

# City of Crossville

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, in the early 1970's a concerned group of Parents and Community Leaders of Cumberland County, Tennessee, expressed a need for more Community Services for People with Intellectual Disabilities and Developmental Disabilities. Said group formed a plan to charter a corporation to initiate development of such services and thereby reduce the stigma and social perspective of people with Disabilities;

**WHEREAS**, February 22, 1975 the said group became an affiliated chapter of **The National Association of Retarded Citizens** to be known then as **The Cumberland County Association for Retarded Citizens, THE CC-ARC**. Subsequently on May 1, 1975 **The Cumberland County Association for Retarded Citizens, THE ARC-CC** was officially chartered by the State of Tennessee as Non-Profit Agency by that name;

**WHEREAS**, the **Chapter Affiliation** and **Charter** was to initiate development of age-appropriate educational, occupational training, and social opportunities for persons having Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, thereby giving the person and their respective families places to actively participate in and receive services within the community;

**Whereas**, the Board of Directors and staff have collaborated with churches, organizations and schools within the community to collectively offer the best quality of services and opportunities in integrated, age-appropriate community settings in which each person with an Intellectual and Developmental Disability and their respective families can actively participate.

**WHEREAS**, their Mission Statement is to empower People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their families to actively participate in the community throughout their lifetime;

**WHEREAS**, in the mid 1990's, in an effort to farther reduce the stigma and social perspective of people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, the **affiliated chapters** of the organization throughout the United States, changed their name, thus removing the word retarded and each became known as **The Arc** followed by the non-profit's location of operation. Today the agency is known as **The Arc of Cumberland County**.

**WHEREAS**, on May 1, 2025 **The Arc of Cumberland County** will have been in business for 50 years in Tennessee and will celebrate their **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**.

**WHEREAS**, we join in this commemorative event to strengthen and reaffirm their resolve, mission, and commitment to empowering people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their families, within their community. Let them hold steadfast that people will be safe, happy, and comfortable, using their rights freely as any other citizen, free from discrimination, abuse and mistreatment throughout their lifetime.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, R.J. Crawford, Mayor of Crossville, Tennessee, along with the Crossville City Council, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the State of Tennessee, do proclaim May 2025 as a month to celebrate **The Arc of Cumberland County** and their **50 years** of continued diligence to empower People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and families to actively participate in community opportunities throughout their lifetime.

