



2022

Policy, Advocacy, & Communications Kickoff Webinar



Claire Manning, Senior Director Advocacy & Mobilization

Bethany Lily, Senior Director, Income Policy

Kristin Wright, Director Communications

Juan Guerrero, Policy Associate

Agenda

- 1) Policy Update
- 2) Tips for sharing our stories
- 3) Advocacy Tools
- 4) 2022 Election Resources

THANK YOU!



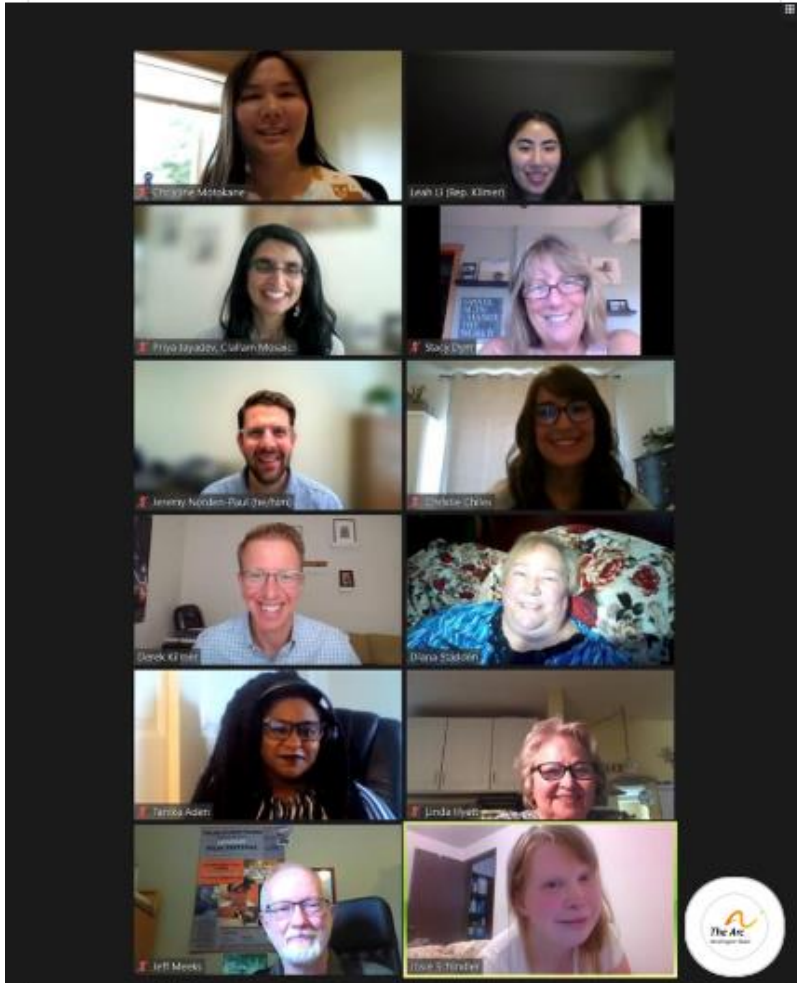
173,000+
calls, emails,
tweets to
Congress

Derek Kilmer

4d



Great to check-in with [The Arc - Washington State](#) about my ongoing efforts to support children an... See More




**WE STAND FOR
DISABILITY RIGHTS**

Accessibility, Safety,
Community Acceptance,
Independent Living and
Quality of Life,
Full and Active Participation
in Society,
Equal Access to Education
and Employment.





Policy Update: 117th Congress



Build Back Better - What is happening?

Other 2022 Priorities

- Marriage Penalty
- SGA
- 988
- Restraint and Seclusion





Long-Term

- Medicaid HCBS Solutions
- Waiting List Issues
- Workforce Issues
- Asset Limits
- Housing
- IDEA
- Health Care..... The list goes on

Building Relationships with Legislators



Federal level

- Know their committee assignments
- Staff level relationships are key
- Consistent contact, not just when you need something
- Awards and recognition go a long way.
- Social Media

District/State level

- Find a personal connection- never know who may have a connection-board members, staff
- Look for opportunities to educate and create buy-in- position your self as the expert
- Events- even virtual can be great opportunities to invite legislators in for an inside view
- Do your homework
 - About their background
 - About their district
 - About who they listen to



Tips for Sharing Our Stories

One of the **MOST** important tools we have are **STORIES** about our **LIVES!**

Stories help to:

- Educate
- Make policy “real”
- Encourage people to take action
- Change public opinion and bring empathy

Media Relationship Building

- Leverage what's in the news, timely ideas
- Keep pitches short and simple
- Share personal stories
- Follow up, Keep in touch

Sharing a Story

- Why should I care
- Deliver emotion
- Prioritize *your* comfort level
- Keep it simple



Grassroots Advocacy Tools & Resources

TheArc.org/Action

- ✓ Action center - refreshed action alerts!
- ✓ Find the latest action alerts
- ✓ Sign up to receive Action Alerts and Capitol Insider
- ✓ Look up your legislators

Thearc.org/action



**TELL CONGRESS: SUPPORT
PROPOSED INVESTMENT IN
DISABILITY SERVICES!**



TAKE ACTION!

**SHARE YOUR STORY: WHAT
SUPPORTS DO YOU NEED TO
LIVE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?**



SHARE YOUR STORY!

Toolkit

Home and community-based
Services Advocacy Toolkit -
refreshed!

- ✓ Social media graphics
- ✓ Factsheets
- ✓ LTEs

Chapter + public versions of
the toolkit

Chapter:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bstwz3tz5q4o7gz/AADw-7x_FOCILtTAq0Sezlfla?dl=0

Public:

<https://www.dropbox.com/home/%23CareCantWait%20Public%20Toolbox>

More Resources

- Keyword:
- thearc.org/covid19resources
- Videos (youtube):
 - HCBS 101
 - HCBS personal story
 - Many more!



**TELL CONGRESS: FUND
HOME AND COMMUNITY-
BASED SERVICES**

TEXT "HCBS" TO 52886





The Arc of the United States

January 13 at 11:15 AM · 🌐



Don't let people with disabilities, families, and the direct support professional workforce be left behind again! Tell your Members of Congress that [#WeAreEssential](#) and MUST be included in the new Congress' first COVID relief bill.

[#WeActWednesday](#)



P2A.CO

Tell the 117th Congress: Include Disability Community in COVID-19 Relief Bills!

I just took action to tell Congress to include the needs of people with disabilities in the next co...

83

29 Shares



#WeActWednesday



The Arc's Councils - Join & Promote: Everyone has a home at The Arc!



National Council of Self-Advocates Juan Guerrero
Juan Guerrero (guerrero@thearc.org)

National Sibling Council
Liz Mahar (mahar@thearc.org)

Alumni Council
Kerry Mauger (mauger@thearc.org)



2022 Midterm Elections

2022 is an Election Year!



Lots of Resources Coming Soon - Spring/Summer!

- Civic Action Center (thearc.org/register tovote)
- Plain language, Spanish and English materials at thearc.org/vote
- Social media toolkit - sample posts and graphics
- Get-Out-the Vote swag toolkit - coming early Fall
- Monthly Chapter roundtable discussions and resources sharing calls.

Save the Date

February 23, 2-3 pm EST

1st voting roundtable conversation - registration coming soon!



March 28 - 30
In-person and virtual
disabilitypolicyseminar.org



AAIDD • ASA • AUCD • NACDD • SABE • The Arc • UCP



Questions?