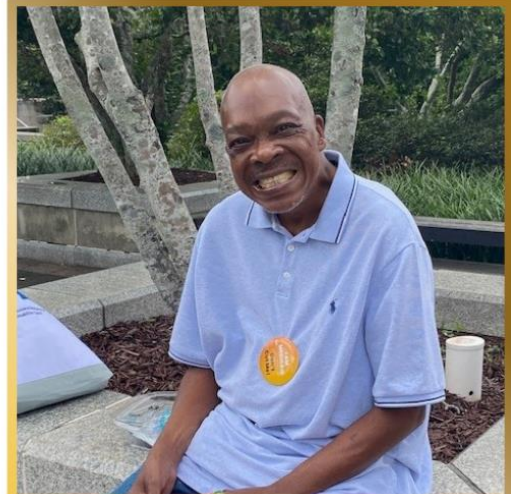




2025 Annual Report

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

This year has been a remarkable one for The Arc of Louisiana, and I am proud to share the progress we have made together. Through strong advocacy and collaboration, we achieved several important victories at the legislature that will have a lasting impact on providers, individuals with disabilities, and their families.

We addressed concerns raised in the education audit, working to improve public education for children with disabilities across our state. We also secured an additional \$14 million for Louisiana Rehabilitation Services, funding that will allow the LRS to hire much-needed staff to serve our community better. After years of effort, we have successfully obtained funding for nursing services, allowing providers to begin billing for this critical support finally. And perhaps most importantly, we restored funding for People First of Louisiana, ensuring that self-advocates continue to have a platform to lead and speak for themselves.

I am deeply grateful to our staff, who continue to provide resources, updates, and support to families and local chapters, all while meeting contract obligations and strengthening our collective impact.

As we look to the future, we know there is still much to be done. I encourage you to continue your efforts in your communities and districts, educating legislators about the needs of individuals with disabilities and reminding them of the importance of the services we fight to protect.

Together, we have proven that meaningful change is possible when we stand united. Thank you for your continued support of The Arc of Louisiana. As always, remember we were able to achieve great things when we work together!

Henry Friloux

In Memoriam

We honor three remarkable members of The Arc of Louisiana family whose dedication and service have left a lasting legacy.



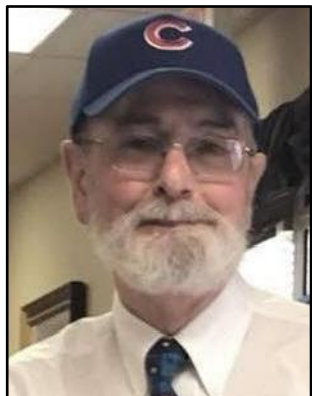
Michael Ward
Board Member
Terrebonne Arc (Tarc) & The Arc of Louisiana

Michael Ward faithfully served for many years on the board of TARC, one of our local chapters, and on the Board of Directors of The Arc of Louisiana. His leadership, steady guidance, and commitment to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities strengthened our organization and shaped its future. Michael's kindness and generosity of spirit will be deeply missed.



Sharon Hennessey
Former Director
People First of Louisiana

Sharon Hennessey devoted her career to advancing the rights and opportunities of people with disabilities. As Director of People First of Louisiana, she worked tirelessly to ensure that the voices of self-advocates were heard in communities, in statewide policy, and in national conversations. Fierce, compassionate, and unwavering in her commitment, Sharon's advocacy touched countless lives and left an enduring legacy of inclusion.



Barry Meyer
Former Executive Director
Member of the Arc of Louisiana Foundation Board

Barry dedicated more than 40 years of his life to The Arc serving with passion, vision, and heart. He was not only an incredible leader but also a mentor to many directors who followed in his footsteps. Through his work, Barry developed countless programs that enriched the lives of people with disabilities and their families across our community. His legacy lives on in the opportunities he created, the lives he touched, and the movement he helped shape.

Their memory lives on in the lives they touched and, in the mission, we carry forward in their honor.

About Us

The Arc of Louisiana was founded in 1954, at a time when there were no community programs or services to support children and adults with developmental disabilities or their families. What began as a grassroots movement has grown into the oldest and largest statewide advocacy organization for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Louisiana.

For more than 70 years, The Arc has fought to end exclusion, discrimination, and abuse, while opening doors to education, employment, community living, and recreation. Today, individuals with disabilities are living, learning, working, and thriving in their own communities thanks to these ongoing efforts.

The Arc is an organization of and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. With guidance from our board of directors, the dedication of our staff, and the strength of our local chapters, we remain committed to advancing opportunities, improving supports and services, and ensuring that every individual is valued, respected, and included.

For many of our staff, working at The Arc is more than a job; it's a calling to make a lasting difference in the lives of people with disabilities across Louisiana.



Our Mission:

The Arc of Louisiana empowers individuals with a disability and their families to achieve advancements in inclusion, employment, and public policy through advocacy in Louisiana.



Our chapter network advocates for and with people with disabilities and provides supports and services to help them enjoy full lives in their communities.

**21 Local
Chapters**

**Serving over
7000
families**

**In all 9
regions of
the state**

The Arc is a grassroots organization with almost 10,000 members affiliated through 21 local chapters across the state.

Our local chapters:

- **The Arc of Acadiana**
- **The Arc of East Ascension**
- **The Arc Baton Rouge**
- **Beauregard Arc**
- **The Arc Caddo-Bossier**
- **Donaldsonville Area Arc**
- **The Arc - Iberville**
- **Larc – Lafayette**
- **Arco-Monroe**
- **The Arc of Morehouse**
- **Arc of Greater New Orleans**
- **The Arc Rapides**
- **The Arc of Sabine**
- **The Arc of St. Charles, Inc.**
- **St. James Arc**
- **St. John Arc**
- **The Arc of St. Martin**
- **The Arc of St. Mary**
- **Tarc-Hammond**
- **Terrebonne Arc**
- **Westbank Arc**

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OUR BOARD MEMBERS:

The Arc of Louisiana

President

Henry Friloux

1st Vice President

Willie Gibbens

2nd Vice President

Michael Ward

Immediate Past President

Larry Pete

Louisiana Conference of Executives Representative

JP Gaspard

Treasurer

Mary Durusau

Secretary

John Rigney

Board Members

Gisele Proby Bryant

Anita Cann

Dwayne Lewis

Stephanie Reid

Brian Hensgens

Arc Louisiana Foundation

President

Gregory Lott

Vice President

Nell McAnelly

Treasurer

Mary Durusau

Secretary

John Rigney

Immediate Past President

Anita Cann

Board Members

Barry Meyer

Willie Gibbens

Michael Ward

Darrel Chenevert



ADVOCACY & PUBLIC POLICY

Over the past 70 years, The Arc of Louisiana has advocated and impacted public policy by staying informed on critical issues, raising community awareness, influencing public policy, advocating at the state capitol, and promoting self-advocacy. We collaborate daily with self-advocates, family members, providers, legislators, and other advocates to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities.

There were many activities and pieces of legislation to celebrate. Below are a few that the Arc of Louisiana specifically led in 2025.

- We effectively advocated for funding for the Professional Consulting Nursing Service Code that we advocated for in the previous year at \$2.4 million.
- We secured an additional \$14 million for Louisiana Rehabilitation Services to serve our community better.
- We addressed concerns raised in the education audit, working to improve public education for children with disabilities across our state.
- We were able to reinstate the funding for the People First contract.

The Arc of Louisiana staff actively participates in essential boards, commissions, and task forces at the local and state levels.

- Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs
- OCDD Providers Stakeholders Advisory Council
- Regional Advisory Committee
- State Advisory Committee
- ABLE Advisory Council
- My Place Louisiana (DOJ)
- SEAP
- State Use Advisory Council
- LATAN
- SILC
- LRC
- Technology and Remote Supports task force
- Dental Task Force
- Disability Rights Louisiana PALM (protection & advocacy for individuals with mental illness)

Advocacy in Action



Training and Education Contracts

Louisiana Disability Legal Resources/Criminal Justice Project

Part of the Independent Living Research Utilization (ILRU) out of Houston, Texas, contracted with The Arc of Louisiana to develop the criminal justice program. This project is designed to build the capacity of law enforcement professionals on the rights afforded to individuals with disabilities under the ADA and how to best identify and interact with an individual with a disability. The Arc of Louisiana staff developed tools, resources, and training that are responsive to the needs of individuals with disabilities, their families, and legal professionals.

Louisiana Disability Healthcare Resources

In collaboration with the Southwest ADA Center, The Arc of Louisiana provides training, education, and resources that assist healthcare professionals with the tools necessary to serve individuals with disabilities across the state. This project aims to improve the access and quality of healthcare for individuals with disabilities, thus reducing disability health disparities.

Emergency Preparedness

This project, in collaboration with the Emergency Management Disability & Aging Coalition, promotes emergency planning and ensures accessibility in emergency centers across the state.



Community Inclusion Contracts

People First of Louisiana – Local Chapter

Funded by the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, People First promotes the development of peer mentoring and support through modeling and training to build their leadership capacity to advocate for their needs and services successfully.

People First of Louisiana – Board

People First of Louisiana is a statewide board comprised entirely of and led by people with disabilities. As a statewide organization, it supports people with disabilities in empowering themselves to become effective decision-makers, gain independence, and enjoy life as equal citizens of the United States of America. It also empowers each other to actively participate in and contribute to their local communities. People First of Louisiana has chapters across the state and is committed to the self-advocacy movement in Louisiana.

Voting Rights for People with Disabilities

Funded by the Louisiana Developmental Disability Council. The objective of this contract is to empower individuals with disabilities and others through training, education, and technical assistance, and to serve as a resource on voting rights for people with disabilities. Trainings available to self-advocates, families, and other interested organizations. Participants will walk away with a complete understanding of voter rights, their options, and the confidence to vote on important issues.



Education - Training and Technical Assistance

The Department of Education's IDEA Part B State Activities Grant specifies providing technical assistance and support for families of children with disabilities. This program provides funding to The Arc to provide regional technical assistance to support families of children with disabilities, as described in the Department's IDEA Part B State Activities Grant. The Arc will provide support to families with specific needs, develop a family guide for use by families, offer training for parents, and organize a summer summit for educators and families.

Navigating Louisiana's Complex Systems

Funded by the Louisiana Developmental Disability Council, The Arc of Louisiana provides training and education to providers and individuals regarding co-occurring intellectual/developmental disabilities and behavioral health conditions. These trainings are intended for individuals with co-occurring disabilities as well as their providers and family members.

Person-Centered Supported Living/State Personal Assistance

The Office of Aging and Adult Services contracted with The Arc of Louisiana to develop a self-directed service model and function as the fiscal agent /Support Coordinator for their Person-Centered Supported Living Program. This program served 65 individuals in FY 2024.

Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Fund

The Office of Aging and Adult Services contracted with The Arc to act as a resource and provide support coordination services for individuals who have sustained a traumatic head and spinal cord injury. Currently, The Arc of Louisiana works with regions 1 & 9.

Dental Care for All

Arc US funded the dental project. This project aimed to collaborate with dental offices and provide open houses for people with disabilities. These open houses were intended for individuals to come and get used to the dental office's sounds, smells, and activity in hopes of reducing their anxiety about going to the dentist.

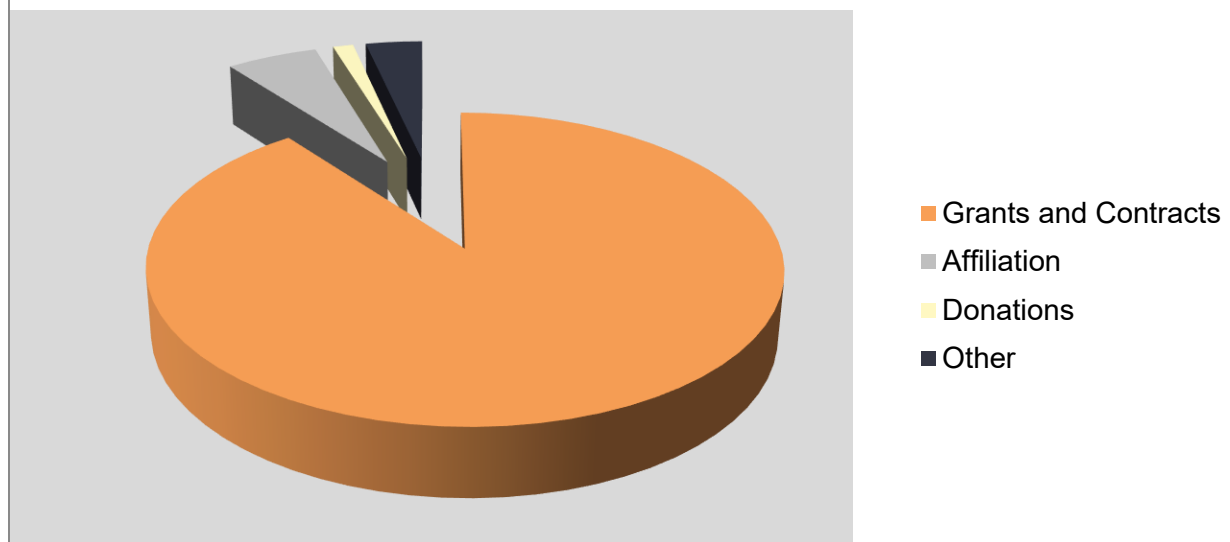
2025



FINANCIAL STATUS

REVENUES AND SUPPORT	TOTAL
Grants & Contracts	\$1,511,892
Affiliation Fees	\$94,625
Donations	\$21,161
Other	\$58,709
Total	\$1,686,387
Expenses	\$1,570,244
Net Income	\$116,143

Sales



246 days of working capital

(Number of days an organization can continue to operate with current assets).

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