

# 2019 Legislative Priorities



Since 1954 The Arc Oregon, along with its network of affiliated chapters throughout Oregon, represent more than 4,000 members across the state. We advocate with and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Our goal is to create positive change and promote equity for people with I/DD so they can achieve their goals and dreams as respected and valued members of their community.



## A living wage for DSPs

Related Legislation - HB 5026 appropriates money to DHS

Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) provide vital supports to people with I/DD and directly effect the health and safety of thousands of Oregonians on a daily basis. Restructuring the rates paid to DSPs will:

- Stabilize the workforce by reducing turnover
- Improve the lives of people with I/DD who rely on DSPs
- Reduce amount paid to DSPs by government for public aid



6,000  
DSPs receive  
**\$20M**  
in public aid  
due to low  
wages



## Protection for people under Guardianship

Guardianship should only be used as a last resort when other less-restrictive types of support have been exhausted. Guardians must be held accountable for the way in which they support the protected person.

### SB 376

Requires notice be sent to the protected person when guardian is appointed

### SB 682

Requires court to appoint & pay for legal counsel for a person in some circumstances

### SB 683 HB 2601

Protects a person's ability to maintain desired relationships



## Criminal Justice Reform

PATHWAYS TO JUSTICE - Coming soon to Oregon!

People with I/DD are over-represented in the criminal justice systems as both suspects and victims. We seek to work with lawmakers and law enforcement agencies to eliminate barriers to justice for people with I/DD through training and community collaboration.

## Contact:

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*Oregon*