

Renewal Proposal

The Arc of the U.S. aka The Arc of Arizona Arizona Supported Decision-Making Training

The Arc of Arizona is requesting \$80,000. The Arc of Arizona, in collaboration with Disability Rights of Arizona (DRAZ), is requesting second year funding to expand and sustain the supported decision-making initiative. SDM overall goal is to reduce guardianship and shift towards a more inclusive and empowering approaches for individuals with I/DD to retain their rights to make their own choices.

In Year 1, The Arc of Arizona with DRAZ completed the following activities to support SDM:

- Established a working advisory committee of 20 members that provides valuable feedback on tools and planning resources, and other insights throughout the project.
- Developed and adjusted, as needed, training materials based on feedback from the advisory committee, and from participants who attended the training sessions.
- Conducted 14 training sessions around the state of Arizona, both in-person and virtual, reaching an approximately total of over 1400 individuals.
- Developed various resource materials that include videos featuring self-advocates and parents; a one-page flyer explaining SDM and ensuring all resource materials are in plain-language and accessible.
- Expanded outreach efforts through social media platforms, newsletters, direct emails, and partnerships with other disability organizations.

In year 2, The Arc of Arizona will maintain many of the same activities and expand to new ones. These include the following:

a. Conduct a minimum of 12 training sessions in Year 2, of which 6 of the training sessions are conducted outside of Maricopa County in the communities of Lake Havasu, Flagstaff, Page, Show low, Wickenburg and Yuma. The remaining training sessions will be virtual. The minimum number of participants per training is 8, however The Arc of Arizona has seen larger number of participants at each of their training sessions.

b. Focus of training may include any of the following groups: Individuals with I/DD and their families/caregivers; Service providers; Financial professionals, including trust managers, Healthcare professionals, including, clinics, hospitals, administrators, clinicians, physicians. Judicial and Legal professionals; Educational agencies, including public and charter schools, school districts, community colleges, universities, teachers, transition specialists.

c. The Arc of Arizona and DRAZ will participate and provide training and share resources at a minimum of two (2) statewide conferences where SDM would be relevant.

d. The Arc of Arizona will maintain and work with the SDM board; meet with them on a quarterly basis. Feedback from the board will be incorporated on SDM training and resources.

e. Maintain and expand the Communication Plan created in Year 1. These include stories to present in traditional media (newspaper, TV, radio), blogs, videos, and use of digital and social media marketing efforts, and more targeted approaches to communities, and certain groups who would benefit from learning about SDM.

f. New this year, The Arc of Arizona will develop a train-the-trainer component to broaden statewide reach and create a path for future sustainability. To begin to put the model together, The Arc of Arizona will first focus on developing a pilot of specialized training for potential future trainers. Then they will establish standardized requirements for successful completion of SDM training and create a process for tracking and supporting approved trainers. The official train-the-trainer model will fully start in year three.

g. The Arc of Arizona will seek alternative sources of funding to sustain SDM, post ADDPC grant funding.