

Arc Leadership Newsletter

The Arc of Snohomish County (425) 258-2459 www.arcsno.org

Summer 2016

Quarterly Update

ARC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & OPEN HOUSE July 25

Stop by Anytime between 6pm-8pm

Arc of Snohomish County 2500 Hewitt Ave Suite 300, Everett, WA 98201

- TOUR THE NEW OFFICE
- MEET ARC STAFF & BOARD MEMBERS
- LEARN ABOUT ARC PROGRAMS & RESOUCES



Legislative Candidates Forum Wednesday October 19th

6:30pm-8:00pm
Everett Station Weyerhaeuser Room
3201 Smith Avenue, Everett

This is your opportunity to meet your Snohomish County Legislators and Candidates. Please come to hear their views on supporting individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families.

Your personal stories and connections with your Legislators can and will make a difference!

If you have any questions or would like to help out with this event, please contact: Kelly Church at Kelly@arcsno.org 425-258-2459 x107



Open House/Membership Mtg. Page 1
2016 Legislative Forum Page 1
Leadership Spotlight Page 2
Self-Advocacy Corner Page 3
Open Boards and Committees Page 4



Do not wait on a leader... look in the mirror, it's you!

- Unknown

Contact Kelly Church to find out how to become involved in Leadership!

Kelly@arcsno.org or 425-258-2459 x 107

Leadership Spotlight



Lei Wiley Mydske is a graduate of The Arc's Leadership Development Program and for her community project she established the Ed Wiley Autism Acceptance Lending Library.

The Ed Wiley Autism Acceptance Lending Library offers books, resources and information on autism from a neurodiversity and disability rights & justice perspective to the communities of Stanwood and Camano Island, WA.

They are available at the Stanwood-Camano Community Resource Center on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 11-3 inside of Morgan's Tales.

You can also contact them at: edwileyautismacceptance@gmail.com or 425-791-0869



Mother's Educational Advocacy

Angela Curtis graduated from The Arc's Leadership Development Program. She founded Mother's Educational Advocacy (MEA) in 2014. MEA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that helps families navigate the special education process. Curtis partners with families during their child's IEP process. She helps them navigate complicated systems and partners with them acting as an advocate for the parent and child. The goal is to help ensure the best possible outcome for the child by focusing on what the child's strengths and interests are.

Curtis has a 13-year-old son Collin who has autism. Curtis began attending The Arc's Advocacy Days when Collin was young. She slowly became more and more involved. Recently Curtis attended the 2016 Community Summit in Wenatchee, WA alongside Arc staff and other Arc leaders. The Community Summit brings people together from across all segments of our communities to learn, engage and grow.

Mother's Educational Advocacy Hosts "Sky Valley Parent Partners"

What: A group where you can get support from others who "get it", find resources and more!

Where: Sky Valley VOA A-Frame 701 1st St. Sultan, WA
 When: 3rd Saturday of Every Month at 11:30 am
 Who: All Parents/Caregivers of Special Needs Children.
 No childcare provided, but children may attend.
 RSVP & Questions: Call or Text 425-772-8467
 Angela Curtis President of Mothers Educational Advocacy

COMMUNITY SUMMIT WENATCHEE 2016 Cultivate Potential!



WHAT PEOPLE
HAD TO SAY

"The Jonathon Chase and Shane and Sarah Burcaw workshops reinforced my thinking that everyone has a place in the community, they just need the right people to support them to get there."

"The Keynotes were excellent! Shane and Sarah Burcaw- Power of Positivity, Power of Laughter!"

"I felt like there was a shift in thinking from 'intention for inclusion' to an 'expectation for inclusion'. Getting rid of the word integration. A positive shift!"

"I learned a lot from the speakers, however, being in the audience and sharing the Summit experience with the self-advocates was very valuable. Sometimes we forget to 'listen' to their insights and consider their perspectives because we are so sure we know what's best".

Taking the Lead in Self-Advocacy

Tracy Turner is a mom, leader and self-advocate who participated in one of this year's Community Summit sessions. Turner was a participant in the session that was presented by Self-Advocates in Leadership (SAIL) which featured a panel of self-advocates. The advocates shared the bills that were worked on during the 2016 legislative session and what is to come in 2017. The Arc followed up with Tracy after the Summit and interviewed her. Tracy found out about The Arc through Corinna Fale, Self-Advocacy Coordinator with The Arc of Snohomish County. When asked what she thought about the Summit and her experience, she enthusiastically replied "It was awesome". "I took classes about autism and I really liked the motivational speaker, I hope to go next year"! In regards to advocacy Tracy had this to say; "People don't know about The Arc and I let them know. I advocate for myself and other people"! Tracy, a graduate of The Arc's Leadership program, enjoys going to The I.CAN women's group that meets at The Arc the 3rd Monday of the month at The Arc office from 5-6:30. Tracy attends the I.CAN meetings because she says "I love it and I enjoy it".



"LEAD"

Leadership, Education, Advocacy, Determination



Thanks to a generous donation from Starbucks, The Arc's Self-Advocacy Group L.E.A.D. enjoyed a community outing in Lynnwood. Leadership Education Advocacy Determination (L.E.A.D) is an open group for Self-Advocates ages 16 and up. We encourage active participation in local communities, creating integration and inclusion of people

with intellectual and developmental disabilities. L.E.A.D. meets the 2nd Thursday of each month from 1:30 to 3 pm at the Center for Healthy Living Social Hall (4100 Alderwood Mall Blvd, Suite 1, Lynwood). For more information contact: Jessie Atkins Jessie@arcsno.org or 425-258-2459 x 109.



Thursday August 11th 1:30 to 3

"You are the StarTaking charge in mapping out your future"

Open Boards and Committees

Parks Recreation

Advisory Board

(1) Position opening for any applicant living in Snohomish County.

Opening Date: Thursday, April 14 2016

Closing Date: Open Continuous

Type of Board: Regular

Purpose: Reviewing and recommending policies related to Parks

and Rec facilities and operations.

Contact: Russ Bosanko at 425-388-6602 for more information or

to apply.



Your voice and your story can influence change! When you participate in a board or committee you are making a difference for yourself and your community. If you would like to join a board or committee then we are here to help and guide you! Please contact Kelly Church at 425-258-2459 x 107 or Kelly@arcsno.org

The North Sound Family Youth System Partner Round Table



(FYSPRT) is looking for family, youth and system partners who want to make a difference in their community.

FYSPRT gathers families, youth and system partners together to contribute to the continuous improvements of Children's behavioral health services and supports. FYSPRTs strive to create an equitable forum and are part of the governing infrastructure of the Washington State Behavioral Health System.

FYSPRT meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 1 to 3 pm. For more information contact our parent partner, Georgi Lakey at: georgiannlakey@comcast.net

Guardianship

WINGS is a stakeholder group committed to improving the delivery of decisional-support in Washington State. Four committees are currently developing recommendations to reform the system.

There is an opportunity to be on a committee to advocate for system change with regard to guardianship to provide input for:

- 1) Legislative- Advise and give recommendations on all matters dealing with legislation, including court rules, to WINGS.
- 2) Long-Range and Strategic Planning- Develop effective approaches to long-range planning for WINGS.
- 3) Standards and Best Practice- Develop and contribute to WINGS adoption of standards, guidelines and best practices for entities involved in the delivery of decision-support, including courts, guardians, guardian ad litem, attorneys and other professionals.
- 4) Information and Training- The development and recommendations for development of educational resources and training materials for all entities involved in determining the need for, selecting or delivering decision-support.

For more information on how to join contact Shirley Bondon (360) 704-4076 or (360) 705-5302

Transportation

The Transportation Advisory Council (TAC) is reactivating and needs members. They are looking for 8 to 12 individuals from the DART, TAP, and SNOTRAC services to fill out the TAC.

Serving on the TAC involves: One meeting per quarter (March, June, September, and November). Discussing issues that pertain to DART, TAP, and SNOTRAC, as well as other special transportation in Snohomish County. For more information contact Judson Meshack at jmeshack@dart.org

Community

Everett Neighborhood Associations

Everett is divided into 19 neighborhoods, each of which has its own neighborhood association. As independent entities, the neighborhood associations work to enhance their neighborhoods, support participation in city government and foster a greater sense of community among Everett residents. If you live in Everett and are interested in participating in your local neighborhood association visit https://everettwa.gov/334/Neighborhood-Associations or contact the Everett Neighborhood Associations Coordinator Wendy McClure (425)257-8717.

For additional opportunities to get involved in Snohomish County visit http://snohomishcountywa.gov/128/Boards-commissions to find an open board/committee to get involved in and have your voice heard!

If you have an interest in any of these opportunities, want to learn more about The Arc Leadership Program, or to find a board or committee that matches your interests contact Kelly Church (425) 258-2459 x 107 or Kelly@arcsno.org

The Arc of Snohomish County

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