

Biographies

PRESIDENT - Dave Woody is a Financial Advisor for 25 years with Northwestern Mutual. The focus of his business is financial planning for families who have a loved one with a disability and retirement income planning. His mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of the people that he works with. Dave is a graduate of East Carolina University with a BS degree in biology. Dave has served as a board member for The Arc of Wake County for 4 years, has volunteered with the Autism Society and Alex's Lemonade Stand, and is an usher for his church, Crossroads Fellowship. Dave and his wife Judy have 2 adult sons, Marshall 28 and lives in Durham and Garrett who is deceased. His son Marshall was diagnosed with autism at age 8. Dave is excited serve with the Arc of the Triangle and wants to help the organization continue to grow services across the Triangle region.

VICE PRESIDENT - Karen Geringer is Senior Account Executive with TW telecom serving the Raleigh and Fayetteville markets. She holds a BS in Business Administration from UNC Greensboro. Karen and her husband Steve live in Raleigh with their son, Adam. Her family enjoys traveling, spending time at the beach and enjoys spending her free time practicing yoga, running, reading and traveling. Karen is happy to be a part of the executive committee and looks forward to continue serving the participants of The Arc and their families.

SECRETARY - Laura Alden is a Wake County Special Education teacher at Heritage High School in Wake Forest. She works with 9th - 12th grade students enrolled in the Occupational Course of Study (OCS) program. Laura has been teaching with WCPSS since 2008, and began her teaching career in New York in 1995. Laura and her husband Ken have two daughters, Sarah and Erin, aged 14 and 12. Laura holds a Bachelor's in Fine Arts Education from Hofstra University, a Master's in Special Education from New York University and a Professional Diploma in both School and District Administration from Queens College, City University of NY, and one day hopes to finish her Doctorate in School/District Administration & Educational Leadership. Working with children with special needs became a passion when Sarah was formally diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy at approximately a year old. Upon relocating to North Carolina, Laura found her way to The Arc of Wake County by serving on their Board of Directors for two years. Laura is excited to continue her advocacy work with The Arc of the Triangle. Laura enjoys volunteering with her girls' schools, Sarah's dance class, Erin's seasonal sports teams, taking their rescue puppy on long walks, reading historical fiction, and taking road trips with Ken, the girls, and dog in the family minivan.

TREASURER - Janet McLamb is an attorney, practicing in the area of estate planning, trusts, elder law, taxation, guardianships and probate administration. Janet has been acting as treasurer for The Arc of the Triangle, Inc. and looks forward to continuing to serve.

Directors (Listed Alphabetically)

Derek Elenbaas is a Certified Public Accountant at Dixon Hughes Goodman in Raleigh. He audits not-for-profits, healthcare organizations, and manufacturing companies. Derek is a graduate of Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Derek is the office champion for DHG Gives and volunteers as a greeter at his church, NewHope Church. Derek has been married to his wife, Callae, for 4 years. He has been a member of The Arc of the Triangle's Finance Committee since the spring of 2016. Derek is a passionate University of Michigan fan as well as the Detroit Lions, Tigers, and Pistons.

Lia McNeilly is currently a stay at home mom to Neave and Pearse. She volunteers at her children's schools and at The Arc of the Triangle. Previously she worked in Network and VoIP engineering, as well as database design and management. She moved to Raleigh in 1998 and is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill. She is a native of Upstate New York. She and her husband, John, love to travel and to read, and are happily passing these loves on to their children. This will be Lia's second term serving on the board of directors for The Arc of the Triangle.

Natalie Murr is a school psychologist and recent doctoral graduate from NCSU. She currently works as a

postdoctoral fellow at the Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities (CIDD), where she is responsible for providing assessment and intervention services for individuals with I/DD and their families. In addition to working directly with children and families, Natalie is also involved in multiple local and state-wide policy groups and initiatives focused on improving educational opportunity and access for children with disabilities. Although new to The Arc, Natalie has previously served on a board of directors for a youth-led non-profit organization as Vice President, assisting with staff recruitment, project development, and strategic planning. Since moving to the Triangle six years ago, Natalie has been searching for opportunities to again work with organizations within the community that provide necessary services to the local population. In submitting her application to the board of The Arc, Natalie is looking forward to becoming more actively involved in community work and is eager to help promote The Arc's general mission and cause.

Josh Ravitch is a self-employed nonprofit consultant. He has almost 30 years of experience helping nonprofit agencies as both a volunteer and paid consultant. Josh has experience in strategic planning, organizational development, budgeting, marketing, and grant writing. He is the co-President of a local nonprofit with over 500 members, and Vice Chair of the Chapel Hill Human Services Advisory Board. He has also spent time volunteering for several local nonprofit agencies including The Arc, as well as helping care for my stepson with severe autism. In recent efforts to help The Arc, Josh drafted two surveys sent to volunteers and client families, and consulted with staff and board leadership to help with organizational development. The bottom line: Josh can help organizations grow and thrive in both good and challenging times. As well, he can be depended on to provide meetings with many forms of chocolate.

Christine Ryan is an attorney, a speech-language pathologist and a parent of a child with cerebral palsy. She currently works as a bureau chief for the NC Department of Labor, ensuring that employees are paid fairly for the work they perform. Inclusion is a focal point for her family. Christine served as a director for The Arc of Wake County for 2 years, assisting with fundraising and policy; and currently serves on the Triangle Literacy Council. She had this to say about The Arc: "I believe that the services provided by The Arc are essential to supporting people with I/DD and their families in the community. I have seen first hand the great things that The Arc has accomplished." Christine looks forward to joining others in supporting The Arc of the Triangle's mission on the board of directors.

Joel Williams resides in Mebane and has worked in the medical device industry for more than 30 with experience in research and business development. Joel's education includes a BA degree in chemistry from the College of Charleston and an MBA from Elon College. He has been involved in Special Olympics in North Carolina for more than seven years and working as a coach for track and soccer in Orange County. Through his involvement with the coaches and athletes, Joel was introduced to The Arc of the Triangle. He is an avid runner who participates in the Tour de Carrboro race series, which provides financial contributions to The Arc.

Remaining on Board, completing year 2 of a 2 year term (2016-17):

Todd Benware Needham Bryan
Emmy Boyette Shawn Fisk
Mike Madden, Past President