

The Arc of King County 2023 Smooth Talkers Sponsorship Prospectus

The Arc of King County's mission is to advocate for the rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to live, learn, work, and play in the community. For 87 years, The Arc of King County has been a leader in serving individuals with IDD and their families, from prenatal diagnosis through end-of-life care. The Arc of King County provides direct services to people with IDD to life safely and independently in the community, information and family support services to ensure families have the resources needed to live the lives of their choosing, and systems advocacy to advance disability rights and resources.

Smooth Talkers is one of The Arc of King County's many programs. This innovative social group focuses on individuals with disabilities and their families of all ages and abilities who use technology to communicate in place of or in conjunction with verbal speech. People of all skills levels currently or considering using augmentative, alternative communication (AAC) devices are included. These meet-up groups are facilitated by a Speech Language Pathologist who leads fun activities (e.g. games, books, arts and crafts) that engage AAC-users in communication. This unique program consistently engages the entire family, including fathers and non-disabled siblings, as well as volunteers of all ages to promote an inclusive environment centered on those with the greatest barriers to communication. While AAC use is becoming more common, most AAC users rarely get to meet other AAC-users, and their families often struggle to know how to support them. Smooth Talkers helps AAC-users build community while enhancing their communication skills.

In 2022 we hosted nine Smooth Talkers with 66 total participants. Below are quotes from participants:

"Being an AAC user feels like being a foreigner from another country that speaks a different language. At Smooth Talkers, people can meet others who use communication devices and feel like they belong. No one is required to talk or use their device, they just can enjoy the activities."

"My teen son was a very reluctant AAC user, but when we walked into the room at Smooth Talkers and he saw other kids using their devices to communicate, he immediately picked up his device. I'd never seem him use his device voluntarily until that moment!"



Website: www.arcofkingcounty.org

Email: info@arcofkingcounty.org

In 2023 we will continue delivering our Smooth Talkers program, rotating between monthly in-person and virtual meet-ups.



2023 Smooth Talkers Sponsorship Levels

'Can't Stop, Won't Stop Talking' Sponsor - \$2,000

Covers The Arc of King County's annual costs to deliver the Smooth Talkers program.

Sponsor's logo will be:

- Included on all Inclusion Festival flyers in 2023,
- On The Arc of King County website,
- In The Arc of King County Annual Report,
- On our social media pages (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) as a program sponsor.

'Talk to Me' Sponsor - \$1,000

Covers half of The Arc of King County's annual costs to deliver the Smooth Talkers program.

Sponsor's logo will be:

- Included on all Inclusion Festival flyers in 2023,

'Let's Talk' Sponsor - \$500

Covers one quarter of The Arc of King County's annual costs to deliver the Smooth Talkers program.

Sponsor's logo will not be included on any published materials, but sponsor will still receive a tax-deductible donation receipt.

Contact Robin Tatsuda, Executive Director if you'd like to sponsor our 2023 Smooth Talkers program. rtatsuda@arcofkingcounty.org; 206-829-7011

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