

May 1-2, 2024

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

9:15 - 10:30 a.m.

“Supported Routines – Best Practice Strategies for a Fulfilling Life”

Presented by Tom Pomeranz, PhD



This lively and informative session brings home the point that “habilitation is not a goal it is a result.” People grow, develop, and become more independent as a result of participating in meaningful life activities. The session details how supports should be delivered to allow individuals with significant cognitive, physical and/or behavioral challenges to participate in all aspects of their life. The session provides the participants with insight as to how our perceptions and expectations serve as barriers in providing support. The four supported routine outcomes (facilitating connections, maximizing independence, enhancing self-worth, and producing self-determination) are detailed and their life enhancing effects are reviewed. The maxim that “without a presence, there is no future” serves as the foundation for this session.

Thursday, May 2, 2024

9:15 - 10:30 a.m.

“Advocacy from a Parent’s Perspective. The Difference You Can Make Now”

**Presented by a Panel of Parents - Diane Compton, Sandra Heidt,
Sonia Reynoso and Mary Wyman**

Services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Illinois seem like they are in a constant state of change. Keeping up with new developments can seem exhausting but it is as important now as it was in the 1960’s when parents led the charge to make sure their children with disabilities were allowed to attend public school. Join this panel of parent advocates who are working for better lives for their children with disabilities as adults and children and learn how you can join with them to improve services in Illinois.

THE ARC OF ILLINOIS 74TH ANNUAL CONVENTION WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024

8:00-9:00 am	Registration, Continental Breakfast Visit with Exhibitors, View Art Exhibit			
9:00-9:15 am	Welcome , Goals for the day (Live Streamed)			
9:15 am - 10:30 pm	KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: “Supporting Routines - Best Practice Strategies for a Fulfilling Life” Presented by Tom Pomeranz, PhD (Live Streamed)			
10:30-10:45 am	Break			
10:45 - 11:45 am Breakout Sessions	Session #1 (Live Streamed) Tom Pomeranz, PhD <small>Universal LifeStiles</small> “Family-Provider Relationships” Dr. Tom Pomeranz in this how to presentation provides attendees with new sensitivities and insights as to what factors undermine these essential relationships on both sides. Tom details the core beliefs that are the foundation in successfully working with families. The session discusses potential family and provider barriers that may impair these relationships and strategies to overcome the barriers.	Session #2 Samantha Alloway <small>Little City Foundation</small> “Beyond the Spectrum, The Ripple Effects of an I/DD and Autism Diagnosis” Samantha’s poignant journey with her Autistic child sparks dialogue, fostering empathy. Let’s unite, share struggles, and empower each other in advocating for person-centered services in Illinois and beyond.	Session #3 Kelly Griffon Jill Reffett <small>MapHabit, Inc</small> “MapHabit A transformative journey of a self-advocate with Down Syndrome, autism, and medical challenges. Discover the evolution of support strategies through the MapHabit system, leading to remarkable gains in daily living skills and independence over 24 months.	Session #4 Suzanne Aaron Ruth Aguilar Tiffany Steinhauser <small>The Arc of Illinois</small> “Answers to Transition Questions and PUNS Benefits & Resources” The Illinois Life Span Program and the Ligas Family Advocate Program receive numerous calls each year with questions about transitioning to adulthood. We will discuss those top questions and topics, and will also share information about the services available once pulled from the PUNS database.
	Sesión #5 En Español (Transmisión en Vivo) Oscar Gonzalez Mariana Garcia Torres <small>Great Lakes ADA Center</small>	“ADA: Ley Para Personal Con Discapacidad y El Empleo” Esta presentacion explora la Ley de Personas con Discapacidades, enfocandose en el empleo. Empodera a los latinos con discapacidades, a los empleadores y a los lideres para una Sociedad equitativa.	Session #5 - Presented in Spanish This presentation delves into the Americans with Disabilities Act, focusing on employment for Spanish speakers. Crucial for inclusivity, it empowers Latinos with disabilities, employers, and leaders for an equitable society.	
11:45 am - 12:00 pm	Break, Visit with Exhibitors, View Art Exhibit			
12:00 - 1:30 pm	Lunch 12:45 - 1:15 pm PLENARY SESSION: State Legislative Update Phil Milsk and Sabrina Wyman (Live Streamed)			
1:30 - 2:30 pm	PLENARY SESSION: The Programs of The Arc: How Can We Support You? Susan Agrawal, Rocio Perez, Shirley Perez, and Greg Walkington (Live Streamed)			

Please visit the Annual Convention Sponsor
& Exhibitor Hall
<https://www.thearcofil.org/74th-annual-convention/>



THE ARC OF ILLINOIS 74TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024

<p>2:45 - 3:45 pm Breakout Sessions</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #6 (Live Streamed) Claire Cook Courtney Kerfoot UIC: Division of Specialized Care for Children</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“The Transition to Adulthood for Youth and Young Adults with Special Healthcare Needs”</i></p> <p>We will share tools youth with special healthcare needs and other disabilities can use for a successful transition to adult healthcare, programs, and benefits, developing self-management and advocacy skills.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #7 Megan Forristall Social Security Administration</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“Overview of Social Security Disability and Supplemental Security Income”</i></p> <p>Presentation will provide an overview of Social Security Disability and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) including eligibility requirements and application process. Presentation will also highlight Social Security online services.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #8 Rachel Pavesich Heather Richardson Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“Accessing Your Community: The Benefits of Therapeutic Recreation in a Community Based Setting”</i></p> <p>During this session, we explore Therapeutic Recreation and the benefits of community recreation for individuals with special needs.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #9 Tom Pomeranz, PhD Universal LifeStiles</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“Supporting People with Co-Occurring Diagnoses to Have a Quality of Life: A Provider Challenge ”</i></p> <p>As the closure and downsizing of State Operated Facilities continues, community based providers are challenged in supporting individuals who have intellectual and developmental disabilities with co-occurring conditions. In this “how to” presentation, Dr. Pomeranz explains the process for identifying and diagnosing individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who experience co-occurring conditions. He will also provide participants with strategies for implementing programs that have proven to be successful.</p>
<p>3:45 - 4:00pm</p>	<p>Break</p>			
<p>4:00 - 5:00 pm Breakout Sessions</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #11 (Live Streamed) Laura Hart IL Guardianship and Advocacy Commission</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Elizabeth Campos Family Resource Center on Disabilities</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Emily Wilson Equip for Equality</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Diane Compton Parent</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Erin Compton Self-Advocate</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“What to Do When the IEP Meetings Go Wrong”</i></p> <p>Learn about the IEP resources available through the IL State School Board, the IL Guardianship and Advocacy Commission, and Equip for Equality in ensuring students receive the education and opportunities to build their future.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #12 Illinois State Treasurer Office Presented by a Panel of Self-Advocates</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“Me and My IL ABLE Account: Self-Advocates’ Perspectives”</i></p> <p>Self-advocates/IL ABLE Account Owners will share how life has been made better with an IL ABLE Account, from having greater control over their money to building self-determination and making independent decisions.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #13 Jon Rutter Marella McMurray Community Choices</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“What’s holding you back? Community Coaching and using micro-skills to support adults with I/DD in building meaningful connection in a community-based setting”</i></p> <p>This presentation introduces the community Coaching program and its focus on micro-skills. We will discuss the need for programs that support connections and relationships along with successes and continued frustrations.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #14 Courtney Littlejohn AID</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jesus “Chuy” Campuzano Tavarus Wesley Leanne Mull Blue Tower Solutions</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“Including People Served in DEI Conversation”</i></p> <p>In this interactive session learn the importance of including people receiving services in DEI initiatives. Get ideas how to start or ramp up your DEI initiatives and take aways for including people receiving services right away.</p>
<p>5:30 - 7:00 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Awards Reception</p> <p>Stay and enjoy light appetizers, watch a performance, and meet other Convention attendees. The Arc of Illinois Annual Convention Awards will be presented to the winners.</p>			

<p>Sesión #10 En Español (Transmisión en Vivo) Celeste Nava Illinois Respite Coalition</p>	<p><i>“Relevo y Su Importancia para Familias”</i></p> <p>Conozca el significado, la importancia y las ayudas de relevo disponibles para las familias que cuidan de un ser querido con discapacidades, con la Coalición de Relevo de Illinois.</p>	<p>Session #10 - Presented in Spanish <i>“Respite and it’s Importance for Families”</i></p> <p>Reviewing meaning, importance, and available supports of respite for families caring for a loved one with disabilities, with the Illinois Respite Coalition.</p>
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<p>Sesión #15 En Español (Transmisión en Vivo) Elida Elizondo Megan Forristall Administración del Seguro Social</p>	<p><i>“Descripción General del Seguro Social por Discapacidad Social y la Seguridad de Ingreso Suplementario”</i></p> <p>La presentación brindará una descripción general del Seguro Social por Discapacidad y la Seguridad de Ingreso Suplementario (SSI), incluidos los requisitos de elegibilidad y el proceso de solicitud. La presentación también destacará los servicios en línea del Seguro Social.</p>	<p>Session #15 - Presented in Spanish <i>“Overview of Social Security Disability and Supplemental Security Income”</i></p> <p>Presentation will provide an overview of Social Security Disability and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) including eligibility requirements and application process. Presentation will also highlight Social Security online services.</p>
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THE ARC OF ILLINOIS 74TH ANNUAL CONVENTION THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024

8:00-9:00 am	Registration, Continental Breakfast Visit with Exhibitors, View Art Exhibit			
9:00-9:15 am	Welcome, goals for the day (Live Streamed)			
9:15 am - 10:30 pm	KEYNOTE PANEL PRESENTATION: “Advocacy from a Parent’s Perspective. The Difference You Can Make Now” Presented by a Panel of Parents			
10:30 - 10:45 am	Break			
10:45 - 11:45 am Breakout Sessions	Session #16 (Live Streamed) Bob Peterson Sabrina Wyman The Arc of Illinois “Legislative Advocacy Across Disabilities” Bob and Sabrina are experienced legislative advocates who’s goal is to encourage and empower individuals with disabilities to actively participate in the democratic process, including the importance of talking with your elected officials and the power of voting.	Session #17 Brian Rubin Benji Rubin Rubin Law, A Professional Corporation “Special Needs Trusts, ABL Accounts, Letters of Intent, and Related Topics” Brian Rubin, a parent, and Benji Rubin, a sibling, of Mitchell Rubin who has Autism, will present the basics of special needs’ planning, including special needs trusts, ABL accounts, selecting the future team of trustees and guardians, impact of divorce and law-suit settlements, educating the extended family, letters of intent, and many related topics.	Session #18 Anna Cronin, MS BCBA Fern Leaf ABA Tobias Merriman SIUC’s Center for Virtual Expression “Artificial Intelligence: Affordable, Accessible, Adaptive” Explore the potential of AI to empower individuals with disabilities. Our interactive session demonstrates practical AI applications, from enhancing communication skills to simplifying complex information, ensuring technology’s accessibility and adaptability for all.	Session #19 Kori Folkerts Ashley Rogucki Heartland Community College “Understanding the value of Post-Secondary Opportunities for Individuals with IDD” Describing Heartland Community College HALO Program. Both the initial 2-Year program and the Pilot Expansion/Transition Year. Sharing the value/results of the HALO program from the perspective of past students.
	Sesión #20 En Español (Transmisión en Vivo) Consuelo Puente Family Matters	“Obtenga La Pala: Leyes que Pueden” En esta presentación los participantes aprenderán sobre las leyes y regulaciones recientes que pueden afectar la vida de las Personas con Discapacidades y sus familias.		Session #20 Presented in Spanish “Get the Scoop: Laws that May Impact your Life?” In this presentation participants will learn about recent laws and regulations, that may impact the life of individuals with disabilities and their families.
11:45 am - 12:00 pm	Break, Visit with Exhibitors, View Art Exhibit			
12:00 - 1:45 pm	Lunch 12:45 - 1:30 pm PLENARY SESSION: DHS/DDD Update with Secretary Quintero (Live Streamed)			

Please visit the Annual Convention Sponsor & Exhibitor Hall
<https://www.thearcofil.org/74th-annual-convention/>



Special Needs Legal & Future Planning
www.rubinlaw.com - email@rubinlaw.com

THE ARC OF ILLINOIS 74TH ANNUAL CONVENTION THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024

<p>1:45 - 2:45 pm Breakout Sessions</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #21 (Live Streamed) ICDD</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Dignity in Pay”</p> <p>Join us for an overview of the Dignity in Pay Act moving through the legislature now. Learn about this 5-year plan to increase employment supports while supporting organizations to eliminate paying sub-minimum wage.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #22 Brian Rubin Benji Rubin Rubin Law, A Professional Corporation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Alternatives, One Size Does NOT Fit All: Supported Decision Making (new Illinois law), Powers of Attorney, and Guardianship (Plenary and Limited)”</p> <p>Brian Rubin, a parent, and Benji Rubin, a sibling, of Mitchell Rubin who has Autism, will explain Guardianship (Limited and Plenary), and the alternatives, including Supported Decision Making (new law), Powers of Attorney, and related matters.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #23 Elyssa Newman Amy Peterson EPIC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Community Options with EPIC”</p> <p>EPIC is comprised of families, staff, volunteers, and community members working together to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families with unique educational, residential, employment, and clinical programs tailored to each individual’s abilities and needs.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #24 Amanda Teachout Hanover Township MHB</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Transportation for Individuals with Disabilities for Employment”</p> <p>TIDE is a program that provides a discounted taxi voucher to get to work for residents of Hanover Township who have a intellectual or developmental disability.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Sesión #25 En Español (Transmisión en Vivo) Consuelo Puente Family Matters</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">“Tutela Y Opciones Alternativas”</p> <p>Los participantes aprenderán información básica sobre el proceso de tutela y obtendrán información sobre las alternativas disponibles a la tutela.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Session #25 Presented in Spanish “Guardianship and Alternative Options</p> <p>Participants will learn basic information about the guardianship process and gain insight into the available alternatives to Guardianship.</p>
<p>2:45 - 3:00 pm</p>	<p>Break</p>			
<p>3:00 - 4:00 pm Breakout Sessions</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #26 (Live Streamed) Susan Agrawal The Arc of Illinois</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“It’s About Living! Palliative Care Services for People with Disabilities”</p> <p>This presentation introduces palliative care for people with disabilities, describes pediatric palliative care initiatives in Illinois, and discusses how advocacy is needed to bring palliative care to adults with disabilities.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #27 Alisha Babu Sophia Azim Sibshops UIUC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“SIBSHOPS UIUC: Bringing Support for Siblings of Individuals with Disabilities”</p> <p>Sibshops UIUC, a university chapter representing the Sibling Support Project, empowers siblings of individuals with disabilities in Champaign-Urbana and neighboring small counties in Illinois. Join us in our mission to extend understanding and support.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #28 Sabrina Wyman The Arc of Illinois</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Fostering Inclusive Communities: Bridging Gaps Between Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and the Criminal Justice System”</p> <p>Consider the intersection of intellectual and developmental disabilities with the criminal justice system, delving into an Illinois task force report and exploring what other states have done to foster collaborations for inclusive reform.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session #29 Kimberly Haynes Kristin Hadley Family to Family</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Everyone wants to be Seen, Heard, Involved And Thanked”</p> <p>“Everyone wants to be Seen, Heard, Involved and Thanked” will cover 5 fun ways that social and emotional learning inspires, empowers and strengthens self advocacy.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Sesión #30 En Español (Transmisión en Vivo) Vanessa Aceves Equip for Equality Alexis Ayala Student</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">“Dispositivos de comunicacion en educacion especial”</p> <p>Conozca el proceso de obtener dispositivos de comunicacion en educacion especial. Escuche al camino personal de un estudiante con su dispositivo de comunicacion y consejos importantes para obtener un dispositivo de comunicacion en la escuela.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Session #30 Presented in Spanish “Communication Devices in Sped ”</p> <p>Learn about the process for obtaining Communication devices in Special Education. Hear a student’s Personal journey with his Communication device and key tips for getting a communication Device in school.</p>
<p>4:00 pm</p>	<p>Pick up Auction items</p>			
<p>We hope you enjoy The Arc of Illinois Annual Art Exhibit & Contest. https://www.thearcofil.org/74th-annual-convention/</p> <p>Browse and enjoy all the marvelous art work on display from April 24 - May 2, 2024</p> <p>Cast your vote on your favorite work of art! All artists will receive a ribbon and certificate!</p>				



The Arc of Illinois 74th Annual Convention

“Advocacy for All”

May 1 - 2, 2024

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FAQ'S

This is a hybrid event.

Virtual Attendees: You will receive your Zoom link and reminders starting one (1) week before the Conference. Only the presentations marked “Live Streamed” will be available for virtual attendees. This includes the welcome, keynotes, plenary sessions, and two breakout sessions - one session presented in English, one session presented in Spanish.

In Person Attendees: The Convention is located at:

Marriott Hotel
201 Broadway Avenue
Normal, IL 61761

The Arc of Illinois has reserved a block of rooms at the conference rate of \$179/night. Room reservations can be made directly by calling 309/862-9000. Reservations are under The Arc of Illinois Annual Convention.” **The cut-off date for the block of rooms is April 9, 2024.**

Parking: Use the parking garage across the street, entrance on Beaufort St or Fell Ave. If you are staying at the hotel, share your license plate number with the hotel staff when checking in for a discounted rate.

Travel: There is an Amtrak train service from Chicago (Union Station) or Carbondale. The Normal train station is less than a block from the hotel. Visit www.amtrak.com or call 1-800-USA-RAIL.

To register: Email, mail or fax this form along with payment to The Arc of Illinois. Or register online, <https://www.thearcofil.org/events>

If financial restrictions prevent you from paying full registration, hotel, and transportation, consumer stipends for self-advocates and families are available through funding from the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities by contacting The Arc of Illinois at 815-464-1832 ext 1010 or Spanish-speaking extension 815-464-1832 x1024.

CEUs

11 CEU's available for Clinical Professional Counselor, Clinical Social Worker, Nursing Home Administrator, Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, Social Worker, and QIDPs.

If attending in person, please use the CEU form located at the registration table.

If attending virtually, please submit a request form. The form is available on the website.

Question? Contact Kim Swanson, kim@thearcofil.org, 815.464.1832 x1024

SILENT AUCTION AND EXHIBITS

The Silent Auction and Art Exhibit will open Thursday, April 24th at 12 pm noon and remain open until Thursday, May 2nd at 3 pm.

The Silent Auction will be available online, with items on display during the Convention. The auction is open to all, regardless if you are attending the convention.

You can either pick up your winning items at the Convention or at the office in Mokena. If you are unable to pick up your items, they will be shipped to you - shipping fees apply.

EXHIBITORS

Visit the Exhibitor Hall for more information on our Sponsors and Exhibitors,

<https://www.thearcofil.org/74th-annual-convention/>

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS Participants canceling their registration 72 hours in advance will be entitled to a credit or refund. No refund or credit will be given for cancellation less than 72 hours before the conference.



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“Advocacy for All”

May 1 - 2, 2024

COST & REGISTRATION

Registration for Both Days

In Person:

- Professional Member\$ 275.00
- Professional Non Member\$ 335.00
- Family/Self-Advocate Member.....\$ 200.00
- Family/Self-Advocate Non Member.....\$ 240.00

Virtual:

- Professional Member.....\$ 200.00
- Professional Non Member\$ 260.00
- Family/Self-Advocate Member.....\$ 145.00
- Family/Self-Advocate Non Member.....\$ 185.00

Single Day Registration

In Person:

- Professional Member.....\$ 175.00
- Professional Non Member\$ 225.00
- Family/Self-Advocate Member.....\$ 130.00
- Family/Self-Advocate Non Member.....\$ 160.00

Virtual

- Professional Member.....\$ 130.00
- Professional Non Member\$ 180.00
- Family/Self-Advocate Member.....\$ 95.00
- Family/Self-Advocate Non Member.....\$ 125.00

Indicate which days you will attend:
 Wednesday Thursday

Please let us know if you will be participating in the following:

- The Awards Reception
- The Spanish Breakout Sessions

INSTRUCTIONS: One form per person, please print legibly. Your name and agency will appear on your name tag as it appears on this form. Check your registration options. Mail completed form to: The Arc of Illinois, 9980 190th St., Suite C, Mokena, IL 60448. Make checks payable to The Arc of Illinois. You may fax this form to 815-464-5292 and send the fee with the hard copy of this form in the mail. You may also register online at www.thearcofil.org/events.

Name: _____

Job Title: _____ Agency: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

NOTE: We must know of any accommodation requests at least two weeks prior to the convention.
 Please tell us your accommodation needed here: _____ Any dietary accommodations? _____

Not a member? Introductory Annual Membership discount for when you register for the Convention.

Yes, sign me up:

- New Family/Individual Member for \$20
- New Professional Member for \$40

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

- _____ Check enclosed payable to The Arc of Illinois
- _____ P.O. or State Voucher #
- _____ Charge to my Credit Card

Name as it appears on credit card: _____

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____ CVV Code: _____

Billing Zip Code: _____

Card Holder's signature: _____



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Annual Convention
May 1– 2, 2024
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Special Needs Legal & Future Planning

www.rubinlaw.com - email@rubinlaw.com