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Dear Douglas,

It's a busy time of year, incorporating the end of the Maryland legislative session, awards and recognitions, and the launch of our annual Casino Night fundraising event. Keep reading for more details and we hope to see you on June 4!

Online Bidding Coming Soon!



This year, our Casino Night event will launch a new **online auction**. Details will be shared on May 16, opening day for all bidding. Whether or not you're planning to attend the event, you can still participate in the online auction.

Your support of this fundraising event makes it possible for us to continue providing quality programs for our participants.

Don't forget to purchase your tickets! [Click here to order online.](#)

The Arc Maryland Awards



Four individuals from Montgomery County were honored by The Arc Maryland on April 29. Award winners included:

Aaron Kaufman, *Lorraine Sheehan-Bernard Gould Award*, for outstanding volunteer service in governmental affairs.

Aileen O'Hare, *Stanley S. Sidle Memorial Citizenship Award*, for outstanding participation in the community.

Eugene J. Mark, Jr., *Certificate of Appreciation*, for outstanding, extensive service to The Arc.

Sandy Wickenheiser, *Volunteer of the Year*, for developing and creating a new Respite Services database.

In addition, The Arc Montgomery County was recognized for the highest increase in membership over the past year. [Click here for photos from the presentation ceremony.](#)

May 2011

[Donate](#)

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

[Join Now](#)

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!](#)

SibShops

Legislative Wrap-Up

Overall, the 2011 legislative session was a victory for The Arc, considering the state of Maryland had to reconcile a \$1.6 billion budget deficit. In addition to passage of the alcohol tax bill, other statewide funding includes Transitioning Youth at \$11.8 million, providing supports for approximately 670 youth graduating from the Maryland school system, \$2.3 million to fund 50 emergency situations and \$1.1 million to fund court-involved community placements.

[Click here for more complete information](#) about all the bills of interest to the I/DD community.

Thank You, Legislators



We personally extend our thanks to Senators **Verna Jones-Rodwell** (D-Baltimore City), **Rich Madaleno** (D-Montgomery County), **Ed Kasemeyer** (D-Baltimore & Howard Counties) and **Thomas 'Mac' Middleton** (D-Charles County) and Delegates **Jim Hubbard** (D-Prince George's County) and **Justin Ross** (D-Prince George's County) for their support of SB994, the

alcohol tax bill.

This bill adds an additional 3% sales tax for alcohol at the point of sale, effective July 1, and dedicates \$15 million of the revenue raised to the Developmental Disabilities Waiting List. These funds will be matched by approximately \$13 million in federal funds, providing desperately-needed services to more than 500 individuals.

We want to mention that every Montgomery County Senator and Delegate supported this legislation! [Click here to learn the names and email addresses](#) of your legislators, so you can thank them directly.

Congratulations Wendy!



Wendy Andrews received a **2011 MACS Achievement Award** on April 21, recognizing her personal achievements, which include moving from Rosewood Center into her own apartment. Wendy is a productive, contributing member of her community, supported by The Arc's Family & Community Resources Division. [Click here to read Wendy's story.](#)

Bethesda Big Train Baseball



Join The Arc on **Saturday, June 18**, for a family-friendly evening watching college athletes play summer ball. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$3 for children ages 6-12, and free age 5 and under. They are available on a first-come, first-served basis at Povich Field (Cabin John Regional Park) on

Sunday, May 15

Transition Times
Wednesday, May 18

Junior Volunteer Orientation
Saturday, May 7
Friday, May 13
Saturday, May 21

The Band Performance
Tuesday, May 24
Three Brothers

Administrative Offices Closed
Monday, May 30

Beat The Odds Casino Night
Saturday, June 4
The Universities at Shady Grove

Bethesda Big Train Baseball
Saturday, June 18
Povich Field
Cabin John Regional Park

game night. The gates open at 6 pm and the game starts at 7:30 pm.

The Arc Montgomery County will be the featured non-profit for this game, and we'll get to throw out the first ball! [Click here to learn more.](#)

Vehicle Donations



Donate your used car, van, truck, boat with a trailer, or recreational vehicle to The Arc Montgomery County. Proceeds from the sale of donated vehicles help improve the quality of life for our participants. It's as easy as completing an online auto donation form and we *accept any vehicles regardless of age and condition!*

[Click here to donate online now.](#) Prefer to speak to a person? Please have your title in hand and call 1.877.272-2270, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Vehicle donations are processed through The Arc United States.

Last Call for Summer Volunteers



We still need middle and high school students to make a difference this summer by volunteering with us. Our Junior Volunteer program allows students to assist in our Children's Division. All programs qualify for service learning hours; students must be at least 12 years old. [Click here for more information.](#)

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The Arc Montgomery County | 11600 Nebel Street | Rockville | MD | 20852