

The first steps to begin
the AWC process...

If you are interested in learning more
about The Arc of GHN's Agency
With Choice Program, please contact
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Greater Haverhill–Newburyport

Mission Statement

*“To Advocate, Educate, and Explore
Opportunities for Personal Growth and
Fulfillment”*

Vision Statement

*Our vision is to be a dynamic and
innovative organization that recognizes
and supports every person's unique gifts
and talents. Our work is shifting the
focus from “doing for” to partnering
with the individuals and families we
support.*

*Our personalized and customized
approach allows our partners to pursue
their needs and dreams while enriching
the community. We strive for excellence
by supporting people in becoming
leaders and ambassadors of equal
opportunity.*

Achieve with us.



Greater Haverhill–Newburyport



**Agency
With
Choice**

*Our work is shifting the focus from “doing for” to
“partnering with” the individuals and families we support.*

Achieve with us.

The Arc of Greater Haverhill-Newburyport

What is the AWC Program?



The Arc's *Agency With Choice* (AWC) program is funded by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and based on the philosophies of self-determination and self-direction. This empowering program allows individuals and families to customize their own services while receiving supports and consultation from The Arc's Support Coordinators.

Applicants must be DDS eligible and referred formally by the DDS area office. Once referred, applicants must have an interview meeting with The Director of Programs and Manager of DDS Programs.

Individualized Day & Home Supports

Our AWC program has two separate components: the *Individualized Day Supports* and the *Individualized Home Supports*. As the Agency of Record, The Arc plays a co-supervisory role with the individuals and families we support.

We present ourselves not as we know it all, but as we are here to follow your lead. We have professional knowledge and information that may assist you. We see our role as consultants making recommendations when needed. As the Agency of Record we provide all of the trainings, supports, and record keeping required by the DDS Central Office.



We have shifted the paradigm from “doing for” to “partnering with” the individuals and families we support.

History of AWC

In 1998, we began a pilot project empowering families to customize their own day supports. This project allowed them to maximize the flexibility, control, and decision-making they needed in order to support their adult children in reaching their potential in the community.

In 2004 we expanded our services to include individuals and families interested in creating their own customized home and residential options.

Thanks to the new 2010 DDS *Agency With Choice* program, individuals and families are now able to continue their individualized and customized approach. Our supports help to create unique and customized services that enrich people's lives and their community.