

For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities



Dear Arc Participants, Families and Circles of Support,

It is difficult to believe that we have now marked the one year anniversary since our campus doors closed in response to COVID-19. Though we have not been on campus, our community has continued to connect, learn and grow.

Phased Reopening:

- Phase 1, Essential and Distanced 1:1 Support of our reopening plan continues with more and more staff returning. We have over 80 staff in the field providing job coaching, residential, health advocacy and education supports. This Phase 1 rollout continues to be responsive both to the health and safety needs due to COVID-19. Staff have also been prioritized for vaccine access and currently 60% of our team has begun the vaccination process.
- **Phase 2** We anticipate moving into **Phase 2**, **Small Community Based Groups**, by June. This phased rollout will be responsive to the community health and safety needs of both our participants and staff and will be in alignment with the most stringent local guidelines.

Vaccination Priority

After a great amount of advocacy from our ID/DD community in partnership with state leaders, individuals with developmental disabilities have been prioritized for vaccination as of March 15th. The vaccination process can still be challenging to navigate, so we have updated resource pages on both our Arc SF <u>website</u> and our participant <u>ArcSF Hub</u>. We are excited for the opportunities that vaccination will bring for our entire community, but recognize that it is a personal health choice for all participants and staff. We will continue to provide advocacy and resources to ensure that all of our community members have the information they need to make informed decisions about vaccination.

19th Annual Arc Breakfast

On March 11th, we celebrated our 19th Arc Annual Breakfast. This remote event was a celebration of the resilience and innovation of our community as well as the wonderful supporters who make our work possible. Co-hosted by one of our talented participants, the breakfast highlighted independent living, career readiness and how to stay active during the pandemic. The event was attended by many more participants and families than ever before, highlighting the accessibility of remote events. We look forward to offering this event in person again next year with live broadcast! If you are interested, please see the video <u>here</u> and the <u>photo album</u> on The Arc SF's Facebook page - and <u>it's not to late to donate</u>!

Family & Circles of Support Town Hall - April 2021

We will be hosting our next Family and Circles of Support town hall in April to discuss Phase 2 planning and how to navigate the community as we move into the Orange Tier. We will send a meeting link as soon as the date is confirmed.

All our administrative teams continue to operate, working remotely as much as possible, but in the office on a limited basis, and social distancing. Our main office number will be open to

answer any questions during office closure, 415-255-7200. Please also <u>visit our website</u> for up to date resources and planning updates.

Be well,

Kristen

Kristen Pedersen, Executive Director

Upcoming March / April / May Events: 3/19, 4/16, and 5/21/2021 - We Gotta Dance, 6:00 PM, visit the <u>Hub Calendar for Zoom Link</u> 4/16/2021 - Friends Like Me Pacesetters Salon, 5:30 PM 5/11/2021 - Board of Directors Meeting, 5:30 PM 5/26/2021 - "The Beat Goes On" Art Show & Sale, Pacesetters Salon, 5:30 PM

Take Action! Advocacy



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