**2021 CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**You are invited to submit an application to present at the 2021 NCE Summer Leadership Institute**

**July 12 -14, 2021**

**Chicago, Illinois**

**Navigating the Winds of Change**

[**Submit a Proposal**](https://www.abstractscorecard.com/cfp/submit/login.asp?EventKey=KJHLXPNI)

**Proposal Deadlines**

**February 26, 2021** – Proposal submission deadline

**March 29, 2021** – Speakers notified

The 2021 NCE Summer Leadership Institute is not simply an event; The Arc’s National Conference of Executive’s aim is to create an experience that inspires and empowers attendees. Our goal is to find speakers that can help us create a meaningful and memorable occasion. Presentations should reflect the spirit of [The Arc’s mission](https://thearc.org/about-us/mission-values/), provide attendees with tools and techniques to support them to accomplish their goals and utilize when they return to their organizations. Presenters should be eager to actively engage with our network leading up to, during, and after the event.

**The 2021 NCE Summer Leadership Institute**

The 2021 NCE Summer Leadership Institute brings together The Arc’s chapter leaders to work through the disability and nonprofit sector’s biggest challenges and engage in substantive discussions and knowledge sharing while networking with leaders at the forefront of disability issues.

With over 600 chapters of The Arc in the United States, NCE is uniquely positioned to identify issues, seek and implement solutions, and raise awareness of the challenges facing people with I/DD as they strive to realize their place as equal participants and valued members in all aspects of community life.

While service systems vary across the country, today’s challenges faced by people with IDD and their families are universal: future planning, community integration, education, housing, employment, self-determination, access to justice, advocacy, empowerment of self-advocates, health disparities, and solving the DSP crisis, to name a few. The Arc has long stood at the forefront of advocacy for the human rights of people with I/DD.

Our chapters work diligently to address these challenges, approaching them as opportunities to effectively meet the needs of a diverse, ever-changing, I/DD community. Difficult issues that deserve examination include:

* What are the skills professionals need to support the changing landscape in services and supports?
* How can we protect the “lifeline programs” (e.g. Medicaid, Affordable Care Act, Medicare, SSI and Social Security) from budget cuts and other changes that will hurt people with I/DD and their families?
* How can we prevent efforts to weaken civil rights laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act?
* How do we effectively identify and support emerging leaders and champions?
* What are some of the cutting-edge promising practices being explored and how can they be replicated?
* What is new in the evidence base about supports and services?
* What does success really look like? For chapters? For people with I/DD? For Families? For other stakeholders?
* How can our organizations continue to effectively address the issues facing people with I/DD and their families in diverse communities throughout the country?
* What can be done to address the growing concern regarding attracting and retaining DSPs?
* How do we address the intersectionality of disability with other dimensions of diversity (e.g. race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, etc.)?
* How is research informing advocacy, practice, and policy?
* How can we build a strong online disability rights movement and fully engage our chapters and their volunteer leaders and staff, and the individuals and families they serve and other constituents?

These are just some of the questions we seek to explore this July at the 2020 Summer Leadership Institute in Chicago, IL.

We invite proposals for breakout sessions of either 45 minutes, 60 minutes, 75 minutes or 90 minutes from community leaders, researchers, professional providers, and policy advocates addressing one (or more) of the following themes:

**SESSION THEMES**

**Theme 1: Program Innovations**

New developments and best practices in supports and services to people with I/DD.

Topic Areas Include: Access to Justice; Art & Culture; Behavior Supports & Mental Health; Community inclusion; Decision-Making Supports; Education; Employment; Future Planning; Guardianship and Autonomy; Health, Wellness & Recreation~~;~~ Housing; Technology; Transition; and Transportation

**Theme 2: Personal, Professional and Organizational Development**

New developments and best practices in board and staff skill building and building strong organizational systems for success.

Topic Areas Include: Access, Equity, and Inclusion; Chapter Membership; Fundraising/Development*;* Governance; ; Internal Communications; Organizational Development; Social Media; Training and Leadership Development

**Theme 3: Public Policy**

Federal and state policies affecting people with I/DD including but not limited to:

Topic Areas Include: ABLE Accounts; Growing our Movement of Advocates; the Impact of “disability vote” on local and federal election; Managed Care for Long Term Services and Supports; Proposed reforms to the Lifeline programs; and Progress in implementation of the HCBS Final Rule Successful CMS/WIOA transitions

**Theme 4: Grassroots Advocacy / Self Advocacy**

Effective strategies for engaging the I/DD community and the public in holding local, state and federal governments accountable; examples can be in:

Topic Areas Include: Conducting Outreach to Diverse Communities; Developing Self-Advocate Leaders; Effectively Engaging Self-Advocates; Mobilizing Communities and Individuals; and Self-Determination.

**Theme 5: Make it Your Own**

This theme is set in place to create your own session presentation on anything. This includes effective strategies that show resilience, creativity, and innovation in anything.

This is an open-ended topic

**THE IDEAL SPEAKER IS**:

* Comfortable in engaging with diverse audiences.
* Knowledgeable about a topic of importance to the disability community.
* Skilled in presenting in an interactive style which allows attendees to contribute their perspectives;
* Equipped with concrete and replicable examples;
* Able to incorporate the event theme into the session; and
* Committed to not only present on a topic but networking with participants in our event.

**PRESENTER GUIDELINES**

* **Submission Guidelines** 
  + The same proposal may not be submitted multiple times
  + Sessions must be non-commercial. For-profit companies interested in sponsorship should contact:
    - Trudy Jacobson at [jacobson@thearc.org](mailto:jacobson@thearc.org)
  + All proposals must include the following information:
    - A complete mailing address, email address, phone number, and organization
    - A short (no more than 50 words) bio for each presenter.
    - A session abstract of 125 words to be included in the conference program book and online if the proposal is accepted.
    - Session description of approximately 500 words

A professional photo for inclusion on the conference website (JPG, TIF, PNG, etc.)

* **Presentation Guidelines for Accepted Presenters**
  + Presenters are responsible for preparing all materials (PowerPoint Presentations, Handouts, etc.) to be distributed to attendees
  + All information presented must adhere to The Arc’s Language & Style guidelines and Usage agreements. All presentations must be consistent with The Arc’s [Core Values](http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/mission-and-values) and [Position Statements](http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/position-statements). Presenters must use the official NCE SLI 2021 PowerPoint Presentation template
  + Presenters must submit their completed PowerPoint presentations by **June 18** to be posted online for attendees to access
  + Presenters are responsible for their own handouts. Shipping information will be sent to presenters a week prior to the Summer Leadership Institute.
  + All presentations will be made available to conference participants on the 2021 Summer Leadership Institute website at: <http://nce-sli.org>
* **Financial Guidelines for Accepted Presenters**
  + The Arc does not provide honorariums.
  + Presenters are responsible for their hotel and travel arrangements.
  + Presenters do not have to pay for registration to attend SLI.
  + All submitters must read and agree to the 2021 guidelines (above). [Submit a Proposal](https://www.abstractscorecard.com/cfp/submit/login.asp?EventKey=UPOSXLLD) to begin your submission.

**SELECTION PROCESS FOR SLI**

Proposals will be reviewed by the members of the NCE Program Review Team and selected based on the following criteria:

* Presenter(s) have exemplary credentials or experience for presenting on the topic and can demonstrate an effective, interactive mode of presentation.
* Content demonstrates innovative and promising practices that are replicable, and which reflect community based inclusive practices.
* Session embodies The Arc [Core Values](http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/mission-and-values) and content aligns with The Arc’s [Position Statements](http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/position-statements).
* If your proposal is not accepted for SLI, you’re more than welcome to send a proposal to The Arc National Convention consideration. The Arc’s Annual Convention is September 27-29, 2021 in New Orleans, LA.

**Proposal submission deadline is Friday, February 26, 2021.**

**Speakers will be notified via email of final decisions on March 29, 2021.**

**SUPPORT**

For questions about the proposal process, please contact Abby Owusu at [owusu@thearc.org](mailto:owusu@thearc.org) or 202-617-3278.

[**Submit a Proposal**](https://fs16.formsite.com/u024508129ncearc/form292/form_login.html)