





2024 ANNUAL REPORT





# About The Arc of Bristol County

The Arc of Bristol County was founded in 1959 as a grassroots, non-profit 501c3 organization by a small group of Attleboro area parents who were concerned about the quality of life for their children with disabilities. Today, we serve over 2,600 children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and their families, with a wide array of individually designed supportive services that assist them to live fulfilling lives as contributing members of their communities.

## **Vision**

People of all abilities are empowered to succeed by making their own choices.

## **Mission**

To foster community partnerships, promote individual advocacy and create a pathway for growth and innovation by offering exceptional support and services to people with all abilities through the attraction, development and retention of superior talent who passionately demonstrate best practices.

## 2023-2024 Board of Directors

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As we celebrate the previous 65 years filled with dedication, growth, and innovations, we reflect on how The Arc



of Bristol County proAbility continues to evolve, adapt to new challenges, and meet the changing needs of our communities. This report encompasses our achievements, financial performance, and strategic initiatives, and serves as a testament to the devotion and commitment of our employees, partners, and stakeholders who remain instrumental in driving our success.

### **Rhode Island**

Since 2005, we have supported Rhode Island's intellectual and developmental disability community as a service provider for the entire lifespan. Our services range from helping families and children with disabilities to the transition stage, and adult services. We offer person-centered adult services including 24hour and non-24-hour Residential Services, Shared Living, Inclusive and Supportive Employment, and Community Day Supports, including meaningful recreation community activities. This fosters a more inclusive society within our state, ensuring that people with diverse abilities are present and involved in our communities daily. proPartnerships continues to provide Self-Directed Support Services, empowering people and families in choosing the care they need. We continue to provide educational advocacy, helping families and schools navigate and support children with diverse abilities. At the state level, we advocated for rate reform to provide adequate pay to the direct support professionals and staff providing services to our loved ones, and universally accessible housing to all new residential buildings.

## Massachusetts

In Massachusetts, we support people and families of all ages through our Family Support Department, DESE Children's Services, Adult Family Care program, Adult Day Habilitation, and Residential services. In the last five years Social Navigation has replaced programs like Project Rec-Connect and Kids on the Block, offering adults eligible through DDS small in-person activity groups and larger community events such as concerts and sporting activities. Post-pandemic, we continue to offer school vacation clubs and family days activities through the Family Support Department.

Our Educational Empowerment Program is thriving, with trained staff skilled in the education system. Our

advocates meet regularly with families, ensuring positive relationships between schools and families while offering valuable resources.

Adult Family Care, a MassHealth-funded program, is growing in Bristol County, providing essential support to adults needing assistance with daily activities while allowing them to remain with their families. We are proud of our caregivers and the quality support they deliver with the guidance of our coordinators and nursing staff.

Our Adult Day Habilitation programs have expanded, including relocating the Middleborough site to Taunton's Myles Standish Industrial Park. The Taunton relocation expanded our service capacity which will help more families needing this critical service in our communities. Both the Taunton and Attleboro programs provide adults with diverse abilities opportunities for skill development, community access, and building relationships.

Residentially, we continue expansion of our Acquired Brain Injury residential homes to a total of six, easing transitions from rehabilitative care to the community. With statewide housing challenges for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, we are honored to grow our residential services. In 2023, we also opened a "Turning 22" house for young adults transitioning to independence, providing staff support for residents to develop their skills and autonomy, ensuring their needs are met as they grow into adulthood.

Additionally, we embraced technological innovations in the form of remote supports/assistive technology. Partnering with SafeinHome, we now use technology to support people living independently in the community. Remote Monitoring and Support provide 24/7 access to trained staff via live video calls on provided tablets. This service model has successfully given residents the confidence and peace of mind to live safely in their chosen homes.

As the state level, we continue to advocate for the necessary changes in our field, including the pay rate for qualified staff, transition age programs (Turning 22), and adult and children's programs specific to autism. We are proud to see the addition of the Blue Envelope program, an optional program for drivers with autism. The program includes mandatory training for officers to understand autism and the needs specific to the driver, as described on the blue envelope. This program aims to make traffic stops safer between drivers and officers.

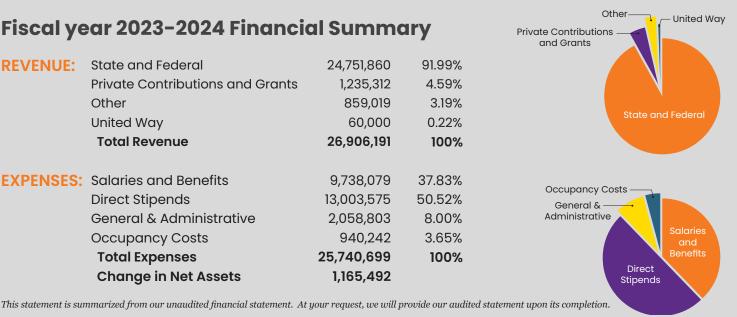
We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Leo Sarkissian on his retirement after an impressive 33 years as Executive Director of The Arc of Massachusetts. We warmly welcome his successor, Maura Sullivan, who brings over a decade of experience with The Arc and notable legislative successes like Nicky's Law, Police Training in Autism, and sustained progress with Operation House Call. Maura is also the first parent of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities to serve as CEO since the organization's first director, Pearl Birnbaum, in 1954.

We are proud of our progress over the last 65 years, especially within the last ten years. We remain committed to creating more inclusive communities within Bristol County, Massachusetts, and Northern Rhode Island.



# Fiscal year 2023-2024 Financial Summary

<b>REVENUE:</b>	State and Federal	24,751,860	91.99%
	Private Contributions and Grants	1,235,312	4.59%
	Other	859,019	3.19%
	United Way	60,000	0.22%
	Total Revenue	26,906,191	100%
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	Salaries and Benefits	9,738,079	37.83%
	Direct Stipends	13,003,575	50.52%
	General & Administrative	2,058,803	8.00%
	Occupancy Costs	940,242	3.65%
	Total Expenses	25,740,699	100%
	Change in Net Assets	1,165,492	



## 2023-2024 Supporters & Donors

## Thank you for your support!

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