

About The Arc of Snohomish County

The Arc of Snohomish County is a family-driven organization that recognizes each family is diverse and their supports and needs are unique. The Arc is an information hub for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families and offers ongoing monthly support groups, parent meetings and information regarding community services and resources available in the community. The Arc of Snohomish County is affiliated with The Arc of Washington State and The Arc of the United States. Programs are designed to foster inclusion and self-advocacy.

Programs such as this opportunity are made possible in part through membership and the support of our community.

To become a member of the Arc of Snohomish County go to:

www.arcsno.org

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

What is the IEP Parent Partner Program?

The IEP Parent Partners Program is a program that trains and matches IEP Partners with parents wanting support at their child's IEP meeting.

Who are IEP Parent Partners?

IEP Partners are parents & others who have gone through an IEP Partner Training Program. IEP Partners are volunteers for the Arc of Snohomish County. They receive a stipend for each IEP meeting they attend on behalf of The Arc.

What is the role of an IEP Parent Partner?

The IEP Parent Partner will help to prepare the parent for the meeting with the educators, to educate the parent on the creation of an IEP, and to act as a bridge between the parent and educators as they sit down to create the IEP document together. The parent-partner will serve as a neutral party whose overall goal is to make the IEP planning process more positive and productive for everyone involved in order that the student receive the best support possible. Partners are not at the IEP meeting to speak for the parent or to act as an advocate. At the meeting the partner will take notes and act as a trained listener who is familiar with the IEP process.

OVERVIEW CONTINUED

What does the IEP Parent Partner Training Include?

- IDEA
- IEP components including: Goals, Evaluations, Objectives, Behavior, Special Factors and many others
- Principles of Communication
- Parent/Professional Partnership
- Section 504

How can I become an IEP Partner?

You must attend the IEP Partner training to qualify. Contact the Arc of Snohomish County for upcoming training dates

How can I have an IEP Partner attend my IEP meeting?

Contact the Arc of Snohomish County to be matched with your IEP Partner.

How can I get more information or schedule an IEP Partner or IEP Partner Training?

Erika Larimer (425)258-2459x110
Email: Erika@arcsno.org

Jamie Coonts (425)258-2459 x104
Email: Jamie@arcsno.org or

**Partner
Vs.
Advocate**

<u>Role of</u>	<u>Partner vs.</u>	<u>Advocate</u>
1. Definition	a support person	“one who pleads another’s case” ~Websters
2. Role prior to IEP meeting	Goes through questions with parent. Helps parents list thoughts & ideas for discussion at their IEP meeting.	Gives advice on what services the child may receive from the school and more.
3. During IEP meeting	Takes notes. Makes sure the parents understand the process.	Advocates Speak out on behalf of the parent(s)/ child.

BACKGROUND

This family-centered and family-driven approach has already been successful in Oregon and we are excited to implement it in Snohomish County so that students with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities may reach their full potential in their special education classes, at home, and in their communities.

Implementation of this program is taking effect with the goal of training and partnering Parent-Partners for the 2013-2014 school year. With the ability to provide an IEP parent partner at the student’s IEP, it would greatly eliminate time consuming efforts of bringing in mediation that often doesn’t end with results that both parties agree upon.

Arc Mission Statement

The Arc fosters respect and access for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families, giving them the power to achieve a full and satisfying life.



IEP Parent Partner Program



Partners supporting parents in the IEP Process.

Achieve with us.