



EMPOWER



Monthly News for Self-Advocacy Groups in Maryland

EDITION 2

AUGUST 2024



FROM THE DESK OF DOMINIQUE!

ADVOCACY SPECIALIST THE ARC MARYLAND

In case you missed it, the Governor recently signed an executive order creating the [Maryland Plain Language Initiative](#). In the Executive Order, the Governor mentioned that communication access is protected by the [Plain Writing Act of 2010](#), which requires the federal agencies use clear communication that the public can understand and use.

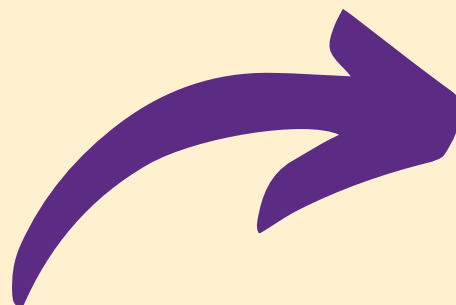
Plain language benefits all people because it make it easier for all people to understand and saves money and time.

I personally agree that using plain language would be the best thing for Marylander's because it would be easier for them to understand and access the information they need.



Email me!

DPalmer@thearcmd.org



Read more by scanning [or click here!](#)



CONNECTIONS!

Empowering Partners serves as the foundation for many self-advocacy groups in Maryland, with guidance from The Arc Maryland, local chapters of The Arc, experienced self-advocate group facilitators, and program partners. Through Empowering Partners, people with IDD have opportunities to come together, to connect and discuss what they want for their lives, and make plans for how they will influence the changes they wish to see.

Every Empowering Partner Group has a different group name, but all are connected with People on the Go Maryland. People on the Go is Maryland's Statewide Self Advocacy Group operated by and for people with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities.

Are you currently connected with your local Self-Advocacy Group?
Let's meet up!

EMPOWERING PARTNERS

Join the statewide initiative to strengthen and grow local self-advocacy groups.

Remaining August Self-Advocacy Group Meetings by County

8/21 | 5:30 - 7:30 PM (Hybrid) New Hope for All
Baltimore City & Baltimore County

"Get the Scoop On New Hope For All" Ice Cream Social
RSVP to SHinton@thearcbaltimore.org

8/26 | 11:00AM-12:00 PM (In-Person @ Easton Volunteer Fire Department)
Living Boldly - Eastern Shore | Central Chesapeake Region

8/29 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (In Person) Inspiration Advocates
Carroll County

Contact Natalie Dohner,
NDohner@TheArcMD.org to get
connected to your local group!

Visit [http://www.thearcmd.org/
empowering-partners/](http://www.thearcmd.org/empowering-partners/)
for meeting details!



Supported by the Maryland Community Health Resources DDA. The views presented here are those of the author and not necessarily those of the DDA or its staff. This project is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$1,295,362 with 100% funding by ACL/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

DID SOMEONE MENTION A PICNIC?

POG Summer Picnic, Potluck, and Talent Show

Join People on the Go Maryland at The Arc Central Chesapeake in Severn, MD on Saturday, September 7 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the POG summer picnic, potluck, and Talent Show! Show off your skills by registering for the talent show, or bring your favorite dish by signing up for the potluck. There's even a special guest appearance from the great Cody Clark himself! All POG members are invited for free. All others are \$10.

Register using the QR codes below and contact James Orman with POG for possible transportation assistance and other requests: james@pogmd.org

PEOPLE ON THE GO MARYLAND
PRESENTS
pogmd.org

SUMMER Picnic '24

SHOW YOUR SKILLS

SEPTEMBER
SATURDAY | **07** | 11AM TO 3PM
2024

1332 Donald Ave, Severn, Maryland 21144

POTLUCK	REGISTER	TALENT SHOW

People On the  Maryland





Partners in Policymaking®

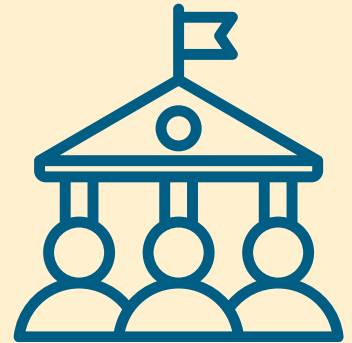


APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN UNTIL AUGUST 31

What's Partners in Policymaking?

This year-long program prepares adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), parents, and family members of children and adults with IDD to be effective advocates at the local, state, and federal levels.

Through 12 sessions, Partners in Policymaking® participants will learn about systems change: creating, working towards, and achieving a vision of shared values about people with disabilities. Partners graduates often become lifelong and long-term agents of change in the community.



Learn more about Partners and apply for the 2024-2025 program by August 31! Watch our recorded info session on [Youtube](#) or go to www.TheArcMD.org/Partners to learn more and apply. Contact Coni Nepomuceno at cnepomuceno@thearcmd.org if you need assistance with the application.



LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!



We want to hear from you about your experience in your local self-advocacy groups! Take the Empowering Partners survey by August 31st!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZPCRS8F>



Take the survey by clicking on the QR code or the link above.

Tomorrow! Join POG's monthly member meeting on 8/21 at 3 PM!

Topic: "What's your voting plan?"

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83558187139?pwd=TUFXb1VnV0tRWnY4b0N5ZDZqYUx3QT09>

Meeting ID: 835 5818 7139

Passcode: 262195

POG Transportation Advocacy group – Thursday, 8/22 at 5 PM

We would like to hear your ideas on forming an advocacy group on improving transportation for people with disabilities in Maryland.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81492076647?pwd=DfptP0V1rbJZbc3FICzlcMoE4FH0Da.1>

Join POG's bi-weekly Friday "meet up" on 8/23 at 3 PM!

Topic: "Disabilities and Technology"

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86018818842?pwd=OU9rZHFxUTRwQ25zZU5Mb2NLY0ttZz09>

Meeting ID: 860 1881 8842

Passcode: 694933

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Maryland Developmental
Disabilities Council
CREATING CHANGE • IMPROVING LIVES

