



## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:

### Partners in Policymaking®, The Arc Maryland

**LOCATION:** statewide

| **FUNDING:** \$100,000; \$57,924 match

#### GOALS

**Council Goal:** People with developmental disabilities and their families are empowered to lead the lives they want and transform communities.

**Council Objective:** Increase knowledge and skills of people with developmental disabilities and families through education and training.

**Goals of Initiative:** To train individuals with developmental disabilities and families of people with developmental disabilities to become effective advocates for long-term change affecting their lives and the lives of others in meaningful ways.

#### OVERVIEW

**Partners in Policymaking®**, a unique and effective leadership development program for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, has been implemented in many states and some other countries. The Maryland program will teach best practices and competencies to the next generation of leaders on a range of topics including: History of the Disability Movement, Self-Advocacy, Inclusive Education, Assistive Technology, Legislative Process, and Advocacy.

#### STRATEGIES & ACTIVITIES

- Utilize extensive statewide Arc chapter network and supporting organizations to recruit a diverse group of 30; conduct 8 training sessions with experts; provide additional 16 hours of online work and 15 hours of group project work; provide “Learning Facilitators” for Partners who need support; and help graduates implement what they learn.

#### OUTCOMES

- An increase in individuals with developmental disabilities and family members from diverse backgrounds who can assume advocacy and leadership roles at state and local levels; increase in individuals with developmental disabilities and family members serving on boards, committees, and commissions; a network of Partners graduates connected for mutual support; an increase in leaders with developmental disabilities and family members actively advocating for change at local and/or state levels.