

## News from The Arc of Pueblo

The Arc of Pueblo has established a new Capital Campaign Committee to work on an expansion of **The Advocacy Resource Center**. The Arc celebrated the grand opening of the Center last January. The Capital Campaign committee raised over **\$120,000.00** to purchase the Center. The Center is home too not only The Arc of Pueblo but also to Hope for Children, The SAFE adoption program and People First of Pueblo. We have had several other non-profit organizations express an interest to join us at the Center but we currently have no space available. The new capital campaign drive is intended to build on additional office space and a training and conference room area. In addition to several grants we have applied for, The Arc of Pueblo is organizing a **"Poker Run"** in conjunction with the Pueblo Bikers United, Harley Davidson, the Pueblo Convention Center and several other sponsors. On **June 22, 2002**, riders from around the State will be invited to participate in the fundraiser, enjoy great food, entertainment and prizes. For more information, go to [www.arcofpueblo.org](http://www.arcofpueblo.org).

In addition to our fundraising events, The Arc of Pueblo remains extremely busy with our advocacy work. We continue to assist families by attending special education staffings as well as residential and vocational staffings. The Arc of Pueblo is also legal guardian for 32 individuals who reside in Pueblo County and we continue to assist families who are in need of petitioning the courts to obtain legal guardianship of their adult children when appropriate.

The Arc of Pueblo is also being represented on Pueblo's newly formed Human Relations Commission. This 15-member commission appointed by City Council and County Commissioners was established to enhance the basic rights, dignity and well being of all Pueblo's citizens. The Commission will be providing education, training, investigations and mediations for our community on racial and cultural injustices that include developmental disabilities.

Stephanie Garcia, the Executive Director of The Arc of Pueblo traveled to Washington D.C. in March to participate in the National Genetic Alliance, train the trainer workshop. The workshop focused on public policy on genetic research issues and building coalitions in our own communities to safeguard our rights as advancements are made in genetic research. We look forward in working with The Arc of Aurora and other Arc's in building networks that will focus on policies and protections in the fair use of genetic information by employers, courts, insurers and others.

In closing, we would like to invite our entire Arc family from across the State to join us for the **"Poker Run"** on **June 22, 2002**. Don't worry if you don't have a motorcycle, many of us will be participating in our cars and trucks as well. If you can't make it in June, **stop by our booth in the Agricultural Palace during the Colorado State Fair in August and we'll paint your face!**

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