



*For people with intellectual
and developmental disabilities*

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March 26, 2012

Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care, and Services
% Helen Lamont, Ph.D.
HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
Room 424E, Humphrey Building
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Dr. Lamont:

The Arc is a membership organization of over 700 state and local chapters made up of people with intellectual, developmental and other disabilities, their families, friends, interested citizens and professionals. The Arc has represented individuals with the most significant disabilities for over 60 years.

The Arc is particularly interested in the Council's Draft National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease since the disease has special significance for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Arc was pleased that the draft plan made reference to people with intellectual disabilities (ID) in Strategy 2.H. However, we believe that the interests of people with ID should be infused throughout the plan rather than addressed in just two bullet points.

The Arc endorses the comments submitted to the Council by the National Task Group on Intellectual Disabilities and Dementia Practices (ntg). Each of the numerous immediate, near-term, and long-term recommendations for priority actions outlined in the draft plan pertains to individuals with (ID). The needs of people with ID apply to all areas addressed in the draft plan - research, early identification, training of practitioners, support for family caregivers, community-based supports and services, and data collection and analysis.

People with ID are living longer and the number of individuals who have Alzheimer's disease and ID likely will increase. It is incumbent on the Advisory Council to ensure that our nation's public health system is prepared.

Thank you for considering our input. Please contact The Arc if we may provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Peter V. Berns
Chief Executive Officer

Achieve with us.