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**Dear Douglas,**

We are nearing the end of our fiscal year and gearing up for a summer full of activities for our program participants. Keep reading for more information about what we're doing in our community!

### Please attend our Annual Membership Meeting!

Our annual membership meeting is **Wednesday, June 29, 7-8:30 pm**, at 11600 Nebel Street, Rockville, MD 20852.

**All members are encouraged to attend**, as we will vote to elect a new Board of Directors. We will also recognize Montgomery County council members for their support of individuals and families affected by I/DD during this difficult budget cycle.

### Casino Night Wrap-Up



Our Casino Night event raised over **\$88,000** to support individuals and families affected by intellectual and developmental disabilities!

We were thrilled with the "Raise Your Paddle" auction, which resulted in the purchase of new cribs,

changing tables, microwaves, adaptive keyboards, E-readers and other items which will directly support our program participants.

This event was successful because of our sponsors, our volunteers, and of course, the guests who attended. We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who participated, and particularly to **The Band**, who provided our pre-event entertainment.

[Click here](#) for a list of sponsors and volunteers.

[Click here](#) to view photos from the event. (Courtesy Ann Maas Photography)

### Congratulations, Kamilah!

Kamilah Franklin, a participant in our Vocational Services program, was recognized for her extraordinary volunteer service at

June 2011

[Donate](#)

Your charitable donation will bring us another step closer to our goal!

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Strength in numbers creates positive change in our community.

[Volunteer](#)

Share your time and talent with the individuals we serve.

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

[Visit our website calendar for full details!](#)



the Hebrew Home of Greater Washington. Kamilah received the Women's Auxiliary Committee Kitty Davis Award, and was featured in a video about her work. Kamilah has given over 11,500 hours in service to the Hebrew Home over the course of nine years. She is pictured with her

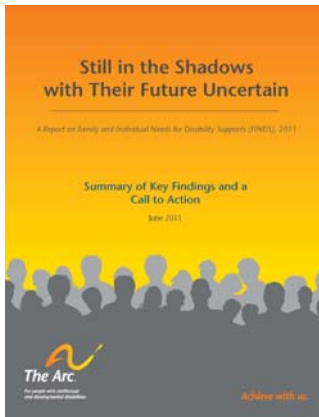
mother (right) at the award ceremony on June 15.

**Junior Volunteer Orientation**  
Sunday, June 26

**Annual Membership Meeting**  
Wednesday, June 29  
*Board Elections & Recognition of County Council Members*

**Administrative Offices Closed**  
Monday, July 4

## Still In The Shadows



Funding is scarce, families are stressed and people with I/DD are not being given the opportunities they deserve. The Arc has known this for some time, but recently took steps to measure it by conducting a survey of more than 5,000 individuals with I/DD, their family members and caregivers, covering a host of issues from education to housing to planning for the future.

This week, The Arc US released the results of its [Families and Individual Needs for Disability Support \(FINDS\)](#) survey showing that **opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) to lead productive, quality lives have plateaued** and not nearly enough progress has been made to create more opportunities. Here are few of the most dramatic findings from the survey:

- One in five families report someone in the family had to quit a job to stay home and support the needs of a family member with I/DD.
- Eighty-five percent of families report their adult family members with I/DD are not employed at all.
- More than 80% of families report not having enough retirement savings for their future as a result of using personal funds to compensate for the lack of services available to their loved ones.
- Sixty-two percent of parents and caregivers don't have a plan for where the person they support will live when they grow too old to care for him/her.

As a result of this survey, The Arc has outlined a broad call-to-action for people with I/DD and those who care about them. The Arc is calling for more grassroots activism, launching an effort to organize 1 million people to make their needs and concerns an issue in the 2012 elections. In addition to some specific legislative and awareness goals, we're calling on everyone to [join the movement](#), [share a story](#), or, if you are an employer of someone with I/DD, [tell us about your experience](#). [Click here to read the full FINDS survey report](#).

## Throwing Out the First Pitch



**Chris Mazur**, a participant in our After All program for teens, threw out a *great* first pitch for the Bethesda Big Train baseball team. The Arc was the featured nonprofit at the June 18 game, which ended in an unfortunate loss to the Rockville Express.

Bethesda Big Train plays great, family-friendly games all summer at the Shirley Povich field across from Montgomery Mall in Bethesda. [Click here](#) for more information.

## Participate in Developing Waiting List Implementation Strategies!



The Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration is committed to using the Alcohol Tax revenues to serve people on the Waiting List in an expedited manner. DDA needs your help to develop strategies for this process.

Self-advocates, families, DDA licensed providers, resource coordinators, advocates and other interested stakeholders are invited to participate in a meeting focused on developing strategies to shorten the service initiation process for people in this waiting list category. Topics will include document submission, approval process, timelines, and communication.

**Pre-registration is required to participate. The meeting will occur on Friday, June 24, 9:30 am-12 pm, at Oakland Mills Interfaith Center, 5885 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, MD 21045.**

[Click here](#) to register your attendance.

## Sale at The Arc Thrift Store!



To celebrate our nation's birthday, The Arc Thrift Store is having a *huge* sale on **Saturday, July 2, from 9 am until 6 pm**. Stop in and save 50% on everything in the store-no exclusions!

*Early Bird Special:* Pay for your purchases before 10 am and receive 60% off! The

Thrift Store is located at 2658 West University Boulevard, Wheaton, MD 20902.

The store will be closed on Monday, July 4.

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