

**Contact Us:**

The Arc of Virginia  
Parent to Parent  
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**The Arc of  
Virginia**

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**Parent  
To  
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A Program of  
The Arc of Virginia  
Early Intervention  
Family Involvement Project

Tel: 888-604-2677 ext. 5  
www.arcfip.org

**PHILOSOPHY**

*Parents love to talk about their kids, including parents of children  
with disabilities, developmental delays, or chronic illnesses.  
However, when you have a child with special needs it can be difficult  
to find another parent to talk with who really understands the unique  
joys and challenges you face.*



*Parent to Parent provides one-to-one telephone matching between  
trained parent partners and parents of recently diagnosed children.*

*Studies show that when parents are fully informed, connected  
and supported by other families who have “been there”, they are bet-  
ter able to define their needs and the needs of their children.*

## Frequently Asked Questions



### How Do I Arrange/Find a Parent Partner Workshop?

To arrange a Parent Partner Workshop call the Parent to Parent Coordinator at 1-888-604-2677 ext. 5, and leave a message, including your area code. Parent Partner Workshops are provided at no cost. Staff are available to provide workshops in any area in Virginia.

### What are the responsibilities of a parent partner?

If a parent partner accepts a match, she/he is asked to make the call as soon as possible, preferably within 24 hours. The parent partner must take the time to listen and be supportive.

### How are matches determined?

Matches are based on whatever the parent seeking a match asks for, some examples include: diagnosis, a specific treatment or intervention, a specific piece of equipment or medication.

### What if Parent to Parent asks me to take a match at a bad time?

A parent partner can always decline to take a match, in fact we encourage parent partners to only accept matches when they are able to devote the time and attention needed to the other parent.

If a parent partner declines a match, they will still remain in our database and be called for future matches unless they ask to be removed.



### How often will I be called upon to take a match?

Some parent partners are called fairly often; others are seldom called. It depends upon the disabilities or health conditions that parent to parent is asked to address. As our database of trained Parent Partners increases, the number of times a parent partner is asked to be a match will decrease.

### What if I have to make a long distance phone call?

Parent Partners who accept a match that will include a long distance phone call will be provided with a calling card to use for the call.

*1-888-604-2677 ext. 5*

*The Call Is Free,  
Your Help Is Priceless!*