



Tuesday Morning Memo

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2009

Please share these Tuesday Morning Memos with anyone that might be interested. To subscribe or unsubscribe, or submit information to include in these memos, please send an e-mail to arcwjim@att.net.

- **GET A SENSE OF LIFE WASHINGTON, D.C.**

In an earlier Tuesday Morning Memo, we reported that The Arc-Wisconsin, with a grant from the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation, is sponsoring Lisa Pugh as Kennedy Foundation Fellow. Lisa will spend about a year learning about disability policy development. She is just about a month into her tenure. This is a very exciting time to be in Washington, D.C. Lisa provides updates on her experiences on her blog, *Rooted in Wisconsin*. Please visit her blog at: <http://rootedinruralwisconsin.blogspot.com>.

- **CHANGES IN THE ARC NETWORK**

After over 30 years of serving as a developmental disability advocate at The Arc of Fond du Lac, Steve Kirschner has retired as Executive Director of the organization. Under Steve's leadership, The Arc of Fond du Lac experienced a significant amount of growth in the number of programs offered and the number of people served. Steve has always worked hard to continually build a stronger developmental disability advocacy network at the local, state and national levels. While Steve has retired from The Arc of Fond du Lac, he has not retired from developmental disability advocacy. He remains active in many advocacy activities that include serving on the Board of Directors of The Arc-Wisconsin. He is also a co-chair of The Arc-WI Public Policy Committee. Below is Steve's contact information:

Steve Kirschner
660 Grace Ave.
Fond du Lac, WI 54935
(920) 921-6537 (home)
(920) 251-1060 (cell)
skirschner@charter.net

- **SENATE COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVES AUTISM BILL**

On Monday, the five members of Wisconsin State Senate Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long-Term Care and Job Creation unanimously approved a substitute amendment to Senate Bill 3, a proposal that would require most health insurers to offer coverage of certain autism treatments. To see a copy of the actual proposal that was approved, go to: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/2009/data/SB3-SSA1.pdf>.

On February 19, the Assembly Committee on Insurance will hold a public hearing on Assembly Bill 15, a proposal that is identical to Senate Bill 3.

For more information on the status of these proposals, go to the website of the Wisconsin Autism Insurance Now coalition at: <http://www.autisminsurancenow.org/>.