

## Adult Services

Support and individualized assistance is provided to adults with mental retardation. All services are designed around each person's needs, abilities and living and working preferences. Services include:

- Group residential services provided to individuals who need 24 hour support,
- Shared living opportunities
- Individual support to persons living in their own homes and apartments,
- Vocational training, placement and support for adults,
- Case management,
- Community inclusion and social/leisure support.



## Family Support & School Services

A full array of flexible services is available to support families and students in special education programs. Services include:

- Case management,
- Financial assistance to help a family care for their family member with a disability,
- Educational and service advocacy,
- Support groups, training opportunities, and family networking,
- Intensive family support for families with extensive needs,
- Parent education and support groups for parents with cognitive disabilities through the *Positive Parenting Resource Center*,
- Coordination of the *New England Coalition for Supporting Parents with Cognitive Challenges*,
- Job exploration, job sampling, vocational training, placement and support for teens,
- Transition training and preparation for adulthood,
- School consultation promoting inclusion, community skill building and person-centered planning for students with disabilities.

## Advocacy Services

Education, support and assistance is offered to individuals and groups so that they may speak out on issues affecting persons with disabilities. Specific advocacy approaches include:

- Individual advocacy to meet service or education needs,
- Sponsorship of the *Pioneer Club* and the *Frontier Club*, two self-advocacy groups that meet in the greater Greenfield and North Quabbin areas,
- Legislative and systems advocacy. The United Arc is active in regional and state coalitions that promote the rights and well being of persons with disabilities.

## Information & Referral

Direct services are provided primarily in the Franklin/ Hampshire service area and some sections of Worcester County. Educational advocacy and consultation services are available throughout western Massachusetts.

The United Arc offers information and referral on area and state resources and a monthly newsletter the Family Support Update. Please call The United Arc at 413.774.5558 to be added to the mailing list.

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The Arc is a membership organization. Members provide governance and leadership for organizational activities and are actively involved in program development. Members carry forth the mission of The Arc throughout the community.

Individuals, families, businesses and corporations that support the mission of The Arc are invited to join the organization. Each member of The United Arc of Franklin & Hampshire Counties, Inc. automatically becomes a member of the state and national Arc movements which work towards justice and equality for people with disabilities.

**Affiliations**

Arc Massachusetts  
The Arc National  
Mass Council of Human  
Service Providers  
United Way of Franklin  
County



"The United Arc will lead in forging a society that values, respects, includes and recognizes the contribution of community members with disabilities."

Adopted June 18, 1994



**Providing support and advocacy for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families since 1951.**

**Greenfield Office**

111 Summer Street  
Greenfield, MA 01301

Phone: 413.774.5558  
Fax: 413.774.2585  
arc@unitedarc.org

**Northampton Office**

Basement of  
First Church of Christ  
129 Main Street  
Northampton, MA 01060

Phone: 413.586.4053