



The Arc[®]
Pikes Peak Region

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Table of Contents

Mission + Vision & Who We Are	3
Greetings from the Executive Director	4
A Year in Pictures	5
What We Do	6
Advocacy, Guardianship, Education	6
Social Events, arc Thrift Connection	7
Cool C.A.T.S. Club	8
Succeeding in School and Life	9
Year-in-Review	10
Program Impacts: By the Numbers	11
Community Partners	12
Statement of Activities	13
Support The Arc-PPR Today	15

Mission

To promote and protect the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and actively support their full inclusion and participation in the communities of the Pikes Peak Region throughout their lifetimes.

Vision

To create a community where all individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are embraced and respected.

2024 Staff

Wilfred Romero,
Executive Director

Donna Butzin,
Finance Coordinator

Christina Butero,
Guardianship Coordinator

Daryl Trujillo,
Advocacy Coordinator

Amy Hagerman,
Guardianship Specialist

Grace Trujillo
Administrative Assistant

Amber Spinks,
Guardianship Specialist

Daniel Barriera,
Advocacy Specialist

Morgan Wiese,
**Communications/Office
Manager**

Peter Boryla,
Advocacy Specialist

Robert Lewis
Educational Navigator

Nancy Homan,
**Volunteer Advocacy
Specialist**

Tom Bianca
Educational Navigator

Sydney Chaffee,
**Full-Time
Educational Navigator**

Rodney Valdez
Educational Navigator

Laura Villarreal
**Bilingual Navigator/
Advocacy Specialist**

Vincent Egan,
Office Support

Amanda Blakely,
Office Support

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ashley Steinbach,
Board President

Karen Hazelhurst,
Vice President

April O'Neil
Treasurer

Karen Egan,
Secretary

Andy Kwiatowski

Arthur Wirth

Gary Martinez

Patty Baer-Hanson

Heather Kluck

Andrew Salazar

Jonathan Montez

Brian Hall

Ellen Marshall*

*Inducted November 2017 as a lifetime non-voting member of the Board of Directors

Greetings from the Executive Director

Dear Members, Friends, and Supporters,

As we reflect on another remarkable year at The Arc Pikes Peak Region, I am grateful for the incredible progress we've made together. 2023 was transformative, marked by our commitment to serving individuals with disabilities and their families in our community. We are proud to have expanded our team, bringing in more dedicated staff who share our mission. This growth has allowed us to enhance our advocacy, social, and educational programs, increasing participation and deeper connections within our community. I am thrilled to report that we have successfully paid off the loan for our facility at 207 N. Meade Ave., strengthening our financial stability and enabling us to invest more resources into our programs.

Our Board of Directors—Ashley Steinbach, Karen Egan, Heather Kluck, and Brian Hall—have played a vital role in elevating The Arc Pikes Peak Region's presence in the community. Through their tireless volunteer work, they have raised awareness about our mission and helped advocate for the needs of individuals with disabilities at both state and national levels.

The Succeeding in School and in Life program has made significant strides this year, becoming more organized and offering valuable educational opportunities for parents. Our vision of creating a campus where the disability community feels welcomed and appreciated is becoming a reality. The Personal Development Campus is now a hub for School District Transition programs, day programs, and community events, demonstrating our commitment to fostering an inclusive environment.

As we stepped into 2024, we are excited to continue shining a spotlight on the importance of our mission. Our goal is to be the premier organization that our members, board, staff, and community can be proud of. Together, we will continue to advocate, educate, and empower individuals with disabilities to thrive in all aspects of life.

Thank you for your unwavering support. Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of many.

Warm regards,



Wilfred Romero, CEO
The Arc Pikes Peak Region



A Year in Pictures



What We Do

Advocacy

The Advocacy Program safeguards the rights of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, facilitates choices, and promotes independence and inclusion in community life. We offer Educational, Adult, and Judicial Advocacy. Our highly qualified advocates guide families through the special education process, empowering parents through coaching and a better understanding of their child's right to a free and appropriate education. Educational Advocates support parents at IEP and 504 school meetings. Adult Advocates support adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) by attending residential and/or day program staffings and by connecting individuals to various community agencies and resources. Judicial advocacy ensures that people with varying abilities have their rights protected during court-related processes and proceedings.

Guardianship

The Arc Pikes Peak Region is the court appointed legal guardian for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We use the SUPPORTED DECISION-MAKING philosophy to support each person receiving guardianship services. By taking a person-centered approach, guardianship services are tailored for each person, ensuring their voice is heard and respected. In addition to providing informed consent, members of the Guardianship Team help people to live their best lives. Guardianship staff work as part of a team charged with helping people manage their Medicaid waiver services, advocating for health equity, and encouraging participation in all aspects of their community. Guardianship services are provided 24 hours a day, seven days a week at no cost.

Education

Additionally, The Arc Pikes Peak Region provides workshops, speakers, and educational materials. We are in process of organizing our Family Resource Lending Library on a wide range of issues that concern people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their friends, and families. Some topics include Colorado Waiver Resource Education, Guardianship and Conservator Training, and Responding to First Responders for People with Disabilities and Their Loved Ones. In 2023, The Arc-PPR also partnered with Providing 4 Providers, a group led by relators and financial advisors. Providing 4 Providers teaches providers of individuals with varying abilities valuable financial planning information from investing to home ownership.

Social Events

The Arc-PPR hosts a variety of social events for individuals of all abilities to minimize isolation and foster inclusivity in our community. These accessible events occur throughout the year and include the Spring Fling, Summer Kickoff Picnic, Halloween Dance, Adult Cooking Classes, Succeeding in School and Life Social Events, Cool C.A.T.S (Children of All Types Succeeding) Club events, the Annual Awards celebration, Sisterhood of Empowered Women, Guys' Night Out, and others.

arc Thrift Stores Connection

All 15 chapters of The Arc in Colorado are funded by arc Thrift Stores. The thrift stores were created in 1963 to support the work done by the chapters. Over the years, the thrift stores have grown to be wildly successful. Their sales continue to support The Arc chapters and programs, supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This special relationship between arc Thrift and The Arc-PPR allows us to advocate for the rights and responsibilities of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities without constant fundraising.



What We Do

Cool C.A.T.S. Club

Cool C.A.T.S. Club (Children of All Types Succeeding) is a vibrant, inclusive community dedicated to celebrating the unique world we live in. We host a variety of social events and activities designed for the entire family, welcoming participants of all abilities to explore their creativity and build camaraderie with others who share similar interests.

Our club offers engaging activities, including creative projects and community outings like bowling, cycling, and movie nights. Members can develop new skills, connect with like-minded individuals, and thrive in a supportive environment where everyone can express their unique talents.

Cool C.A.T.S. groups include Adaptive Cycling, Family-Friendly Bowling, C.A.T.S. in the Kitchen, Sibling Group, Moms and Dads of Children of All Types Succeeding (MAD CATS), and C.A.T.S. in Transition.

250

Families
Served

1,867

Total Event
Attendees

19

Adaptive
Cycling
Inquiries

503

Family Friendly
Bowling
Attendees

628

Chillin at the
Movies
Attendees

60

Chillin at the
Park
Attendees

120

CATS in the
Kitchen
Attendees

104

MAD CATS
Attendees

422

CAT Parties
Attendees

11

Sibling Groups
Attendees

What We Do

Succeeding in School and Life: A Parent Empowerment Program

The Succeeding in School and Life Program empowers parents to become their children's primary educators and advocates. We serve families whose children have an Individual Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan and require support at any level of need. We serve families whose children access their education through public, homeschool, or charter school, in-person or virtually. The Succeeding in School and Life Program focuses on parent education and ways for families to learn, connect, and build community!

We understand that learning is not isolated from social development, so we also offer programming for teens through transition age and their parents to build confidence, self-advocacy, and healthy social boundaries.

Join us for: Monthly Family Socials with Guest Speakers, Family Music, Teen-to-Transition Guys' Night Out and Girls' Night Out, Individualized Family Navigation Support, Parent Education Workshops, and much more!

All our programming, training, and services are provided at no cost.

174

Families Served

1,057

Total Event Attendees

300+

Monthly Family Social Attendees

360

Navigation Attendees

36

Spanish Empowerment Attendees

110

Family Music Attendees

67

Teen-to-Transition Guys Night Attendees

22

Teen-to-Transition Girls Night Attendees

40

Sensory Workshop Series Attendees

49

Gross Motor Developmental Playgroup Attendees

25

Homeschooling Group Attendees

48

Misc. Activities and Field Trip Attendees

Year-in-Review



Give! Campaign

In 2023, The Arc Pikes Peak Region participated in our 10th Give! Campaign, an annual year-end fundraising campaign. With a matching grant of \$7,000 from our community partners: Michelle Enciso, The Arc Pikes Peak Region Pooled Income Trust, arc Thrift Stores, WSI Peak Digital Strategy, PASCO, and Rocky Mountain Insurance Advisors, we raised \$15,870. This success was a result of fundraising efforts from the entire staff, the Board of Directors, and the friends of The Arc Pikes Peak Region.

2023 Events

Throughout 2023, The Arc-PPR continued to host in-person events to engage with the community. Over 250 people joined us for the 2023 Spring Fling Dance, 300 attendees joined us for the Halloween Dance, and 225 people enjoyed the first annual Summer Kickoff Picnic. In addition, 125 people celebrated with The Arc-PPR for our Annual Awards Celebration: Be Phenomenal. The Arc-PPR continued to partner with the Cool C.A.T.S. Club (Children of All Types Succeeding), community partners, and other disability organizations to sponsor fun activities for the IDD Community. Other events that continued: Sisterhood of Empowered Women, Guys' Night Out, and Virtual Karaoke parties.

Include U.S.A.

Include U.S.A. (Unique Self Advocates) is a group of individuals ages 18+ with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) who advocate for themselves and their needs and rights. Through Arc-PPR Advisors, self-advocates promote awareness and acceptance of all people to participate in our community in meaningful and fun ways. We also aim to educate the public about the many contributions of people with disabilities. We self-advocate at the annual Colorado Springs Legislative Town Hall and are an active chapter member of Speaking for Ourselves Colorado (SFO CO), a statewide, grassroots organization of people with disabilities who want to speak for themselves on issues that involve and affect them. Include U.S.A. meets monthly to learn more about self-advocacy, leadership, the legislative process, and to make social connections with others.

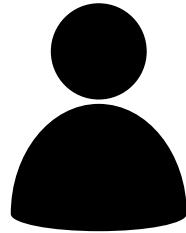


Program Impacts: By the Numbers



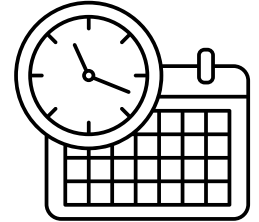
418*

people served
through all service
types



12

individuals on the
Guardianship Program
Wait-List



851

hours of service
provided



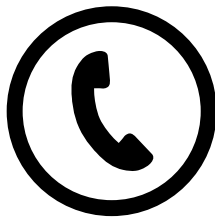
1,254

In-Person and
virtual social event
attendees



360

Members in 2023



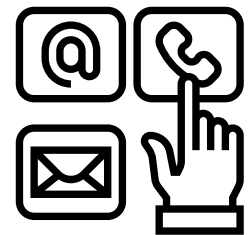
93

After hours guardianship
calls



71

people served in
guardianship program



1,350

contacts with, for, and on
behalf of people in
guardianship program

**Please note that each person was served an average of four times through the year, but counted only once.*

Community Partners



*Pikes Peak Region
Pooled Income Trust*



Michelle
Enciso

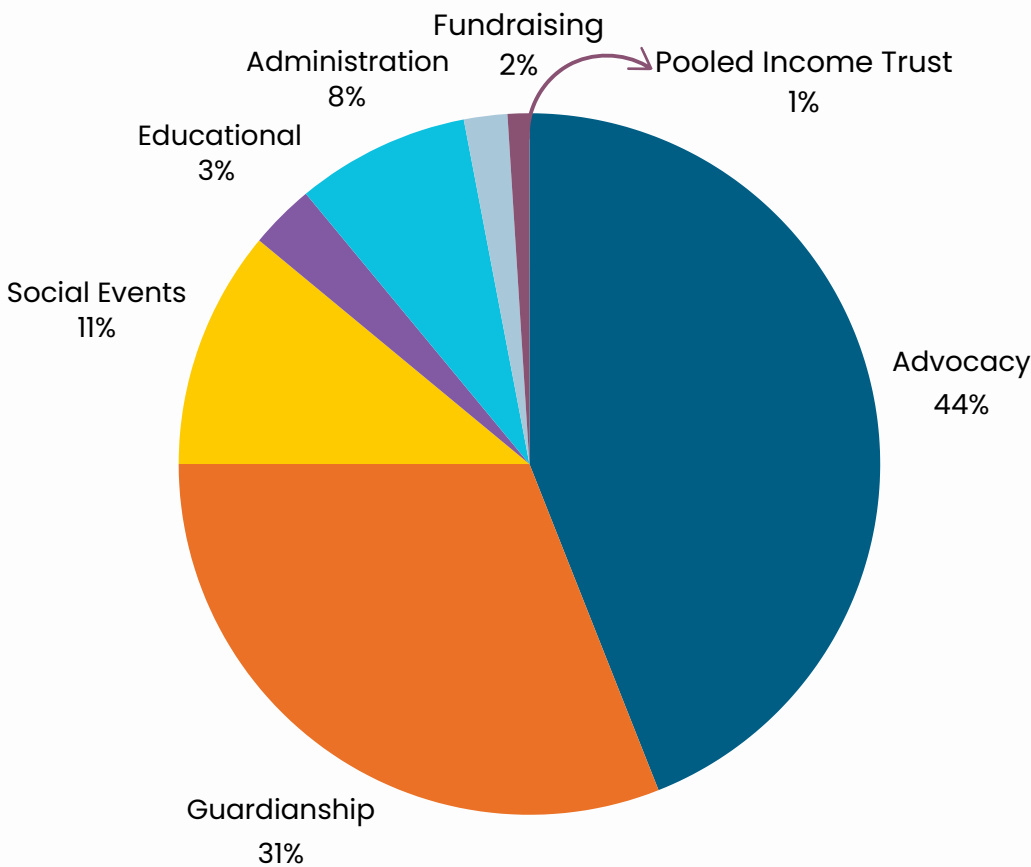
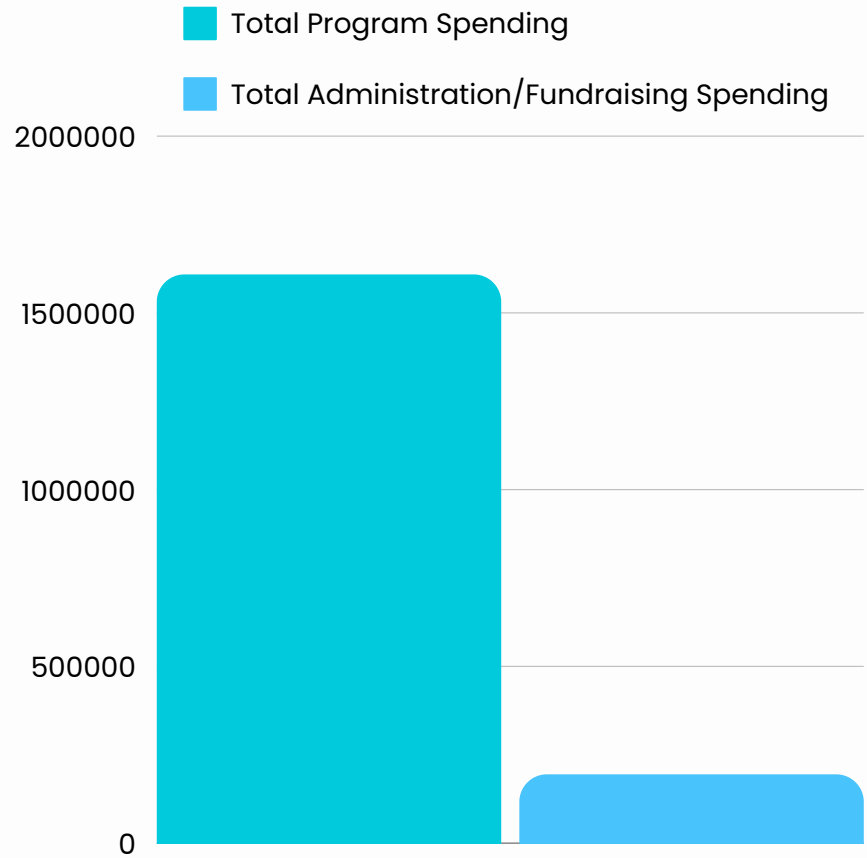


Statement of Activities

Statement of Activities			
Fiscal Year	2021	2022	2023
Total Revenue	1,975,781	1,653,351	2,432,129
Total Expenses	1,337,273	1,663,349	1,803,288
<i>Revenue by Source</i>			
Contributions (Foundations, Corporatins, Dues)	1,684,802	1,936,999	2,108,011
Interest and Dividend Income	178,381	-376,712	257,455
Special Events/Others	112,598	93,064	66,663
<i>Expense by Type</i>			
Programs			
Advocacy	531,707	701,226	788,597
Guardianship	446,201	535,900	566,392
Social Events	147,363	177,298	190,221
Educational	46,796	54,386	58,967
Administration	125,561	138,328	150,337
Fundraising	35,059	40,845	44,228
Pooled Income Trust/Other	4,586	15,366	4,546
Program Expenses/Total Expenses Percentage	88%	90%	89%
Total Net Assets	5,782,784	5,772,786	6,401,627

Statement of Activities

Total Program Spending vs. Total Administration/Fundraising Spending



89% of The Arc-PPR's funding supports programs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Support The Arc Pikes Peak Region Today!

The Arc Pikes Peak Region supports individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities through advocacy, education, guardianship, and social opportunities. Your support of The Arc Pikes Peak Region today goes directly to helping our programs and services for individuals with IDD.

Volunteer and In-Kind Needs

Fundraising volunteers
 Special event volunteers (planning and set-up)
 Photography and video services
 Entertainment
 Event food and supplies

Membership Opportunities

Do you believe in the rights of all people regardless of ability? If you said yes, then add your voice to thousands of people across the nation by becoming a member of The Arc Pikes Peak Region. Membership with our local chapter also affords you membership with The Arc of Colorado and The Arc of the United States. Together we can make our voices heard!

Membership Benefits

Membership in The Arc US and The Arc of Colorado

- 15% discount card for purchases at arc Thrift Stores
- Notice and invitations to all events sponsored by The Arc
- Updates on issues impacting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Discounts to some local events sponsored by The Arc
- Growing the voice on a local, state and national level

Membership Options

\$20 Individual Membership \$35 Family Membership \$5 Consumer Membership
 \$250 Corporate Membership Gift of \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: () _____ Email: _____

Please make checks payable to The Arc Pikes Peak Region or pay with cash or credit card.

Credit Card #: _____ CVV: _____

Exp. Date: ____/____ Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

