

PRESS RELEASE – For Immediate Release, Please - February #, 2023

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Austin—The Arc of the Capital Area has selected Amber Nelson, the current Chief Operating Officer, as its next Chief Executive Offer. Nelson will succeed Dr. Mary Van Haneghan, who is moved on to work at a national disability organization after seven years at The Arc of the Capital Area.

Nelson first joined The Arc of the Capital area -an Austin based nonprofit that serves adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities to develop their programs and serve the larger community. In 2017, she took over the prestigious Arts and Education program, connected it with several new opportunities, and doubled its capacity. Since then, she has supported the agency through their employment, case management, transition services, and community education programs.

"As we considered several qualified candidates in our search, the combination of Amber's deep experience, strong leadership, operational rigor, creativity, and passion for supporting our IDD community all make Amber the ideal choice as our next CEO." said The Arc of the Capital Area Board President Patrick Poljan. "We are excited for the future of this great organization under Amber's leadership." Prior to joining The Arc of the Capital Area, Nelson managed nonprofit programs for seven years as a senior director with the YMCA and, before that, as the Director of Community Programs in a New Jersey-based art school.

"I am thankful for the trust that the board has put in me, and I am overjoyed to be able to oversee such a great organization. The Arc of the Capital Area is a resilient and indispensable asset to the community. I am confident that we will continue to grow and continue to offer remarkable services and activities that every community member deserves. Nelson added her appreciation for Mary's guidance and said, "the Arc of the Capital Area is in a strong position today because of her hard work throughout the last two decades."

As CEO, Nelson will work closely with staff and The Arc of the Capital Area Board of Directors to ensure the organization can continue to adapt to serve people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities in the greater Austin area now and for years to come.

About The Arc of the Capital Area

The Arc of the Capital Area was founded in 1949 by a group of parents who knew their children should have every opportunity as everyone else. Since its inception, The Arc of the Capital Area has provided compassionate Case Management, Art & Education Programming, Employment Services, Transition Support, and Community Education to thousands of Austinites who experience intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. Learn more at www.arcaustin.org.

Website: www.arcaustin.org

Hashtag: #ArcAustin

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Editor's Note: The Arc is not an acronym; always refer to us as The Arc, not The ARC and never ARC. The Arc should be considered as a title or a phrase.