



The Arc of Kentucky values diversity and does not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, religion, age, geographic location, sexual orientation, gender or level disability.

The Arc of Kentucky Seeks Participants for



Advocates
In
Action

Self-Determination/ Leadership Academy

*Advocates ...in ...Action
Leadership Academy*



706 East Main Street, Ste. A
Frankfort, KY 40601
Phone: (502) 875-5225 OR
1-800-281-1272
Fax: (502) 875-5226
<http://www.arcofky.org>

Executive Director Stella Beard
Stella@arcofky.org

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world, indeed it's the only thing that ever has. Margaret Mead

Achieve With Us

(Printed with funds through The Cabinet for Department for Behavioral Health Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities)

Advocates in Action

Self-Determination/Leadership

Advocates In Action is an innovative self-determination leadership academy designed to train individuals with disabilities; family members, siblings of family members with disabilities; or professionals working with people with disabilities.

Advocates In Action provides state-of-the-art knowledge about issues relating to developmental disabilities and builds the competencies necessary for **Advocates in Action** participants to become advocates who can effectively influence public policy.

Advocates In Action presenters will utilize videos, overhead materials, handouts, etc., to educate participants on the following topics:

- A. History of disability services;
- B. Principles of self-determination and individualized funding, community organizing, and advocacy;
- C. Finding and using natural and community supports;
- D. The current Commonwealth and local providers and services;
- E. Assistive technology and adaptive environments;
- F. Employment, and
- G. Policymaking and legislative processes at the local, state, and federal levels.

In addition to this basic information, **Advocates In Action** participants will be assisted in developing their own **Master Advocacy Plan (MAP)**.

Each individual MAP will incorporate at least one goal in each of the following categories:

1. Meeting a current personal or community need;
2. Becoming an active member of a community or advocacy organization to address systems issues;
3. Actively seek a decision-making role with a community or advocacy organization or group;
4. Contacting at least one local, regional, or state decision-maker to educate regarding one or more developmental disability issues; and
5. Seek a conference in order to network and expand knowledge of disability issues and attend if possible.

Advocates In Action Leadership Academy will include two statewide events. The first session will be held in the Fall, the second in February. Participants are required to make the commitment to attend all parts of both sessions. Participants will work toward achieving the goals set out in their personal **MAP** throughout the advocacy training period, with consultation from the project director. The Arc of Kentucky is actively seeking twenty (20) highly motivated men and women to participate in **Advocates In Action** who want the best possible services for themselves or their families.

The Arc of Kentucky is particularly eager that the members of the group represent different ethnic backgrounds, different geographic regions, and a variety of disabilities. Reaching persons who are not actively involved in existing advocacy organizations is also a priority.

Travel expenses for lodging, mileage, meals, respite care and support services for program participants will be reimbursed according to individual needs.

Please feel free to make copies of this information for dissemination to interested individuals or call The Arc of Kentucky office to obtain additional copies or visit our website listed below. For additional information and an application, contact:

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Materials will be made available in alternative format upon request.

The Arc of Kentucky teaches people to be independent and to be the strongest advocate and self-advocate that they can be.