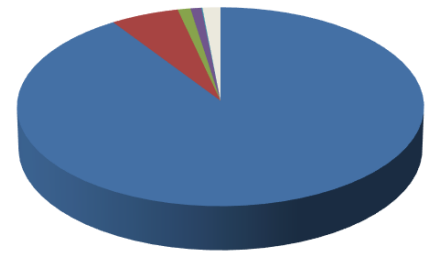


The Arc Michigan
2022 Financial Summary

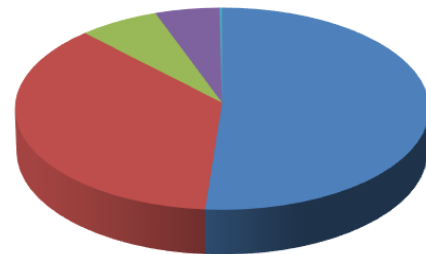
The Arc Michigan Chapters

Revenues \$4,325,495



- Grants \$4,042,637
- Other Operational \$257,471
- Membership \$48,100
- Development \$40,801
- United Way \$3,902
- Interest -\$67,417

Expenses \$4,332,997



- Salaries/Benefits \$2,219,698
- Contracted Services \$1,585,303
- Other Program Expenses \$287,789
- Office Expense/Overhead \$230,811
- Payment to Arc US \$9,396

The Arc Michigan is a United Way Agency
1325 S. Washington Avenue,
Lansing, Michigan 48910

517.487.5426 or
800.292.7851
www.arcmi.org



- ARC/Allegan County
- The Arc Arenac Area
- The Arc Bay County
- The Arc of Calhoun County
- The Arc Downriver
- ARC/Gogebic Chapter
- The Arc of Central Michigan
- The Arc Community Advocates
- The Arc Kent County
- The Arc of Livingston County
- The Arc of Macomb County
- ARC/Manistee
- The Arc of Midland
- The Mon-Arc of Monroe, Inc.
- The Arc Muskegon
- The Arc/Newaygo County
- The Arc of Oakland County, Inc.
- ARC Advocacy & Resource Center
(Ottawa County)
- The Arc Mid-Michigan
- The Arc of St. Clair County
- Van Buren ARC
- Washtenaw Association for
Community Advocacy
- Arc Grosse Pointe/Harper Woods
- The Arc Dearborn
- The Arc Detroit
- The Arc of Northwest Wayne County
- The Arc of Western Wayne County



The Arc
Michigan

Achieve with us.

2022 Annual Report

Dear Members and Friends of The Arc Michigan:

I am honored to serve as The Arc Michigan's Board President. 2022 was another year of persistent public policy advocacy. The Arc Michigan continued its focused public policy efforts toward increasing direct care worker wages. Additionally, The Arc Michigan continued to advocate against the privatization of the public mental health system which would hand behavioral health dollars in Michigan over to the Medicaid Health Plans. These efforts will continue in the new year and beyond. The Arc Michigan will continue to advocate for service system improvements and continue to voice the importance of maintaining a public mental health system where everyone has access to authentic Person-Centered Planning, Self-Directed Services, Independent Facilitation and Conflict-Free Case Management. We believe that integration is at the person level, not at the administrative/financial level as some would lead you to believe. Additionally, The Arc will continue to push for more General Fund dollars to be placed into the public mental health system. There simply is not enough funding in the current budget to provide adequate service to all people with disabilities in Michigan.

We must always remember that Michigan's constitution provides that services for, and the public health of, people with disabilities will "always be fostered and supported." The Arc intends to keep reminding those who are making financial and systems policy in the department, the Governor's office, and in the legislature of that constitutional commitment. The Arc will also continue to help create more inclusive and independent lives for individuals with disabilities through training and support, as well as public policy and systems advocacy.

The Arc Michigan knows our strength lies in the partnerships we have with our 27 local chapters and our many other advocacy partners across the state. Together we can continue to accomplish great things, and continue to "fight the good fight" with our goal always being to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities and their families in the state of Michigan. To keep the energy, direction and efforts going, we will continue to need your help. Much gratitude for your past support and many thanks for your continued support.

Thank you very much for all you do.

Maria Messina Wiersma

Maria Messina Wiersma
President

SBoyd

Sherri Boyd
Executive Director



Michigan Alliance for Families (MAF) provides information, education, and support for families with students (from birth to age 26) who receive (or may be eligible to receive) early intervention or special education services.

The work of MAF is done by Regional Parent Mentors (RPMs) and supported by central Information and Referral staff, all of whom are family members of individuals with disabilities. Regional Parent Mentors can connect families of children with disabilities to resources to help improve their children's education and mentor them in becoming a more active participant in their child's Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Program (IEP). This year, mentors assisted 2,174 parents to review/prepare for IFSPs or IEPs or help problem solve an issue a parent was facing, including navigating special education services during the COVID-19 pandemic. MAF helps facilitate parent involvement as a means of improving educational services and outcomes for students with disabilities. **No matter where you are in Michigan, you can connect with a Regional Parent Mentor in your part of the state.**

In 2022, MAF trainers, along with our state partners and RPMs offered 133 virtual and in person learning opportunities. Learning opportunities were held regionally and statewide. We had a total of 4,854 participants, of whom 2,219 were parents, 2,488 were professionals, and 92 were students with a disability.

Topics include:

- Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- Parent Advocacy Skills & Effective Communication

- Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports
- Mental Health and Education
- Planning for Future Employment
- Rethinking Guardianship

MAF offers a full calendar of statewide virtual learning opportunities, including live and on demand webinars, videos, and courses.

Families can watch 55+ different webinar and video presentations at home, at their own pace at www.youtube.com/michiganalliance.

Our on demand webinar presentations have been closed-captioned through a partnership with Michigan Department of Education's Center for Educational Networking (CEN). Accommodations are available for all our live learning opportunities.

Families can access many resources at www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org, by calling 1.800.552.4821. We also have a Spanish Information and Referral Line families can contact by calling 313.217.1060. All families can also email us at info@michiganallianceforfamilies.org

Michigan Alliance for Families keeps in touch with families via a monthly e-newsletter and event notification system. Not signed up? Go to: www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/newsletter

MAF is funded by grants from the Michigan Department of Education - (1) Office of Special Education and (2) Office of Great Start/Early Childhood Development and Family Education; and the US Department of Education - Office of Special Education Programs as our state's Parent Training and Information Center.

Committees & Boards

Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

- MDDC Public Policy Work Group
- MDDC Quarterly Meetings
- MDHHS Quarterly Stakeholder Group
- HCBS Heightened Scrutiny Review Team
- MDHHS Child & Family Issues Committee
- Michigan NCAPPS Team
- MDHHS Person-Centered Planning (PCP) Committee
- MDDC CoP on Charting the Life Course Leadership Team

Michigan Department of Education

- *Early On* Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council Standing Committees
- Parent Involvement Committee
- Parent Leadership in State Government Advisory Board
- Special Education Advisory Committee
- MI Interagency Transition Team
- OPTIMISE Task Force and Core Planning Team
- Education and Foster Care Workgroup

Board and Advocacy Groups

- National Core Indicators Workgroup
- Statewide Direct Care Workforce Advisory Committee

- Michigan Parent, Advocate, and Attorney Coalition
- Special Education Coalition
- Conflict Free Access and Planning Workgroup
- Michigan Family Voices
- Citizens Advisory Council for the Developmental Disabilities Institute, Wayne State University
- Michigan ADA Steering Committee
- Michigan Adult Foster Care Advisory Council
- Michigan Olmstead Coalition
- Michigan Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Coalition
- Deaf/Blind Central Advisory Committee
- Center for Parent Information and Resources-Parent Center Equity Workgroup
- Michigan Elder Abuse Task Force
- Care Can't Wait- Michigan
- Care Can't Wait- National

The Arc Michigan facilitates:

- DD Practice Improvement Team
- MI Statewide Advocacy Group
- Supported Decision-Making Whole Group
- Direct Care Worker Wage Coalition
- Partners Advancing Self-Determination

The Arc Michigan Board

Executive Committee

Maria Messina Wiersma
President

Patti Nowak
Vice President

Tom Kendziorski
Secretary

Ron Kimball
Treasurer

Andrea Lane
Past President

Sondra Thorn
MCE Representative

Directors at Large

Robert Steinkamp
Holt

Robert White
Clarkston

Tom Lerchen
Saline

Maureen Dempsey
Tecumseh

Liz Leach
Calumet

Shari Fitzpatrick
Warren

Mark McWilliams
Lansing

Nina R. Bihani
West Bloomfield

1 Year Appointment
Anissa Goodno
Muskegon

Arc Michigan Newsletters, Action Alerts, Appeals & Governmental Affairs Updates

Arc Michigan Newsletters, Action Alerts, Appeals & Governmental Affairs Updates. The Arc Michigan sent an average of five newsletters per month to 2,859 subscribers for a total of 170,429 emails in 2022. Don't miss out on what's happening, sign up at <https://arcmi.org/newsletter-signup/>. Past e-Newsletters can be found on our website under Newsletter Archives, or by visiting <https://arcmi.org/resource-center/newsletter-archive/>.

Supported Decision-Making Group



Supported decision-making means giving people the help and tools they need and want, to understand the situations and choices they face, so they can make their own decisions, without the need for a guardian. Because we believe all adults have the right to make decisions, to direct their own lives, to be treated with dignity, and to be respected as autonomous adults, the Arc Michigan, along with the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council, facilitates a broad statewide coalition of organizations and individuals to provide advocacy, education, training, and resources around supported decision-making.

In 2022, through presentations and webinars we were able to reach 57 family members, 73 individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, 66 transition staff, and 385 individuals working in various agencies. As this group moves forward into 2023, we will continue to promote the use of supported decision-making through trainings and presentations, and we will continue our work to develop a robust toolkit to make supported

decision-making easier to use at all stages of life.

We successfully applied for a grant from the Center for Youth Voice Youth Choice (CYVYC) to provide technical assistance to four Supported Decision-Making Youth Ambassadors from Michigan. Ranging in age from 14 to 21, our Ambassadors have completed their training and are now working to complete their CYVYC Ambassador Projects. They have been doing various presentations and social media campaigns to meet their goal of reaching 1000 individuals with information about supported decision-making by the end of the five-year grant. For more information about our Youth Ambassadors go to <https://youth-voice.org/michigan-state-team/>.

For more information on Supported Decision-Making check out our web page at <https://arcmi.org/resource-center/documents/> or the Developmental Disability Councils web page https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71550_2941_4868_4897_97701---,00.html. You may also contact Cathy McRae, the Project Coordinator, at 800.292.7851 ext. 119 or cathy.mcrae@arcmi.org.

The Arc Michigan Pooled Amenities Trust

The Arc Michigan Pooled Amenities Trust opened in 2015. A pooled trust offers a way to protect and manage resources for people with disabilities, without risking their public benefits. The assets in this type of trust are “pooled” together for purposes of investment, but each person is assigned a sub-account to track their individual funds. Pooling makes it possible to join the Trust with less money than is generally needed to create a traditional special needs trust, making it an excellent option for families of modest means and individuals who find themselves with an inheritance, insurance payout, or legal settlement that could threaten their benefits.

Assets in a pooled trust may be used to procure those items and experiences that are not specifically meant to be purchased with public benefits, but which can enhance the person’s quality of life.

As of December 31, 2022, The Arc Michigan Pooled Amenities Trust held assets totaling \$1,519,590 with 68 sub-account holders and had paid over \$29,000 to The Arc Michigan for the administration of the Trust over the last year.

More information is available at: <https://arcmi.org/projects/the-arc-michigan-pooled-amenities-trust/> or contact Cathy McRae, the project coordinator at 800.292.7851 ext. 119 or PooledTrust@arcmi.org.

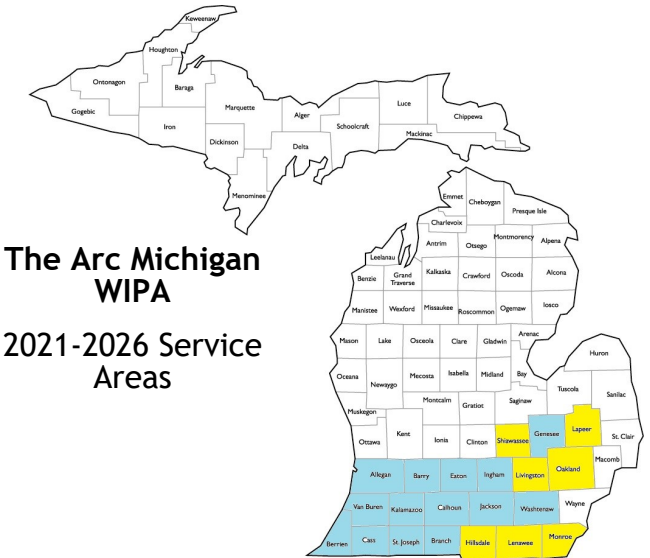


A project to assist people receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and/or Supplemental Security Income (SSI):

- to understand and use work incentives in beginning or returning to work,
- to correctly report wages, including those from self-employment, and expenses that may reduce countable income,
- to understand the impact of work on Medicaid and Medicare coverage,
- to understand the relationship of work to disability benefits, other state and federal benefits, such as food and housing assistance, Veteran’s Administration benefits or Unemployment Insurance, and
- to improve individual financial outcomes.

On June 30, 2022 The Arc Michigan concluded the first year of a five year WIPA project, granted by the Social Security Administration and serving 21 counties. Between January 1, and December 31, 2022, over 400 individuals had been referred to our WIPA project, with about 24% receiving an in-depth Benefits Summary and Analysis, 34% receiving personal assistance to assist in achieving their goals, and many more receiving needed information and referral.

The lessening of the pandemic resulted in a significant increase in referrals from the prior year, but the fact that WIPA services can be delivered remotely allowed us to continue to meet individual needs, and to provide valuable information and assistance on continuing pandemic related issues, such as: stimulus payments, Medicaid continuation and unemployment payments.



The Arc Michigan WIPA 2021-2026 Service Areas

For more information please go to:

<https://choosework.ssa.gov/>

Cathy McRae, the project coordinator, can be reached at 800.292.7851 ext. 119 or cathy.mcrae@arcmi.org



Our Facebook page, @TheArcMichigan has 2,709 Likes. In 2022, we shared 437 posts that reached 27,705 (an increase of 97.8%).



Our Twitter account @arcmichigan has 662 followers and made 17,900 impressions in 2022.



The Arc Michigan’s Instagram account @[thearcMichigan](https://www.instagram.com/thearcMichigan) with 485 followers in 2022, had a reach of 595 (an increase of 354.2%).



Coming in 2023, a new LinkedIn account - check us out at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-arc-michigan/>.



Partners Advancing Self-Determination (PAS) is a grant project designed to improve self-directed services, also known as self-determination in Michigan. PAS is a collaborative effort with the Michigan Behavioral and Physical Health and Aging Administration, Division of Adult Home and Community-Based Services and is funded by the Michigan Developmental Disability Council.

Advancement Teams

PAS provides free state-level technical assistance, training, and support to local Advancement Teams wishing to improve or refine their self-direction processes.

We began working with a team from Ottawa County Community Mental Health in 2022. They are developing materials to make self-directed services and their processes more accessible to people with disabilities and family members.

Budget Authority Workgroup

The Budget Authority Workgroup is made up of people who use self-directed services, family members, Financial Management Services

staff, advocates, and former Community Mental Health employees. They are working to ensure budget authority is a reality for people using self-directed services in Michigan. In 2022 time was spent reviewing budget authority elsewhere and looking at areas to improve.

In 2023 the Budget Authority Workgroup's goal is to develop a list of recommendations for Adult Home and Community Services. Future years will be spent getting support from stakeholders and making sure the recommendations are adopted.

2023 Projected Activities

PAS will continue to work with the Ottawa County Community Mental Health Advancement Team, and we anticipate working with new Advancement Teams late in 2023. As mentioned above, the Budget Authority Workgroup will continue working to develop recommendations to improve self-directed services.

For more information, contact Jill Gerrie, Project Coordinator at 517 492-5029 or toll free at 800 292-7851, ext. 114, or via email at jill.gerrie@arcmi.org, or check out our project page at <https://arcmi.org/projects/partners-advancing-self-determination/>



Direct Care Worker Wages

The Arc Michigan facilitates a coalition of a dozen state-wide disability rights organizations and disability services providers with a focus on increasing the wages of direct care workers (DCWs) who provide support to Michiganders and who are essential to keeping our behavioral health system functioning. Through various media campaigns, committee hearings, and individual legislative meetings, this group worked diligently to educate and inform policy makers about the importance of increasing state funding to supplement the low Medicaid reimbursement rate, which is the source of direct care worker compensation within the public behavioral health care system. While Direct Care Workers received a \$2.35 per hour wage increase during the pandemic, the average starting wage of a DCW in 2022 was still only \$14.35 per hour, far less than employees can make in many other jobs. This has resulted in a serious crisis for many Michigan citizens with disabilities and their families as DCWs are hard to find and keep due to severe underpayment.

The crisis is ongoing and so are the efforts of this coalition to ensure an adequately compensated and stable workforce that will keep our behavioral health system from collapsing. For more information and to take action please go to <https://arcmi.org/micarecrisis/>.



The Arc Michigan's Person-Centered Planning Quality Improvement Project, which began in 2019, is a partnership with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Behavioral and Physical Health and Aging Services Administration (BPHASA) to evaluate and improve Person and Family-Centered Planning across Michigan's Behavioral Health Provider System.

Evaluation of current Person-Centered Practices

As a partner in the MDHHS Site Review process, the project includes interviews with individuals and families who receive services from Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) and Community Mental Health (CMH) entities. The interviews focus on the individual/family experience with Person and Family-Centered Planning, access to information and supports, as well as other identified quality measures. Interviews reflect the individual experience with the Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSP) system, access to person and family-centered service delivery, Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) indicators, and understanding of available services and supports. Data collected from these interviews is utilized in partnership with MDHHS BPHASA to inform system improvement needs across Michigan's 10 current PIHP systems. Data and feedback is also used to develop and update ongoing statewide support and training needs.

Development of Training and Technical Assistance

Monthly Person Centered Planning (PCP) Webinar

Using data collected from a Statewide Training Needs Assessment and the Site Review Interviews, the project developed a Statewide Training Plan in areas related to Person and

Family-Centered Planning, Self-Direction, Independent Facilitation, and navigation of the behavioral health system. This training plan informs a monthly webinar series that provides free technical assistance and training. Webinars are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 3-4pm via Zoom. Webinars are recorded and can be viewed on the project page at the Arc Michigan's website. <https://arcmi.org/projects/pcpqi/webinars/>

Self-Direction Help Desk

The Self-Direction (SD) Help Desk was developed to provide a central location for people to provide feedback and request technical assistance on self-direction across Michigan. The Help Desk also features a FAQ on SD that can be used as a resource for individuals, families, advocates, and those working in the system. The SD Help Desk and SD FAQ can be found at: <https://arcmi.org/projects/pcpqi/pcpqisdhelpdesk/>

Self-Determination Conference

The project continues collaboration with MDHHS to plan Michigan's Annual Self-Determination Conference. This year's conference is the 4th Annual and will be held May 24 & 25, 2023 at the Lansing Center.

Information and resources about the PCP Quality Improvement Project can be found at the project's webpage: <https://arcmi.org/projects/pcpqi/>

Funding source: Mental Health Block grant from MDHHS/Grant administered by the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan.

Project Coordinator is Marie Eagle, marie@arcmi.org. Project Assistant is Heather Hallett, heather@arcmi.org