



**Helping to create meaningful connections for people with disabilities to their communities**



The Community Participation Initiative, an affiliate of The Arcadia Institute, makes it possible for children and adults with disabilities to participate fully in all aspects of community life, as they choose. The goal is to create partnerships with community agencies that offer activities that are open to all citizens.

# Community Participation Initiative

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What are the goals of the Community Participation Initiative?**

- To give people with developmental disabilities the opportunity to make meaningful choices in their lives.
- To connect participants with others in the community who share similar interests and to engage them in activities which are available to everyone.
- To form natural relationships and supports that will assist in ongoing involvement in the community.
- To make successful connections with the participant and the community.

### **What is the role of the Community Inclusion Coordinator?**

- To meet with the participant and discover their interests.
- To locate local individuals, activities, organizations that are open to including people with disabilities.
- To support the participant in the connection of their choice.
- To offer assistance as needed to staff of the organization.
- To evaluate the success of the involvement.

### **What is the role of the participant?**

- To meet with the Community Inclusion Coordinator and determine their interests.
- To select activities and organizations with which to engage.
- To offer input of community connections for evaluation purposes.

### **What is the role of parents and Community Living Support Workers?**

- To provide transportation and support for the participant while they are involved in their community activity.

### **What is the role of the community organization?**

- To meaningfully include the participant.
- To request input from the Community Inclusion Coordinator when questions or concerns arise.
- To offer quarterly input of the participant's inclusion for evaluation purposes.

### **When do participants exit from the Initiative?**

- After one community connection the participant may choose to exit the Initiative.
- The participant may choose to remain an active member in the Initiative and continue to receive assistance in pursuing their interests.
- The participant may choose to be an inactive member and exit the Initiative, but maintain the option of re-entering at a later date.

**For more information, contact The Arc of Western Wayne County at 734.729.9100, or visit us online at [www.thearcww.org](http://www.thearcww.org).**



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