



Noble/The Arc of Greater Indianapolis 2006 Public Policy Platform

Noble/The Arc of Greater Indianapolis represents individuals with developmental disabilities across the life span and their families in Marion and Hamilton Counties. As the local affiliate, we support the public policy positions and legislative goals of The Arc and its state chapter, The Arc of Indiana. We are committed to advocating at a local, state and national level on behalf of all individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to promote public policy that supports the inclusion of persons with developmental disabilities in all aspects of community life. We are guided by dignity and respect for all individuals, the right to self-determination and choice for persons with developmental disabilities, and the principles underlying person-centered and family-centered services. We also support work to reduce the incidence of preventable developmental disabilities and to create public awareness of the issues of concern to our stakeholders.

Noble's advocacy efforts will include activities to support public policy in the following areas:

Infants and Toddlers

- Early intervention services that promote family-centered approaches, early intervention best practices, and appropriate levels of service for all eligible children.
- Access to safe, affordable, and quality health and child care services that promote the well-being of every child.
- Family support through information, education, and respite care.
- Adequate funding across multiple funding streams, including public dollars and private insurance, to achieve the above.

Preschool/School Age

- Special education services through the public schools that promote children with special needs being educated along with their peers in inclusive educational settings, provided by appropriately trained and adequately supported teachers.
- Access to safe, affordable, and quality health and child care services that promote the well-being of every child.
- Family support through information, education and respite care.
- Adequate funding across multiple funding streams, including public dollars and private insurance, to achieve the above.

Adults

- Public policy that promotes access to services and supports that allow adults with developmental disabilities to learn, live, work, and play in the community, and otherwise engage in all other activities available to persons without disabilities.
- Family support through information, education and respite care, including helping elderly parents who are still caring for a family member in their home.
- Adequate funding across multiple funding streams, including public dollars and private insurance, to achieve the above.