

The Arc Wisconsin supports people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) over “The Arc” of their lifetime. Since 1960, The Arc Wisconsin has served individuals and their families through our 14 locally affiliated chapters across the state. The Arc Wisconsin works to develop programs and advocate for public policy — giving people with I/DD the opportunity to learn, live, and work inclusively in their communities.



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INVEST IN TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

When people with disabilities can't drive and have no transportation options, they are often isolated and unable to work or participate in their communities. A recent Survival Coalition of Wisconsin Disability Organizations survey indicates that 54% of people with disabilities can't get or keep a job due to lack of transportation; 61% can't get to medical appointments and 58% can't stay connected to their families. Wisconsin public transportation funding has been cut or has remained flat for several budgets. This means transit routes in many communities have been cut back or don't run on evenings and weekends, and workers who don't drive cannot reach certain parts of a city through public transit.

OUR RECOMMENDATION:



Support the Governor's proposal for a 21% (\$3 million) increase in specialized transportation and a 10 % increase in paratransit funding.



Advocate for other solutions for non-drivers in rural and other small communities that do not have transit bus routes. Find options that let people use public transportation to cross county lines and travel where they need to go statewide.



Require the Department of Health Services, in their reauthorization of the Family Care waiver, to allow for payment of creative transportation options when traditional options are lacking (e.g. paying families or community members to provide rides, reimbursing mileage and fuel costs of volunteer drivers, using providers like Uber or Lyft where available, allowing reimbursement for shared rides, etc.) Require that long-term care plans that include an employment goal for an individual also address transportation for that goal.