

## **Highlights of the Local Units**

Find out what's happening around the State in our local units!

We are a grassroots organization and this is what makes it work! Congratulations!

### **The Arc in Weld County**

It's been a very busy spring! We welcomed the President of Wells Fargo Bank in Greeley as a new Board member. Wells Fargo also donated a copier to the office. A new part time Advocacy Coordinator started May 1st. We also hired a part time office assistant through a supported employment provider and want to encourage other community businesses to hire through supported employment.

We have joined an Early Childhood Advisory Council and hope to meet families of young children and provide outreach and resources. In fact, we have been invited to attend the Early Childhood Intervention Awareness Day with Colorado First Lady Frances Owen and Rockies Manager Buddy Bell.

We are now planning several fundraising events for this summer and fall. Wow! We

### **The Arc of Pueblo**

Two years ago, our Board set a goal to raise money to purchase a building to provide a permanent home for our offices. Our membership held garage sales, did face painting, solicited private donations and wrote grants to raise money for the down payment on a new building. On January 5th, the membership recognized the fruits of their labor when 100 people gathered to cut the ribbon for the grand opening of the new Advocacy Resource Center which is home to the advocacy and guardianship programs of The Arc, People First, and Hope for Children. City Councilman Al Gurule read a special proclamation and District 60's transition program catered throughout the day.

### **The Arc of the Southwest**

We also have been busy with a membership drive and lots of IEP's. Our biggest accomplishment so far has been to reunite 2 children to their parents whom both have disabilities. They were taken to Oklahoma but, with the help of OK Legal Counsel and the Supreme Court, the family is now together. Unbelievable, we have another situation where the children have also been taken away and we are working with other agencies to reunite that family.

Providing resources & educational materials to families as well as staying on top of IEP's keeps our small office very active.

### **The Arc/Pikes Peak Region**

May is a busy month as we will be a key sponsor of The Special Offenders Coalition 2 day conference – Cops, Courts and the DD Community: Coming Together for a Safer Community. Key note speaker is David Hingsburger, nationally-known advocate and author. On May 9th, we will be celebrating at our annual meeting by recognizing individuals who have contributed the most to people with disabilities. A total of 66 individuals and organizations will be receiving awards in numerous areas, i.e. vocational, residential, case mgmt, etc.

Seven of the awardees are consumers be-

### **The Arc of Arapahoe & Douglas**

We will be sponsoring Mobilizing Families information sessions for families who have young children in Douglas County. Mobilizing will begin in mid-September and go for 8 weeks. The intent is to build 3 new cluster groups in Douglas through connecting families during the Mobilizing sessions. We also continue to support families who have an interest in learning about adult transition through informational evening sessions about Guardianship and SSI.