



Arc of Whatcom County 2024 Annual Report

**Celebrating
achievements and
progress together**

A letter from our Executive Director

Whatcom County has over 3,000 residents with a developmental disability, whose rights to live, learn, work and play in our community must be advanced. People with developmental disabilities are at the core of The Arc of Whatcom County and have a voice in determining and evaluating the ultimate success of our organization. You, as members, are essential to our advocacy. Our philosophy for providing services is based on the principles of self-determination:

- People with developmental disabilities and their families want services and supports delivered by a system that allows them choice and control over their lives.
- People with developmental disabilities are equal citizens, people first, and the disability is secondary.
- People with developmental disabilities have needs, wants and dreams like everyone else. With respectful support, information and advocacy, these needs can be met and dreams achieved.

Just a few highlights of our year: Parent to Parent held 28 parent support meetings with a total attendance of 279 parents for the year. 169 community members celebrated our Down syndrome community at Buddy Fest. In total, our agency responded to 646 requests for one-on-one service navigation. We continued to provide virtual and in-person, day and night options for families to connect.

As we celebrate 89 years of advocacy, please remember The Arc of Whatcom County is here to listen and respond to you. Our staff, board and volunteers continue to collaborate, share expertise and resources. You can be certain The Arc of Whatcom County will continue to be a resource for you, a support to you, and a voice with you.

Warm regards,
Beverly Porter
Executive Director
Arc of Whatcom County



Impact Statistics



"Very impressed with how involved and inclusive our local Arc is – with some long-term committed staff. Thank you for all you do."

- Caregiver Training Attendee

The agency responded to **1,571** requests for personalized One-on-One Assistance, Care Coordination, and Parent Matches on topics ranging from service navigation, evaluation & diagnosis, school services, housing, personal care issues, advocacy and coaching. **565** of these individuals served are Spanish speaking.

"The Arc and the people who work there, are an invaluable resource for my family."

Our agency hosted Disability Awareness Presentations and Technical Assistance to Whatcom County Schools and Community Members. **670** individuals were reached through the community. Topics included Self-Determination, Inclusion, and Positive Behavior Supports.

- Workshop Attendee

Caregiver Workshops, Parent Connect Groups and Networking Events attendance topped **1,804**. We held a Fall Family Festival, Holiday Party, Buddy Fest, and Dyslexia Documentary Viewing. "Ask the Advocate" Workshop topics included Guardianship, Future Planning, Housing Supports, and Navigating Special Education.



Financial Report

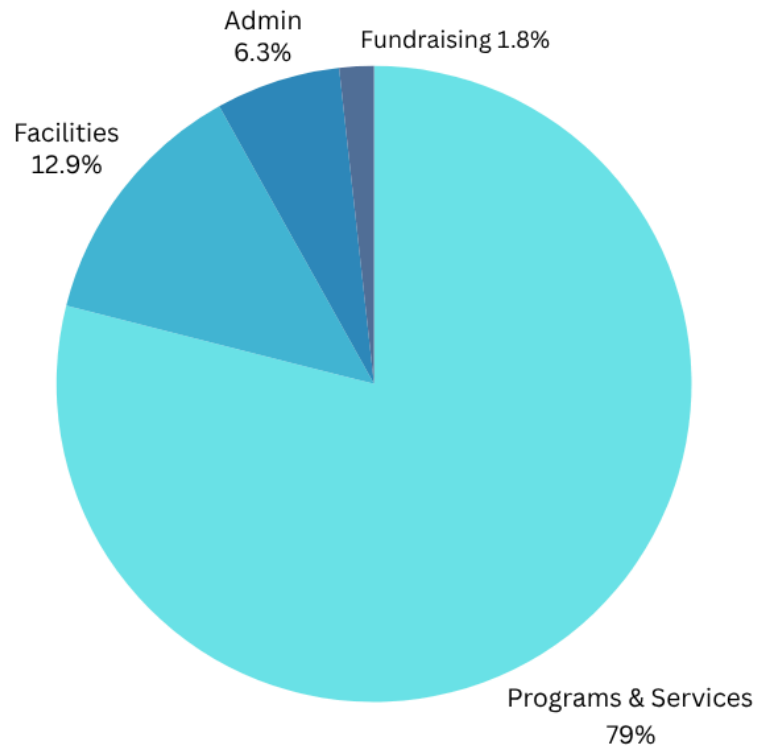
2024 Expenses \$380,879

Programs & Services: \$300,748

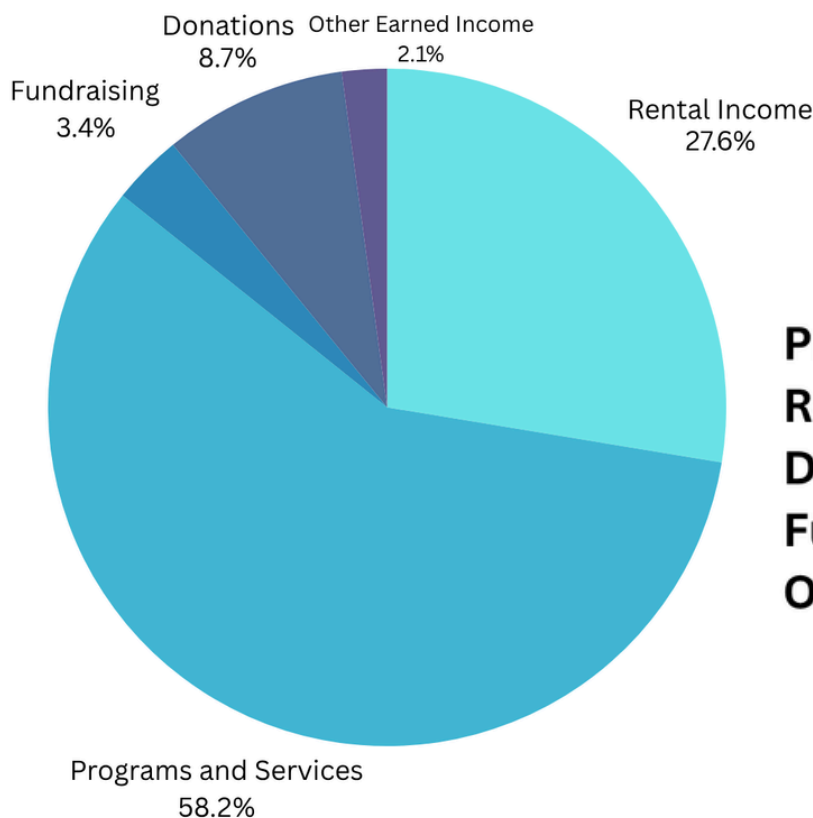
Facilities: \$49,261

Admin: \$24,182

Fundraising: \$6,689



2024 Income \$415,349



Programs and Services: \$241,564

Rental Income: \$114,636

Donations: \$36,286

Fundraising: \$13,948

Other Earned Income: \$8,915

11:30 AM

05/21/25

Accrual Basis

The Arc of Whatcom County

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2024

	Dec 31, 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10008 · WECU Checking	9,676
10100 · 1.0 Savings	656,434
10110 · 1.1 Remote Tech Grants	2,334
10120 · 1.2 Down Syndrome Outreach	8,266
10130 · 1.3 DGCC Facility Donations	3
10140 · 1.4 Member Scholarships	56
10150 · 1.5 Agency Reserve	281
10160 · Petty cash	21
10200 · Michele Hill Endowment Fund	59,851
10250 · Heritage Savings MHE 1093	59,017
Total Checking/Savings	795,940
Accounts Receivable	
11100 · Accounts Receivable	25,905
Total Accounts Receivable	25,905
Other Current Assets	18,059
Total Current Assets	839,904
Fixed Assets	
16100 · DGCC LH Improvements	662,716
16200 · Redwood/Alderwood Buildings	2,446,828
16400 · Furniture, fixtures, equip	
16700 · Computers	0
Total Fixed Assets	3,109,544
TOTAL ASSETS	3,949,448
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	6,089
Credit Cards	1,073
Other Current Liabilities	2,559
Total Current Liabilities	9,720
Total Liabilities	9,720
Equity	
31000 · Unrestrict (retained earnings)	3,806,921
32000 · Permanently restrict net assets	76,300
33000 · Restricted current assets	22,037
Net Income	34,470
Total Equity	3,939,728
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	3,949,448

THANK YOU to all of our Sponsors and Program Funders. Your commitment to our community does not go unnoticed. Your support provides tremendous positive impact for individuals and families living with developmental disabilities.

United Way of Whatcom County

Buddy Fest:

Ace Hardware
Bellingham Cider Co.
Bellingham Cold Storage
Ellie Posel & Stephen Gockley
Fred Meyer
Haggen Northwest
HUB International
Interior Doors & More
LFD Marine
Lombardi's
Neilsen Brothers, Inc
Safeway
Samson Rope
Skagit Soils Inc.
Starbucks
Target
Trader Joes
Twinbrook Creamery
WECU
Whole Foods
Winco

Smiles of Life Calendar:

Cascade Connections
Connections (Speech and Language)
Copy Source
Kulshan Supported Employment
Larson Gross



STAFF

Beverly Porter
*Executive Director & Parent
Coalition Co-Coordinator*

Rhonda Rische
Assistant Director

Hilary Scheibner
Office Manager

Karlene Umbaugh
*Parent to Parent Program
Coordinator & Self Advocacy
Coordinator*

Barbara Roxas
GIDES Family Advocate

Laura Kaptinski
Family Advocate

Melissa Abraham
*Parent to Parent – Parent
Assistant & Parent Coalition
Co-Coordinator*

Marta Meijia
Latino Community Coordinator

Alina Zolfrank
*Latino Community Program
Support*

Terri Hansen
Inclusion Advocate

Nick Smith
Janitorial and Landscaping

Sterling Russell
Janitorial and Landscaping

Frank Belzek
Landscaping

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Missy Bartel – President
Ken Larson – Vice President

Susan Jewell – Treasurer

Sam Hogan – Secretary

Dale Whipple – Director

Ellie Posel – Director

Margaret Jahn – Director

Melanie Hartley – Director

Frances Chalmers – Director



CONTACT US

We are affiliated with The Arc of United States with more than 140,000 members and nearly 700 state and local chapters nationwide, we are on the front lines to ensure that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families have the support they need to be members of the community.

Our grassroots membership is one of our greatest strengths and you can join for free. When you become a Member of The Arc, it means that you're saying 'Count me in. I'm an advocate for disability rights.' By signing up, you are joining the ranks of a powerful grassroots movement that is family-focused and person-centered.

Membership is free. Sign up at:
<https://arcwhatcom.org/about-the-arc/membership/>

Our office is open to the public Monday through Thursday, 10am - 1pm if you would like to browse our Lending Library or are in need of resources. Staff are also available by appointment outside of those times. Please call 360-715-0170 if you are needing any assistance and would like to connect with a staff member.

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