

HISTORY & PURPOSE

In 1972, the Federal District Court of Eastern Pennsylvania made final order, injunction, stipulation and consent agreement in the suit filed by the Pennsylvania Association for Retarded Children (PARC), now known as The Arc of Pennsylvania. The suit was filed against the Secretary of Education, The State Board of Education, the Secretary of Public Welfare, and all their agents, on behalf of thirteen children with Intellectual Disabilities who had been denied access to a free education.

The historic agreement, referred to as the PARC Consent Agreement, mandated that the Commonwealth develop plans to identify, locate, evaluate, educate and train all school age children with an Intellectual Disability.

The plan established a system of Task Forces with the primary purpose being to ensure the intent and spirit of the Consent Agreement is carried out throughout the Commonwealth. These Task Forces, now known as the State and Local Task Forces on the Right to Education, became an active partner in the identification and location of thousands of students with Intellectual Disabilities during the early and mid-1970s.

Today, because of this action, all students with disabilities are afforded a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). The State and Local Task Force remain a vital part of the Commonwealth's Educational System for all students with disabilities.



STATE TASK FORCE

The State Task Force serves as an advocate for students with Intellectual Disabilities, but actions, decisions and initiatives often effect all students with disabilities. The State Task Force has the responsibility to call upon the Commonwealth's resources for resolution of needs and problems through administrative and policy making means.

Meeting at least six times a year, the State Task Force is comprised of four members, representing the following:

- The Arc of Pennsylvania
- PA Department of Public Welfare
- PA Department of Education
- Governor's Office

For more information on the State Task Force including meeting dates and times, please contact:

State Task Force
800-360-7282
pattan.net/about-us/partners/state-task-force

LOCAL TASK FORCE

Local Task Force were formed to represent the needs and interests of students with Intellectual Disabilities and their families on a local level. Today, Local Task Force have expanded their efforts to include all students with disabilities.

All Local Task Force meetings are open to parents, agency providers, and school professionals who are concerned about the education of students with disabilities.



MEETING DATES

Please visit the Local Task Force website for meeting dates, times and more!

iu17.org/local-task-force

Meetings rotate between the two BLaST offices:

Canton Office

33 Springbrook Drive
Canton, PA 17724

Williamsport Office

2400 Reach Road
Williamsport, PA 17701

CONTACT US:

PROFESSIONAL CHAIRPERSON
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Local Task Force #17
BLaST IU17 PO Box 3609
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1-570-323-8561 x1007



ALL LOCAL TASK FORCE MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



RESOURCE CONTACTS

Bradford County Human Services
570-265-1760
bradfordco.org

Bureau of Autism Services
866-539-7462
PAautism.org

Department of Human Services
800-692-7462
dhs.pa.gov

MH/ID Lycoming / Clinton Counties
570-326-7895
joinder.org

Office of Developmental Programs
888-565-9435
myodp.org

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Bradford and Sullivan Counties
570-826-2011
dli.pa.gov/individuals/disability-services/ovg

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Lycoming and Tioga Counties
570-327-3600
dli.pa.gov/individuals/disability-services/ovg

PA Statewide Independent Living Council
717-3641732
pasilc.org

Social Security Administration
800-772-1213
ssa.gov

Special Kids Network
814-270-5556
paelkshomeservice.org

Tioga County Department of Human Services
570-724-5766
sam-inc.org

LOCAL TASK FORCE
BLaST IU 17
PO BOX 3609
Williamsport, PA 17701
Attn: Jeffrey D. Pelly



PARENT SUPPORT

LOCAL TASK FORCE

SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
IN OUR COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING
LEADERSHIP, INFORMATION,
TRAINING AND ENCOURAGEMENT

