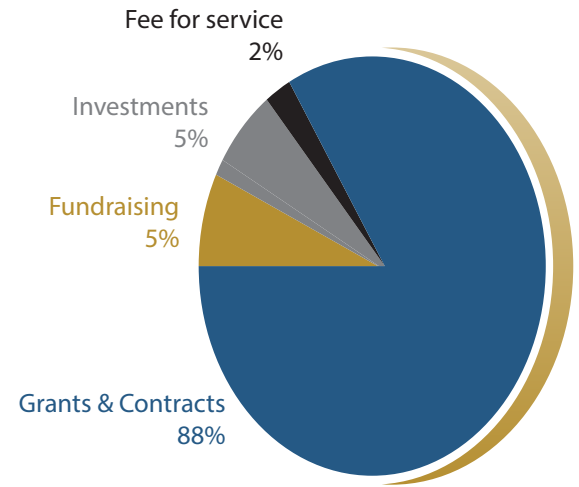
Michelle Wilkinson
Director of Development

Financial Summary

Revenue

Grants & Contracts	\$2,561,696
Investments	\$142,165
Fundraising	\$147,196
Fee for service	\$54,358

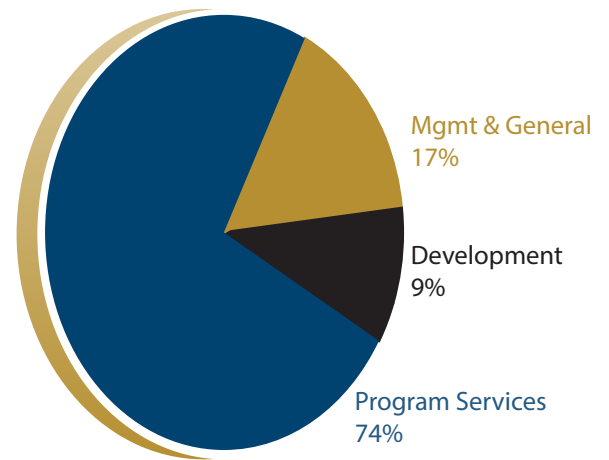
TOTAL REVENUE **\$2,905,415**



Expenses

Program Services	\$2,328,556
Management & General	\$527,156
Development	\$288,138

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$3,143,850**



The financial summary is an excerpt from The Arc of King County's audited financial statement of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015, which are audited by the firm Jones & Associates LLC. Full copies are available on our website, www.arcofkingcounty.org.



Passionate, Personal Experience – Ready to Help!



In 1936, a group of parents came together to advocate on behalf of their children with developmental disabilities. From those humble beginnings, The Arc of King County was born. Eighty years later, our origin story is more than just our legacy: many of our current staff and board members are also family members, and caregivers, for a child with an I/DD.

Three of our current staff – Cathy Murahashi, Rachel Nemhauser, and Marilyn Cooks – first came to The Arc as caregivers looking for help, and now they are integral members of our Family Support and Systems Advocacy teams. Each woman wanted answers to questions about their child’s needs, but they also sought a place where people understood the challenges they faced. Luckily, The Arc of King County met both requirements. We have provided a variety of supports over the years

ranging from the Information and Referral hotline, the King County Parent and Family Coalition, online support groups, the Helping Parent program, Advocacy Days, workshops, special projects, and classes such as the Ambassador Training. We know that every family needs different types of support, and each of these ladies found what they needed as a parent or grandparent to their child with special needs. Rachel noted, “I always found such comfort and encouragement from my interactions with other parents, and with the Arc staff, that it kept me involved and excited to find more ways to participate”. The Arc is grateful that when job openings were available these passionate family members answered the call to help other families in need.

The Arc believes that self-advocates and their caregivers are the disability community’s greatest asset. The expertise and personal experiences that staff bring to The Arc informs our work, ensures that our recommendations are relevant, and keeps us connected to our grassroots origins. When someone calls The Arc looking for help, they know the person on the other end of the line really understands. While all three women are glad to put their experience to work supporting others, Cathy said it best, “I am fortunate to be paid to do what I love”. Marilyn, Rachel, and Cathy are representative of the many caregivers who have worked for The Arc during the last 80 years – passionate family members who are living our legacy and helping others navigate their own path.

Top 5 Reasons for Information & Referral contacts:

1. Emotional Support
2. Financial Benefits
3. DDA Services
4. DDA Eligibility
5. Housing



129

Active helping parent mentors

4031

Active participants in online parent to parent support groups

58 

Parent mentor matches were made

 **50%**

of communication for info and referral is provided over telephone

 **157**

Education and peer support events were hosted by The Arc



3363

Information and referral contacts made by email, phone and in-person meetings

 **25%**

of our information and referral service was regarding Autism

77%

of surveyed parents felt less isolated after Parent to Parent interactions

2328+ 

People participated in education and peer support events hosted by The Arc



Annual Donors

This list of annual donors is for July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015. We also thank the donors who have notified us of their desire to be anonymous. If we have omitted or incorrectly listed your name, please accept our heartfelt apology and know that your gift is greatly appreciated. If you have questions, please contact Michelle at 206-829-7016 or mwilkinson@arcofkingcounty.org.

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Lois Lorrimer
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Eric Matthes
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Cathryn Palmer
Linda Panattoni
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Tim Parker
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John Perry
Daniel Peterson
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John Phillips
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Ted & Kim Plumis
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Organizations

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AmazonSmile Foundation
Appropriate Balance Financial Services
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Boeing
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McDonald's
Melwood Horticultural Training Center
Microsoft
Nordstrom Foundation
North Puget Sound FC
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Quality Food Centers
RBC Foundation
The Seattle Foundation
Seattle Goodwill
The Seattle Times
Sound Mental Health
Suncoast West Foundation
Symetra
Thomas V. Giddens Jr. Foundation
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Travelliance
Tulalip Tribe Foundation
Union Bank
United Parcel Service
Wirestone

Wings for Autism Takes Flight with Strong Partnerships



Travelling with a child on the autism spectrum can be a daunting task for families. Airports are busy, loud, and overwhelming. Recognizing the need for an event, The Arc of King County partnered with a tremendous team of organizations to bring Wings for Autism to the Puget Sound.

Built around a vision of inclusion, Wings for Autism is a program of The Arc of the United States, and is presented by The Port of Seattle, Alaska Airlines, and The Arc of King County with support from Ivar's Seafood, KIND Granola Bars, McDonald's, Travelliance and TSA. In two separate events at SeaTac Airport this year, we served 85 families, which included 100 children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We trained 110 aviation

professionals and volunteers on how to best serve and support families throughout the travel experience.

Wings has been an incredibly rewarding experience for both the families who participate, and the partners who make the program possible. Ray Prentice, Alaska Airlines' Director of Customer Advocacy shared that the airline has been astounded by the profound impact it has had on its employees. "Each and every event produces accessibility advocates, promotes team work, and gives our customers and their families confidence that air travel is possible." Navigating the logistics of organizing a training event in the airport is a huge undertaking: there is no doubt that Wings for Autism would not be possible without the dedication and time investment from all of our partners.

The Wings for Autism Team is excited to serve more families and train more aviation professionals and volunteers. Together, we envision a world where individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities can travel with confidence, and we are so grateful to have partners that share our vision of inclusion.

49 

number of organizations we
partnered with for outreach
events

132 

number of places we connected
Information & Referral
participants to

Traveling Life's Roads with a Little Help

Reggie's Life with the Supported Living Program



Cars are Reggie's passion: he can talk about his favorite make and models for hours. A Supported Living participant for well over twenty years, Reggie also owned and operated his own body repair business. Using his automotive expertise, he recently helped The Arc choose two new vehicles to support the people we serve. Now 61 and enjoying his retirement, Reggie's life is a testament to the endless possibilities that exist for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to thrive in an inclusive society.

Diagnosed with an intellectual disability as a child, Reggie has been able to live a fulfilling life in the Seattle-area. Anant, Reggie's Direct Support Provider, helps him manage daily tasks like cleaning, laundry, and managing his diabetes.

With Anant's support, Reggie is active in his community: he volunteers regularly at his church, and also serves soup at the local Salvation Army kitchen. Like many other retirees, Reggie enjoys activities at his local senior center, and he loves playing pool, spending time with friends, and baking. Reggie stays healthy with regular walks around his neighborhood, and he stays young at heart by playing with children and his neighbors' pets.



Reggie appreciates the help he gets from Anant, and it's clear that Anant enjoys working with Reggie, too. "He's a really good guy who is enjoying life and staying busy in retirement. That's what we all want, isn't it?" Thanks to The Arc's support, Reggie leads a tremendously active, engaged, and healthy life.

44

individuals served in the Supported Living Program

75%

of SLP clients have a mild or moderate intellectual disability



2,086

hours of supports are provided every week



19 to 85

Clients range from 19 – 85 years old

Constantly a Work in Progress:

Our 2015 Advocacy Update



This past year was full of accomplishments for our advocacy efforts, as The Arc of King County continues to lead the state in advocating for and with individuals with developmental disabilities. The King County Parent and Family Coalition, or KCPFC, led the way on multiple significant pieces of legislation: the No Paid Services Caseload, early childhood intervention, young adult employment services, and a pay-increase for Supported Living Providers. Moved by The Arc's advocacy efforts, legislators added 5,000 individuals with developmental disabilities to services: this is a huge victory for these individuals, their families and friends, and their caregivers. In addition, our legislative team and community members successfully advocated for \$4 million for birth-to-three services, transition employment slots for graduating students, and a sixty-cent pay increase for Supported Living Providers. We are incredibly excited about these accomplishments, and are very grateful to our legislators for their responsiveness

during the 2015 Legislative Session. But as we all know, there remains a significant amount of work to be done, and we are already working hard to impact more positive changes this coming year.

We held our 2015 Legislative Forum to ramp up for the 2016 Legislative Session. Kicked off by King County Executive Dow Constantine, the evening served as both a celebration of the year's successes and a call-to-action for the coming year's challenges. With over 500 people in attendance, including 29 state legislators, legislative, Congressional, and DSHS staff, the event was once again the year's largest gathering of King County's disability community. Families and self-advocates gave compelling speeches that highlighted our areas of focus for the coming year: funding for respite and crisis stabilization, a critical need to continue to increase early intervention services, employment for people with developmental disabilities, and an urgent need for legislators to support DDA's efforts in providing more resources to Supported Living Programs in response to Seattle/King County's minimum wage increase and Affordable Care Act wage adjustments.



As we reflect on our progress in 2015, we are proud and excited, but certainly not content. Every day in our work we are reminded that there is always more to be done. As we celebrate our 80th Anniversary, we look forward to inspiring more community members to become advocates, engaging more legislators in our causes, and continuing to work towards ensuring that individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are able to live, learn, work, and play in our communities.




The Arc
King County

The Arc of King County
233 Sixth Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98109

Phone: 206.364.6337
Toll Free: 1.877.964.0600
TTY: 1.877.666.2348

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Living Our Legacy Since 1936