



CHRIS B. STEWART, CPA, CGMA
PRESIDENT/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Chris Stewart became the President/Chief Executive Officer of The Arc of Central Alabama in April 2013, after serving as the organization's Chief Financial Officer for more than a decade. Chris is ultimately responsible for more than 600 employees who manage early intervention, adult day activity, employment and residential programs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

In his tenure as CEO, Chris has been a key player in many local, state and national decisions affecting people with disabilities. He successfully lobbied on a state and national level for the ABLE Act. Chris was also published as a co-author in the *American Association on Intellectual and Development Disabilities Journals* on the future of Long-term Supports for the ID/DD community. He has also been quoted in the New York Times in articles referencing the I/DD community. Other achievements under his leadership include The Arc's acquisition of the Jefferson Blount St. Clair Mental Health Authority's ID program (which increased the organization's budget to more than \$28 million) and the creation of an adolescent residential program.

In 2014, Chris was recognized by The National Council of Executives of The Arc (NCE) with its Rising Star Award, which celebrates the work of an up and coming Arc Executive Director/CEO. He was also elected, by The Arc executives from more than 700 national chapters that make up NCE, to serve on the NCE Steering Committee. In 2017 he was elected Second Vice Chair of the Committee and Co-Chairs SLI and PDS. Chris also received the Marvin B. Dinsmore Award For Outstanding and Dedicated Leadership and Advocacy at the Alabama DisABILITY Conference in 2014. Chris was the recipient of the 2017 Alabama Conference for Executives, Executive Director of the year Award; 2018 The Arc of Alabama President's Partner of the Year Award; and National Council of Executives Explementary Mentor of the Year Award.

As CFO, Chris managed the organization's financial acquisition of The Arc of Blount County and three other groups that served people with intellectual disabilities. In 2009, Chris was nominated in the *Birmingham Business Journal* as a finalist for Top CFO of the year. In that nomination, the former CEO of The Arc of Jefferson County noted, "Chris's ability to manage personnel costs, numerous regulatory agencies and streamline functions is a major reason for our success."

Chris graduated from Troy University with a degree in Business Administration. He is a CPA and a CGMA. He is a member of many federal, state and local committees and boards. They include:

- Member, U.S. Office of Disability Policy Employment (ODEP) Four State Vision Quest Committee (2015-2017)
- Member, National Dialogue on Mental Health Executive Committee Long-term Supports Committee (2014)
- Chairman, Developmental Disabilities Subcommittee Rate Setting Work Group (2014-2017)
- Member, U.S. Health and Human Services Delphi Panel (2015-2016)

- Member, Alabama Autism Interagency Coordinating Council (2018-present)
- Member, Alabama Department of Mental Health Management Steering Committee (2015-2017)
- Member, Alabama Department of Mental Health DD Subcommittee (2015-2017)
- Member, State of Alabama DD Subcommittee Employment Work Group (2014-2016)
- Member, State of Alabama DD Subcommittee Combined Work Group (2014-2015)
- Member, State of Alabama Individual Residential Budgeting Instrumental Committee (2010-present)
- Member, HUD Medicaid Special Placement Committee (2007)
- Member, United Way of Central Alabama Bold Goals, Improving Mental Health Work Group (2015-present)
- President, Clastran Paratransit Authority Board (2016-present)
- Ex-officio Board Member, Jefferson County Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Authority (2014-present)
- President, HARC III HUD Housing Authority (2014-present)
- President, Cerebral Palsy Housing Foundation (2014-present)
- Member, National Council of Executives of The Arc Steering Committee (2014-present)
- 2nd Vice Chair, National Council of Executives of The Arc Steering Committee (2017)
- Member, National Council of Executives of The Arc Awards Committee (2015-present)
- Co-Chair, National Council of Executives of The Arc Engagement and Recruitment Committee (2016-present)
- Member, National Council of Executives of The Arc Scholarship Committee (2016)
- Member, National Council of Executives of The Arc Program Planning Task Group (2016)
- The Arc of The United States Catalyst Awards Selection Committee (2015 and 2017)
- Treasurer, Alabama Service Providers Association (2018-present)
- President, Alabama Council of Executives of The Arc (2016-2017)
- Co-Chair, NCE Summer Leadership Institute (2016-present)
- Co-Chair, NCE Professional Development Seminar (2016-present)

Chris has also been asked to speak at meetings of the Alabama House of Representatives and Senate Committees in Montgomery on the effects of pending and passed legislation on the ID community. He has been called upon by The Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) and The Association for Community Living (ACL) on the state of Alabama's Medicaid programming and Home and Community Based Transition Plan.

Prior to his career at The Arc, Chris worked for New South Federal Savings Bank and Jackson Thornton & Company. He lives in Shelby County with his wife and two children.