

Board Resolution on Compliance with *Olmstead* in Pennsylvania

Adopted January 10, 2004

WHEREAS The Arc of Pennsylvania represents approximately 350,000 individuals with mental retardation and their families;

WHEREAS The Arc of Pennsylvania is the lead advocacy organization for people with mental retardation;

WHEREAS The Supreme Court of the United States, in 1999, in its *Olmstead* decision, ruled that it is unconstitutional to confine people in segregated residential settings;

WHEREAS The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has failed to comply with this ruling of the Supreme Court of the United States;

WHEREAS This failure to act has violated the rights of those individuals with mental retardation who wish to leave segregated setting and to be included in their communities;

NOW AND THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Pennsylvania promptly develop and implement an *Olmstead* plan;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of The Arc of Pennsylvania take action and be it authorized to explore all feasible means, including seeking advice from legal counsel, to ensure that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania meets this obligation.

Duly enacted this tenth day of January, two thousand and four by The Arc of Pennsylvania Board of Directors.