



Annual Report | 2020



Achieve with us.

Table of Contents

- 2 Who We Are
- 3 Greetings from the Executive Director
- 4-5 A Year-in-Pictures
- 6-8 What We Do
- 9 Year-in-Review
- 10 Program Impacts
- 11 Our Corporate & Community Partners
- 12-13 Statement of Activities
- 14 Support The Arc Today
- 15 Mission and Vision



We are in this together.



Who We Are

Staff

Wilfred Romero
Executive Director

Christina Butero
Guardianship Coordinator

Donna Butzin
Finance Coordinator

Craig Severa
Advocacy Specialist

Amber Spinks
Guardianship Specialist

Daniel Barriera
Advocacy Specialist

Connie McKenzie
Advocacy Specialist

Shelbi Lowery
Advocacy Specialist

Amanda Blakely
Office Support

Connor Cassidy
Advocacy Specialist

Emily Price
Training Specialist

Tonia Nifong
Communications/Office Manager

Vincent Egan
Office Clerk

Jorden Smith
**University of Colorado
at Colorado Springs Intern**

Board of Directors

Cheryl Potman President	Karen Hazlehurst	Linda Golden
Mitch Routon Vice President	Cynthia Margiotta	Jon Eddy
Patty Baer-Henson Treasurer	Blake Wilson	Jorden Smith
Yolanda Garcia Secretary	Jonathan Montez	Sherice Bethel
	Ashley Steinbach	Ellen Marshall Honorary Member
	Heather Kluck	



2019 board of directors members with newly-elected and returning board of directors members for 2020.

Celebrating 65 Years of History!

Organized in 1955 by a group of parents of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, The Arc Pikes Peak Region is a local chapter of a national organization of parents, professionals, and interested citizens. Together, more than 700 state and local chapters of The Arc form the largest volunteer organization in the U.S. These chapters are devoted solely to the welfare of the more than seven million people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

Greetings from the Executive Director



Wilfred Romero
Executive Director

2020 began with the theme “Achieve Your Vision for 2020.” Little did we know we were seeing with blurry vision when deciding on our theme choice. Much of the country was still recuperating from the holidays when our world turned upside down due to COVID. Even considering what was to come, I was excited with how we opened 2020. Board of Directors member, Mitch Routon, and I were in Washington, D.C. for The Arc of the United States (The Arc US) board of Directors meeting. Following his freshman year on the board, it was exciting to watch Mitch take on new board member leadership responsibilities. We discussed the Disability Policy Agenda, as well as the impact The Arc Pikes Peak Region (The Arc PPR) would have in public policy. While in D.C., we became aware of the new health threat impacting China, and soon after, the world.

We came home optimistic about the future, and we began planning for another trip to Washington D.C. in April 2020, alongside other board members who were anxious to make their voice heard. Just as fast as we made travel plans, the course of the world came to an abrupt halt in March 2020. The Arc PPR leadership had to make a quick paradigm shift from the ‘Achieve Your Vision for 2020’ theme, to adapting to the everchanging needs of the disability community brought on by COVID-19. Much of the dilemma focused on ensuring the disability community was included in the government’s efforts to address the pandemic.

I am proud to report that while the rest of the world was scrambling to put together an action plan, The Arc PPR Board of Directors was ahead of the game. In December 2019, the board had a discussion of the need to have a Risk Management Plan developed in preparation of opening of the Building for Change Inclusive Personal Development Center campus. Our main objective was to be proactive in eliminating risk, rather than being reactive. With that goal in mind, a Risk Management Committee was established, and a Risk Management Plan was already in draft form when the pandemic hit. I commend The Arc PPR 2020-2021 board of directors for forward thinking in protecting the organization and the individuals we serve.

As COVID-19 took over 2020, I am proud of the staff and their ability to shift gears on how we conducted business. The staff was quick to develop programs and social opportunities via zoom and other social media outlets, while keeping The Arc PPR mission and the ever-changing needs of the disability community in mind. On the national level, The Arc PPR, along with other Colorado chapters of The Arc, were active in ensuring that individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities were included in the conversation when dealing with the pandemic. These conversation topics included isolation in hospital settings, access to vaccines, access to financial assistance, and criminal justice reform.

As we entered 2021, we did not stop believing that we would or could find the silver lining in all the world’s craziness -- and we did! The Arc PPR is proud to report that the “Building for Change” campaign continued to move forward in 2020, and we will soon celebrate the grand opening of The Arc PPR Inclusive Campus -- a campus where people of all abilities are welcomed!

Regards,

Wilfred Romero
Executive Director
The Arc Pikes Peak Region

Year-in-Photos





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. Advocacy takes place at both the individual and systemic levels. The Arc's highly qualified advocates attend school IEP meetings, residential and/or day program staffings, and provide resources in times of crisis. Adult advocacy includes gathering information about local programs and monitoring them to ensure services meet identified needs and are consistent with laws, regulations, and standards of quality. System advocacy monitors public policy and legislation at local, state, and federal levels.

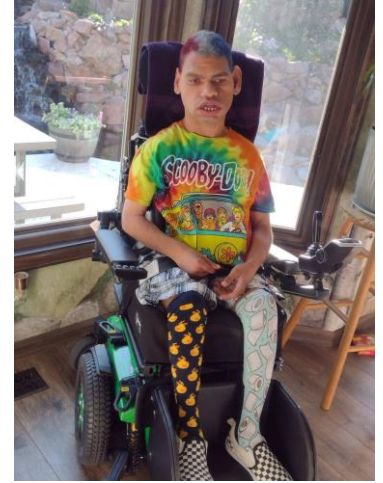


“Our family moved to Colorado Springs in June of 2020. As a military family, we’ve gathered a handful of different experiences across the country when it comes to special education services and advocacy. We did our best to research and plan for the district we were moving to, but ultimately, we were still unfamiliar with a lot of regional nuances regarding terminology, supports, and Colorado state laws. The very first person we reached out to was Connie at The Arc Pikes Peak Region. Since then, Connie has become one of our most trusted and valued confidants. Her knowledge and expertise are invaluable, and the unwavering support and dedication she’s shown to our family can never be repaid. She sat in on meetings with us, brainstormed ideas, volleyed countless emails and followed through on every promise and final-stretch-extra-mile that’s come down the pipe. We cannot begin to express our gratitude. Connie’s commitment to our daughter and her future is heartfelt and selfless. She’s a true believer in the good that can come from teamwork, and the boundless possibilities our children have when people believe in them. Reaching out to The Arc PPR for their expertise was one of the best decisions we made, and we cannot thank Connie enough for her role in our daughter’s future success.”

*-Sean & Samantha (pictured at left),
parents of Aerith (middle),
educational advocacy recipient*

Guardianship

The Arc Pikes Peak Region serves as the legal guardian to adults with an intellectual and/or developmental disability, with a growing waiting list. When the Probate Court appoints The Arc as legal guardian, staff members are named as agents to provide the guardianship services. Guardianship services include evaluation of the individual's needs and services, attendance at all staffings and individual plan meetings, at least one monthly visit, 24-hour emergency on-call services, consent for medical treatment, and annual report to the probate courts. For people who are not capable of making informed decisions, the Guardianship Program offers both protection and enhancement of individual rights.



Education

Additionally, The Arc Pikes Peak Region provides workshops, speakers, educational materials, and a lending library on a wide range of issues that concern people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their friends and families. With the opening of the Building for Change Inclusive Personal Development Center and the Disability Resources Library (*pictured at left*), the community will also have access to a helpful resources on a

wide variety of disability-related topics.

Social Events

The Arc PPR hosts a variety of social events for individuals of all abilities. These accessible events occur throughout the year and include The Arc Ball, Halloween Dance, Sweetheart's Dance, and others. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, our events were held virtually.



arc Thrift Connection

All 15 chapters of The Arc in Colorado are funded by arc Thrift Stores. The thrift stores were created in 1963 as a way 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.



Year-in-Review

Indy Give! Campaign



In 2020, The Arc Pikes Peak Region participated in Indy Give!, a community giving campaign. Together with a \$13,000 matching grant from arc Thrift Stores, Blake and Kathleen Wilson, Nursing Therapy Services of Colorado, Blue Ridge Contractors, Honey Salon & Spa, Mitch Routon, Brent Butzin and Nicole Doheny, Bloomin' Blinds of Colorado Springs, IT Specialists, The Romero Family, Endeavor Exteriors, John P. Nelson Associates, Rocky Mountain Insurance Advisors, Colorado Fun Guide, The Arc PPR Pooled Income Trust, and Cascade Investment Group, The Arc PPR raised \$16,982.91. 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.



Events in 2020 - Pivoting to Virtual

Just weeks after a successful “Achieve Your Vision” Art Gallery, in collaboration with Local Relic Brewery (*pictured at left*), as well as an in-person Sweetheart’s dance, with nearly 400 people in attendance, the world abruptly shifted in response to the COVID-19 crisis. The Arc Pikes Peak Region’s staff quickly pivoted many of our events to a virtual format to best serve our program participants. Events like Move-it-Monday incorporated a wide variety of virtual fitness activities to keep people moving and healthy, while our popular Virtual Karaoke Party drew regular Zoom crowds to cheer each other on as we sang our favorite tunes. Our Online Parent Support Group provided an outlet for parents to help one another cope with the stressors of simultaneously working from home while navigating the challenges of virtual learning. Program participants also enjoyed a virtual music class for all abilities, “Our Music, Our Voice,” led by The Arc PPR’s staff member and multi-instrumentalist, Jorden Smith. Additionally, we hosted our popular Arc Ball, as well as our Annual Awards celebration, virtually.

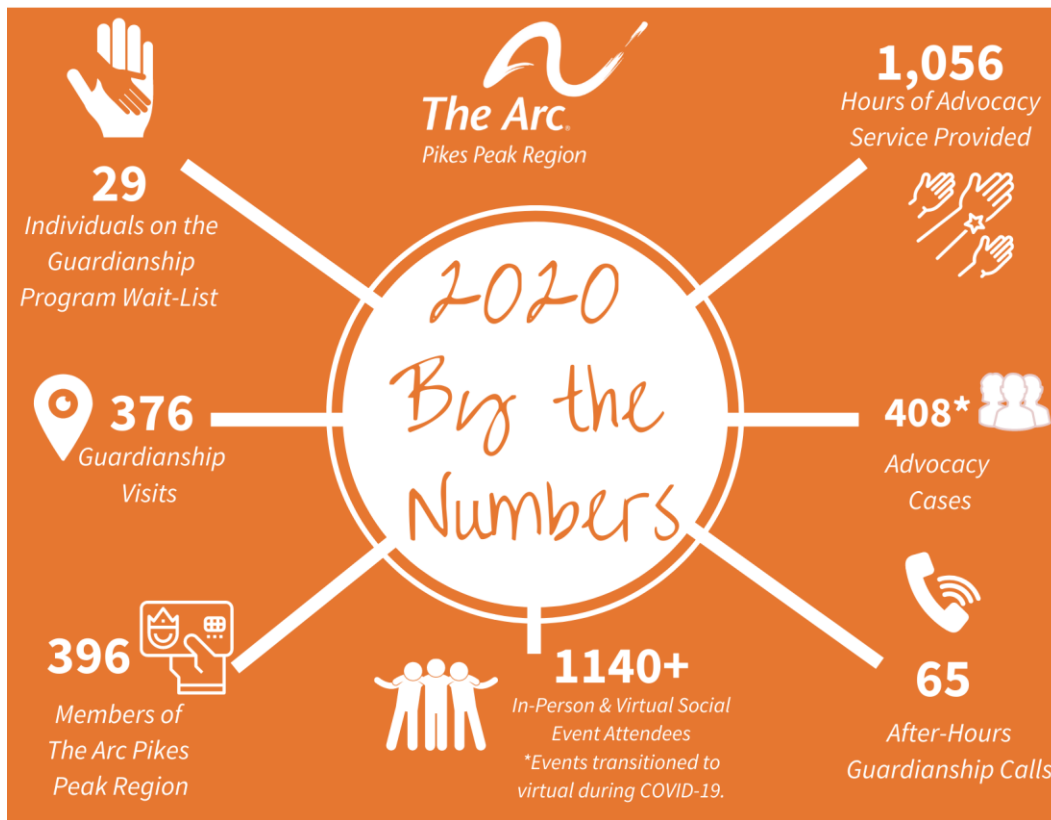
Include USA Unique Self Advocates

include USA is a self-advocacy group sponsored by

The Arc PPR and advised by advocacy specialists Connor Cassidy and Connie McKenzie. Throughout 2020, the group continued to meet virtually, while maintaining an active participation in Speaking for Ourselves Colorado (SFO CO).

SFO CO is a statewide, grassroots organization of people with disabilities who want to speak for themselves on issues that involve and affect them. Chapters across Colorado meet by conference call once per month, and they also meet quarterly in various places around the state. The group learns about their rights and how to advocate for themselves so that their rights are not overlooked. Include USA has fundraised, worked on transportation issues, and volunteered around the community.

Program impacts - 2020



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



Our Corporate & Community Partners

The Arc Pikes Peak Region could not serve the community without the support of our many corporate and community partners. Thank you!



**Brent Butzin
& Nicole Doheny**

The Romero Family

Blake & Kathy Wilson



Mitch Routon

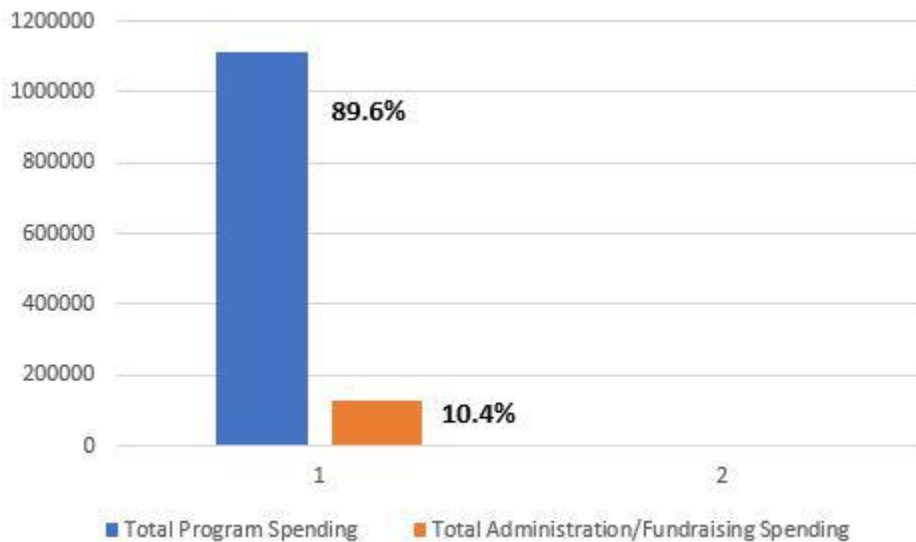
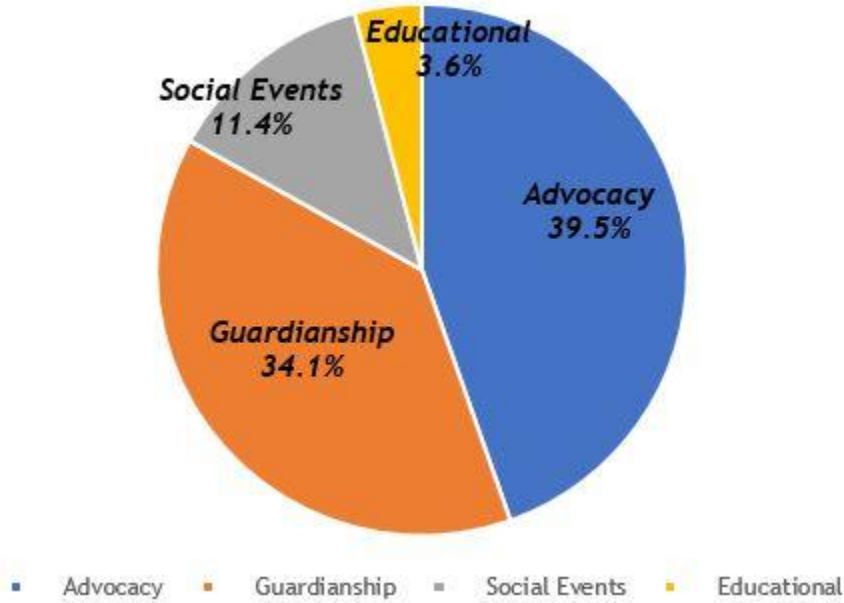


Statement of Activities

Fiscal Year	2018	2019	2020
Total Revenue	\$1,575,302	\$1,840,918	\$2,063,035
Total Expenses	\$1,426,451	\$1,505,671	\$1,255,976
<i>Revenue by Source</i>			
Contributions (arc Thrift, Foundations, Corporations, Dues)	\$1,457,350	\$1,698,797	\$1,827,198
Interest and Dividend Income	\$30,973	\$45,619	\$147,750
Special Events/Other	\$86,979	\$96,502	\$88,087
<i>Expenses by Type</i>			
Programs			
Advocacy	\$480,818	\$554,867	\$496,037
Guardianship	\$449,070	\$471,918	\$427,931
Social Events	\$192,639	\$198,847	\$142,748
Educational	\$42,374	\$49,727	\$45,617
Administration	\$157,753	\$175,872	\$84,780
Fundraising	\$99,401	\$54,140	\$44,532
Pooled Income Trust/Other	\$4,396	\$10,300	\$14,331
Program Expenses/Total Expenses Percentage	83%	84%	89%
Total Net Assets	\$3,781,367	\$4,345,409	\$5,144,276

2020 Expenses and Program Spending

2020 Program Expenses



89.6% of The Arc'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 I/DD.

Volunteer and In-Kind Needs

Board members

Fundraising volunteers

Special event volunteers (planning and set-up)

Photography and video services

Entertainment

Event food and supplies

Instructors for various life-skills classes to be offered in the Building for Change Inclusive Campus

Membership Opportunities

Do you believe in the rights of all people regardless of intellectual 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: _____

(Please list all family members for Family Membership)

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: _____

Amount: \$ _____ Signature: _____

VISION

A community where all individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are embraced and respected.

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.

