

# We're Helping Others FindFamily

## National FindFamily Registry For People with Disabilities

The online database matches families with their missing family member with a disability.

For decades, parents of children with disabilities were advised by professionals to institutionalize their child and in effect "forget you ever had them." But times have changed. State institutions are rapidly being replaced by smaller, community-based residential settings that support connection between people with disabilities and their families.

Families may have lost touch with family members with disabilities for other reasons too, like divorce, foster care or adoption, personal problems or misfortune.

Nationwide, there are thousands of people with disabilities in care settings with no connection with family. Many families seek contact, but do not know how to re-connect with their family member. The FindFamily Registry is open to people seeking each other even though just bits of information are available.

TheArcLink's National FindFamily Registry is a beginning point for collecting information and connecting families with their family members. TheArcLink is a joint venture with The Arc, and both organizations are initiating a broad appeal to families and providers to encourage them to enter information into the Registry.



## How to Help:

Put your information in the National FindFamily Registry at [www.findfamilyregistry.org](http://www.findfamilyregistry.org).

If you have any questions call toll free at **1-877-431-8532**.

TheArcLink will contact individuals if a match is found, make sure that the person with a disability either has the ability to give consent to release personal information, or is properly represented by a person who can, and make sure that the family member who is seeking contact has a legitimate reason for doing so. Online searching of the Registry will not be offered.

Please visit all our web sites:

[www.TheArcLink.org](http://www.TheArcLink.org)

[www.TheArc.org](http://www.TheArc.org)

[www.TheDesk.info](http://www.TheDesk.info)

[www.GoVoter.org](http://www.GoVoter.org)

Make a Tax-Deductible Contribution to the Ongoing Work of TheArcLink and The Arc.

