



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

The Arc of North Central Virginia (NCV) met the unprecedented challenges of 2020 head-on by developing new programs, expanding and strengthening our leadership, and bringing together more than a dozen local disability organizations in a coalition serving Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange, and Rappahannock counties.

Our most significant initiative of 2020 was the formation of the **disAbility Coalition of North Central Virginia**, which now includes 14 member organizations. Coalition members, many of which are very small nonprofits, collaborate to support the inclusion of people with disabilities in our local communities. The Coalition's first initiative was the development of a resource to help people with developmental disabilities adjust to wearing face masks, to share with families and area school districts. The Coalition continues meeting regularly and sharing information about member initiatives in our area. The Arc of NCV executive director, Marilyn McCombe, serves as the Coalition chair.

Restrictions on in-person activities due to COVID-19 resulted in new urgent needs for people with disabilities. The Arc of NCV launched a virtual *Lunch Room* program in April, exclusively for self-advocates, to address the increased isolation resulting from school and day support program closures. Facilitated by an Arc volunteer, *Lunch Rooms* offer opportunities for vital social connection for many local self-advocates, providing a place to gather virtually for guided conversation, games, virtual tours, and other activities.

In 2020, The Arc of NCV produced the following resources to support people with disabilities and their families.

- [*Dreaming of Continuing to Higher Education?*](#)
Hyperlinked resource flyer listing higher education resources in Virginia for people with developmental disabilities, developed in collaboration with PEATC and distributed to families and schools. (February 2020)
- [*COVID-19 Information and Resource Guide*](#)
Targeted disability resources for families in our region, supporting navigation of the additional challenges of COVID-19. (April 2020)
- [*Helping Individuals with DD Wear Face Masks*](#)
Hyperlinked resource flyer containing resources and links to specialized face mask suppliers and a variety of educational videos, developed and distributed to families and schools in collaboration with the *disAbility Coalition of North Central Virginia*. (June 2020)

- [Medicaid Waiver Supports: Who to Contact](#)
Printable and electronically customizable form developed for families to understand roles and track contact information for the myriad of service providers supporting families served by Medicaid Waivers. (October 2020)
- [PCR Fauquier Resource Guide](#)
The Arc of NCV provided input and support to the *Partnership for Community Resources* to expand the Disability Section of the 2021 Fauquier Resource Guide. (October 2020)

The Arc of NCV significantly expanded its leadership in the past year with the addition of three new Board members who each hold significant leadership positions in the disability community and bring a wealth of expertise and community connections to The Arc of NCV Board. They are:

Suzanne Bowers
Executive Director, Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center of Virginia

Paula Stone
Director of Case Management, Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services

Lillian Arevalo
Bilingual Therapist, Chrysalis Counseling Centers & Special Olympics Area 17 Coordinator

We also recognized the contributions of founding Board member Lynne Blythe who stepped down from the Board in September after 10 years of service. She remains an active volunteer with The Arc of NCV.

We extend a huge thank you to our individual and organizational donors, grantors, and community partners. As 2020 came to a close, we were elated to confirm new and renewed funding from many supporters. The Arc of NCV major 2020 contributors were:

Martha Dabney Jones Foundation
PATH Foundation
New River Systems Corporation
Northern Piedmont Community Foundation
Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services