

About our Keynote Speaker...

**Peter V. Berns, CEO
The Arc of the United States**

Peter V. Berns is the Chief Executive Officer of The Arc of the United States (The Arc) which is the world's largest community-based organization of and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

He is also a nationally recognized non-profit sector leader and public interest lawyer. As a public policy advocate, he was critical in reforming state and federal Medicaid regulations improving life for persons with disabilities and their families.

Berns received his JD, cum laude, from Harvard Law School and has a LLM in Advocacy from Georgetown University Law Center.



**Conference Planning
Committee:**

Mass Families Organizing for
Change

In collaboration with The Arc of
Massachusetts, The Arc of
Greater Haverhill-Newburyport ,
EMARC, The Federation for
Children with Special Needs and
Riverside Community Care

Special thanks to:

Provost Marty Krauss

Legg Mason Global Asset Mgt.

RS Investments

Special Needs Financial Planning



Directions to Brandeis can be found at:

[http://www.brandeis.edu/global/about/
brandeis/directions.html](http://www.brandeis.edu/global/about/brandeis/directions.html)

For scholarship information

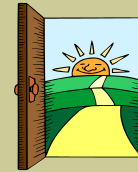
Contact: Developmental Disability Council

www.mass.gov/dd

Click on: "Citizen Empowerment"

click on: " council empowerment funds"

Building a Home



**A conference on the
complex issues
families face in securing
supportive living arrangements
for their adult children with
developmental disabilities**

November 13, 2010

8:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Brandeis University

Harold Hassenfeld Conference Center

415 South St., Waltham, MA

Keynote Speaker

Peter V. Berns , CEO

The Arc of the United States

Building a Home

- OUR FOCUS ~ Sharing resources and information on creative community living
- WHO SHOULD ATTEND ~ Individuals with disabilities, the people who love and support them, service providers, and innovative thinkers
- YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT ~ Local, state and federal resources, as well as many different examples of self directed housing models, how to utilize community support waivers, financially sustaining your long term plan, innovative trends happening around the United States, an opportunity to network and meet individuals who are making it work. In addition, come meet representatives from various agencies that provide a wide variety of housing options.

Schedule

- 8:00 AM ~ 9:00 AM Registration, Refreshments
- 9:00 AM ~ 9:20 AM Welcome: Elin Howe, Commissioner, Department of Developmental Services
Susan Nadworny, Chair, Massachusetts Families Organizing for Change
- 9:20 AM ~ 10:20 AM Keynote Address: "State of the States" - Peter V. Berns, CEO, The Arc of United States, will provide an overview of what is happening across the country, highlighting the success of using federal waivers to support the housing needs of people with ID/DD.

10:30 AM ~ 12:00 AM Morning workshops (please choose one):

- 1) "Structural Supports" – Moderator: *Kerry Mahoney*, Coordinator/Broker, The Arc of Greater Haverhill-Newburyport
Panelists will provide information and resources on the types of local, state and federal programs such as Section 8 vouchers, low and moderate income housing options, SSI, SSDI, food stamps and financial resources for staff and support. Panelists include: *Hermin Miranda*, Benefits Specialist, Mass Rehab Commission, *Stephen Merritt*, Norwood Housing Authority, *Kerry Mahoney*, Coordinator/Broker, The Arc of GHN.
- 2) "The New Medicaid Waivers and Self Determination" – Moderator: *Susan Nadworny*, Chair, Massachusetts Families Organizing for Change
The new waivers are changing the system. How do we maximize the community supports waiver to promote self determination? What is the PDP (Participant Directed Program)? Panelists from Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the PDP will answer your questions and give an overview of recent system and service delivery changes.
- 3) "It's My Life" - Moderator: *Dafna Krouk Gordon*, CEO of T.I.L.L. (Toward Independent Living and Learning)
Dafna will share her thirty years of experience with creating unique housing models. *John Anton and Michelle Avery* will talk about how their living arrangements work for them; whether living alone or in a group. *Jim Herrick*, Support Broker and Advocate, and son, *Zach*, will discuss their unique living arrangement. *Daniela Morse*, Director, Shared Living Collaborative will share her philosophy, organization and experiences.

- 12:00 PM ~ 1:20 PM Box Lunch and Resource Fair
Come wander after lunch at the Resource Fair and meet local representatives from many agencies who create innovative solutions to housing needs for individuals with disabilities

1:30 PM ~ 3:00 PM Afternoon Workshops (please choose one):

- 4) "Best Practices" – Moderators: *Terry Kennedy*, Executive Director, EMARC, and *Michelle Faugno*, Family Support Coordinator, EMARC
What are the key elements in developing successful innovative housing options? What strategies are helpful in negotiating with government resources? *Peter Berns*, CEO, The Arc of United States will highlight best practices in creating successful partnerships with private and government funding.
- 5) "Planning For and Sustaining Your Child's Future" - Moderator: *Terri McLaughlin*, Transition, Federation for Children With Special Needs
John Nadworny, CFP, ChFP, *Cynthia Haddad* CFP with attorney *Emily Starr*. Finding a home is the beginning. Creating a life is the challenge. Sustaining the future is the key. This workshop will help families explore options and alternatives for financing their child's lifetime supports – both during the lifetime of the parent and when they are no longer able. Special needs financial planning is planning for two generations while considering The Five Factors™ of family & support, emotional, financial, legal and government benefits.
- 6) "A Life Like Any Other - Real Stories of Creative Living" – Moderator: *Pat Pakos*, Disability Consultant and Support Broker, The Arc of Massachusetts
From the ground up, either utilizing support brokers to plan, working with an agency, or developing your own unique situation which creates distinctive residential options, come hear how *Anita Perkins*, *Robin Foley*, *Chris Harrington* and *Shelly* and *Susie Fowler* and her parents accomplished their success stories. They will let you in on their best tips and lessons learned.

3:00 PM turn in evaluations. Raffle prize giveaways

BUILDING A HOME

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Registration fee: \$65.00 per person

Billing Information: Credit Card: Visa or Master Card

Name as appears on Card: _____

Acct #: _____ Security Code: _____

Expiration date: _____ Daytime Phone Number: _____

Check payable to: Riverside Community Care

Choice of Workshops: Morning Workshop: _____

Afternoon Workshop: _____

Mail registrations to: MFOFC Housing Conference
c/o Riverside Community Care, Suite 201
450 Washington St., Dedham, MA 02026
attention Asta Orthman or
Email: aorthman@riversidecc.org

Registration Deadline: October 31, 2010

Register for Special Accommodations by **October 1, 2010** at 781-665-5179

or email to snadworny@riversidecc.org

Space is limited. No registration at door.