

How can Ligas Family Advocates help?



Transition planning based on specific needs (**person-centered**)



Help in **understanding all options**, including outside of traditional programs



Support in considering **employment possibilities**



Information and referrals, including connections to resources, organizations and other families with similar needs

What does The Arc of Illinois' Ligas Family Advocate Program do?



The Ligas Family Advocate Program provides **family-to-family support** for Ligas Class members and their families who are selected through the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD).

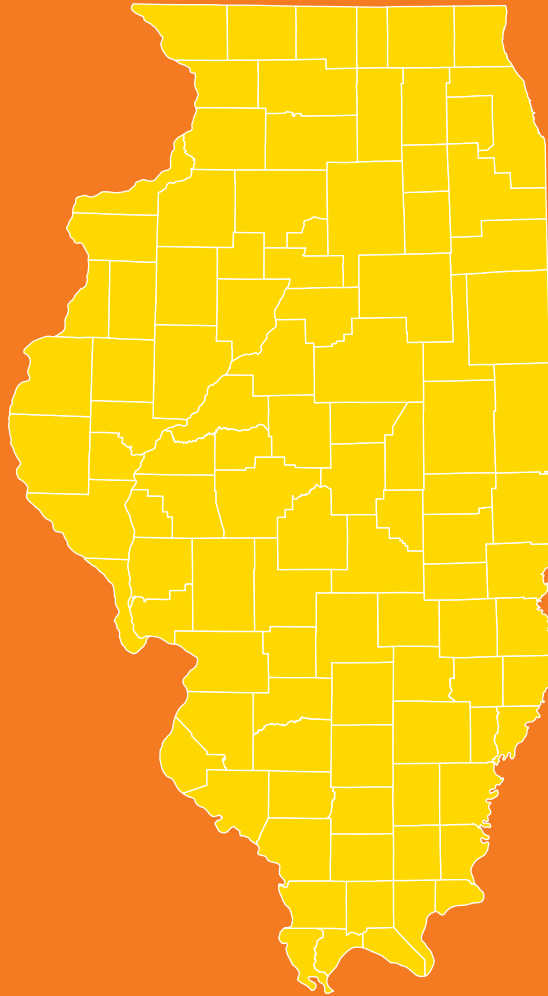


Family Advocates **assist adults selected from the waiting list** for Medicaid Waiver services (PUNS) by the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities.



The Ligas Family Advocate Program connects those seeking Home-Based or Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA) services with **family advocates knowledgeable in building successful lives in the community.**

The Ligas Family Advocate program works across the state of Illinois



The Ligas Family Advocate Program works with the State of Illinois Independent Service Coordination agencies and providers to ensure that information about all available options for services reaches consumers over 18 years of age and their families.



The Arc
Illinois



Options & Services For Your Family



Ligas Family Advocate Program

What does the Ligas Consent Decree ensure?

- People with disabilities have choices about how and where services are provided.
- People who want services in the community have that option.
- Person-centered planning is used to document individual needs and preferences.
- Services can be expanded beyond those currently available.

What rights does the Ligas Consent Decree ensure?

- Adults living in ICF/DDs may remain living there if they so choose.
- If you are approved for community funding under Ligas, you have the right to choose from a menu of community providers and services.
- If you are eligible for funding under crisis circumstances, you have the right to receive services in a timely manner.

How can you learn more about Ligas Consent Decree?

www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=66987

The Ligas Family Advocate Program is funded through the Illinois Department of Human Services.

What do Ligas Family Advocates do for Ligas Class Members?

- LFA's share all service and living options within the DDD Medicaid Waiver for adults in Illinois to foster informed choices.
- Invite questions and provide answers as Ligas Class Members navigate the state DD system.
- Answer questions about housing, federal and state benefit programs, and natural and community supports.
- Share creative ways to utilize funding for Home Based and CILA services and connect families to other families at "Know your Options" events.

Who qualifies as a Ligas Class Member?

- Adults 18 and above in Illinois who have an intellectual disability or other developmental disabilities, qualify for Medicaid Waiver services, and have a record with the state showing that the individual has requested community-based services or wants to live in the community, qualify. In addition they must:
- Reside in private ICFs-DD with nine or more residents
- Reside in a family home and need community-based services or want to live in a the community

How can you become a Ligas Class Member?

- If you think you are eligible to be a Ligas Class Member and want to be included, you must:
 - Contact your Local Independent Service Coordination (ISC) agency:
www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?module=12 OR;
 - Contact a Ligas Family Advocate for assistance in getting connected to your ISC agency



How can you contact the Ligas Family Advocate Program?

Email: ligasfamilyadvocates@thearcofil.org

Web: thearcofil.org/ligasfamilyadvocates

Shirley Perez, Program Director, phone:
815.464.1832, Ext 1026

In Central/Southern Illinois:
Megan Mutti, phone: 815.464.1832, Ext 1022

In Northern Illinois:
Mary Dixon, Phone: 815.464.1832, Ext 1017