What is a developmental disability?

A developmental disability is defined as a **physical, cognitive or intellectual impairment** occurring before adulthood, that is expected to continue throughout the lifespan and is likely to create barriers to the ability of the individual to function independently.

Developmental disability diagnoses include Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Epilepsy, Down Syndrome, Intellectual Disability, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, and other neurological disorders.

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities **can live independent, productive lives** in their community **with support** from family, friends and agencies like The Arc.

- An estimated 60,000 Oregonians experience a developmental disability.
- Less than half of Oregonians with development disabilities receive services funded by the government.
- About 75% of adults with I/DD in Oregon live at home with support from family members.

Driven by Opportunity

The opportunity **for hope, for growth, for change**; the opportunity for everyone to become a valued, contributing member of their community.

We **strengthen people with disabilities**, their parents and family members, and dedicated professionals by connecting them across our national network of almost 700 community based chapters, supporting more than 140,000 members.

Our collective voice provides the opportunity for all of us to **make a difference**. The Arc fosters respect and access for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families to achieve a full and satisfying life by offering resources, educational opportunities and advocacy support.

Join The Arc!

Become connected to the largest **grassroots** movement to **protect the rights** of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).

As part of this network, you'll join others with and without disabilities who **share your beliefs and your challenges**, working together through The Arc to ensure that people with I/DD have the resources to meet their needs and live **self-determined lives**.

Visit our website to learn about the benefits of joining The Arc Oregon, **find your local chapter**, or learn how to start a chapter in your area. Your support will help us continue to provide and advocate for much-needed programs and services that help **empower people with I/DD and their families**.

The Arc Oregon

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TheArcOregon.org

The Arc™ Oregon

For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Achieve with us.

Our Vision

The Arc Oregon envisions a world in which all persons have the **support and opportunities** they need for personal development and independence, interdependence with family and friends, and inclusion in the community.

OPPORTUNITY • EMPOWERMENT • ADVOCACY

Resources & Support

- We offer a wide variety of **programs, services, information, educational opportunities, tools, and resources** to people with I/DD, their families, and professionals who support them.
- Our network of **affiliated chapters** throughout Oregon offer support in **local communities**
- Our community partnerships create a strong **network of support** for people with I/DD across the lifespan.

Public Policy

For 65 years, The Arc Oregon has been at the forefront of **creating positive change** in public policy for, and attitudes towards, people with I/DD. Through our **collaboration** with elected officials, leaders of state agencies and other advocacy organizations, we **advocate** for funding, legislation, regulations and policies that make a positive difference in the lives of people with I/DD and their families.

We strive to **empower individuals and families** to advocate for themselves, while also amplifying their voices through the strength of our members and affiliated chapters.

OREGON SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST

Oregon Special Needs Trust

Established in 1999, the OSNT offers a safe and secure way for people with disabilities to **save money** and for families to **plan for the future** without jeopardizing important public benefits such as Medicaid and Social Security Income.

Whether you are a person who experiences a disability or the family member of a person with a disability, we can help you evaluate all available options and choose the right path to **enhance quality of life** while safeguarding eligibility for essential benefits. Get more information at **OregonSNT.org**.

OTAC oregon training and consultation

Oregon Training & Consultation

Since 1984, OTAC's widely recognized **training** and **technical assistance** programs have strived to influence positive change through **collaboration**, innovative **learning opportunities**, and approaches that support people to direct their own lives.

With a focus on **person centered practices, trauma-informed care,** and **positive behavior support**, OTAC teaches people how to **empower others** to live a good life of their choosing.

See our training schedule, register for classes, or request more information at **OTAC.org**.

GAPS GUARDIANSHIP, ADVOCACY & PLANNING SERVICES

Guardianship, Advocacy and Planning Services

GAPS was established in 1978 in response to parents' concerns about who might support their child with I/DD when they were no longer able. We currently support adults with I/DD throughout Oregon as **legal guardian, health care representative**, and/or **advocate**.

Utilizing guardianship as a last resort, we strive to ensure **a good life** for people we support through team collaboration, **person-centered planning** and **supported decision-making**.