



# STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

— FOR THE FUTURE OF —

# The Arc

PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY



**The Arc**<sup>®</sup>

*For people with intellectual  
and developmental disabilities*

# Strategic Framework for The Future of The Arc:

The Strategic Framework is a document that shares The Arc's vision for the future. It describes what we want for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and their families.

**The Arc's Vision: Everyone values people with IDD. Every person with IDD lives their best life. People with IDD always have the services and supports they need.**

The Strategic Framework impacts everything we do at The Arc. It will guide our work for many years. We think of it as a living document. This means we will update the Framework as needed.



To make the Strategic Framework, we spoke with and listened to many people and groups. We asked thousands more for feedback with surveys. This included people with disabilities, family members, and chapter leaders. We worked on the document for two years.

The Framework has 4 goals. Goals guide The Arc's work. They help us make our Vision a reality.

# Goals

To make this vision a reality, The Arc will work to achieve the following Goals.



## HUMAN DIGNITY

Everyone respects people with IDD. No one treats people with IDD as less than people without IDD. Everyone considers people with IDD full human beings.



## SELF-DETERMINATION

People with IDD make decisions about their lives and bodies. If needed, support is available to help them make decisions.



## QUALITY SUPPORTS

People with IDD have access to the services they need to thrive. Their families have access to the supports they need. People have access to supports and services when they need them.



## POWERFUL VOICE

The Arc is able to make change on issues important to people with IDD. We do this in local communities. We do this at state and national levels.

The Framework has 5 Strategies. Strategies describe how we will reach our Goals. Each Strategy has a list of Tactics. Tactics are activities that support each Strategy. We plan to revisit our Strategies and Tactics every few years.

# The Arc's Strategies:



## BUILD THE MOVEMENT

This means we mobilize people to create change. The people we mobilize are diverse. We raise funds to support our work. We help people and our chapters become stronger advocates.



## WE SPEAK TRUTH

This means we share stories of people with IDD and their families. We teach the public about barriers faced by people with IDD. We center the experiences of people with IDD who have other marginalized identities. This means we pay attention to their needs and work to meet them. Marginalized identities include:

- › People of color
- › People who are LGBTQ+
- › Older adults
- › Immigrants
- › People living in poverty
- › People with multiple disabilities



## WE ADVOCATE

This means we make change on issues important to people with IDD and their families. We help our chapters make change. We support self-advocate leaders. We make change through policy, legal, and program advocacy.



## WE EXTEND OUR REACH

This means we touch every community where people with IDD live. We expand and support our chapter network. We prioritize the needs of marginalized communities. We make everything we do more accessible, equitable, and inclusive.



## WE INNOVATE

This means we find new ways of supporting the IDD community. We try new programs and services and test them. We do this in partnership with our chapters.







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**The Arc**<sup>®</sup>

*For people with intellectual  
and developmental disabilities*

**The Arc promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively supports their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.**