



The Arc

Pikes Peak Region

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



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MISSION

To promote and protect the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and actively support their full inclusion and participation in the communities of the Pikes Peak Region throughout their lifetimes.

VISION

To create a community where all individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are embraced and respected.

2025 Staff

Wilfred Romero,
Executive Director

Christina Butero,
Guardianship Coordinator

Amy Hagerman,
Guardianship Specialist

Amber Spinks,
Guardianship Specialist

Morgan Wiese,
**Communications/Office
Manager**

Robert Lewis
Educational Navigator

Tom Bianca
Educational Navigator

Erika Slaughter
Educational Navigator

Vincent Egan,
Office Support

Glenn Gustafson and
Abacus
Finance Coordinators

Daryl Trujillo,
Advocacy Coordinator

Grace Trujillo
Administrative Assistant

Daniel Barriera,
Advocacy Specialist

Peter Boryla,
Advocacy Specialist

Cody Ehrastom
Advocacy Specialist

Amanda Boucher
**Family Engagement
Specialist**

Francisca Saenz
**Bilingual Navigator/
Advocacy Specialist**

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ashley Steinbach,
Board President

Karen Egan,
Vice President

Heather Kluck,
Secretary

Arthur Wirth

Patty Baer-Hanson

Stefany Patriarca

Andrew Salazar

Andy Kwiatkowski

Brian Hall

Jonathan Walker

***Inducted November 2017 as a lifetime non-voting member of the Board of Directors**

Greetings from the Executive Director

Dear Members, Friends, and Supporters,

As we reflect on another remarkable year at The Arc Pikes Peak Region, my heart is filled with gratitude for the incredible progress we have made in 2024. Our dedicated staff have been instrumental in driving us toward our strategic goal of becoming a Premier Resource Organization. This year, we have taken significant strides in realizing our vision of a community where every individual with intellectual and developmental disabilities is embraced and respected.

We are thrilled to have expanded our team with more passionate individuals who share our mission. This growth has empowered us to enhance our advocacy, social, and educational programs, fostering increased participation and deeper connections within our community. Notably, the vision of the Achieve Recreation Center moved forward in 2024, promising to enrich the Pikes Peak Region as a whole.

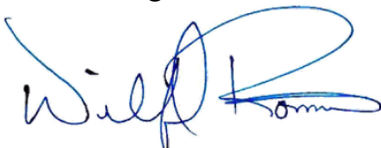
Our Board of Directors has played a vital role in public policy and community awareness through their tireless volunteer efforts. Their active engagement at both the state and federal levels has strengthened The Arc-PPR's presence in the Colorado State legislative process. This remains a priority for the board, with aspirations for even greater involvement in the future.

The "Succeeding in School and Life" and "Cool CATS" programs have seen tremendous progress, particularly in engaging families with young children, including an increase in participation from our Spanish-speaking community. Additionally, the development of educational and social opportunities for transition-age students and their families has been heartening. Our Personal Development Campus continues to be a cornerstone of support, especially for transition programs, day programs, and community events, reaffirming our commitment to creating an inclusive environment.

Dignity for All was another focus for the Arc-PPR in 2024 and I am proud to report that The Arc-PPR was instrumental in taking steps toward creating a truly inclusive community by providing three Universal Changing Tables to our community partners Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Colorado Springs Switchbacks Stadium and Trinity Community Parks. More to come in 2025.

In 2024, we truly stepped into the spotlight, and we're excited to "Thrive" even more in 2025. We are committed to becoming the premier organization that our members, board, staff, and community can be proud of. Together, we will achieve our mission to promote and protect the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, ensuring their full inclusion and participation in the communities of the Pikes Peak Region throughout their lifetimes.

Warm Regards,



WILFRED ROMERO

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



A YEAR IN PICTURES



ADVOCACY

The Arc Pikes Peak Region strives to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) of all ages and their families to ensure a high quality of life. People with IDD should be able to lead the life they choose, but oftentimes, need help accessing their community. Our advocates are here to help resolve these issues while empowering individuals and their families to be able to advocate for themselves and ensuring that their voices are heard.

The Arc-PPR provides three types of advocacy services at no charge: Adult, Educational, and Judicial. In addition, we offer dedicated advocacy for individuals served through our Guardianship program, ensuring that their rights are consistently upheld, honored, and respected. Through consultation by email, telephone and/or personal meetings, our advocates assist individuals with IDD and their families understand their resource options, as well as understand their rights and responsibilities in schools and in government-funded systems of care.

GUARDIANSHIP

The Arc Pikes Peak Region is the court appointed legal guardian for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We use the SUPPORTED DECISION-MAKING philosophy to support each person receiving guardianship services. By taking a person-centered approach, guardianship services are tailored for each person, ensuring their voice is heard and respected. In addition to providing informed consent, members of the Guardianship Team help people to live their best lives. Guardianship staff work as part of a team charged with helping people manage their Medicaid waiver services, advocating for health equity, and encouraging participation in all aspects of their community. Guardianship services are provided 24 hours a day, seven days a week at no cost.

EDUCATION

Additionally, The Arc Pikes Peak Region provides workshops, speakers, and educational materials. Some topics include Colorado Waiver Resource Education, Guardianship and Conservator Training, and a Sensory Workshop Series that explores ways to support and advocate for children with sensory needs. In 2024, The Arc-PPR also continued to partner with Providing 4 Providers, a group led by relators and financial advisors. Providing 4 Providers teaches providers of individuals with varying abilities valuable financial planning information from investing to home ownership.

What We Do

PUBLIC POLICY

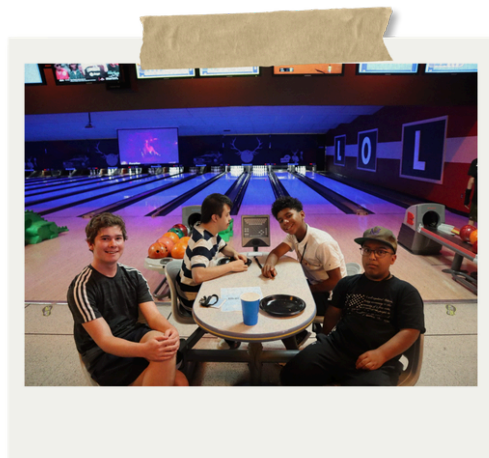
Public policy is a core focus area for The Arc Pikes Peak Region. We actively track legislation related to disability issues at the local, state, and federal levels, monitoring multiple bills that impact individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). In collaboration with The Arc of Colorado, we provide lived experience and testimonies to help shape policies that promote inclusion and equity. We believe that public policy plays a crucial role in determining how people with IDD can access and participate fully in their communities.

SOCIAL EVENTS

The Arc-PPR hosts a variety of social events for individuals of all abilities to minimize isolation and foster inclusivity in our community. These accessible events occur throughout the year and include the Bowling & Ballads, The Arc-PPR Summer Picnic, 2024 Annual Awards Celebration, The Arc Ball, The Arc-PPR Annual Halloween Dance, Guy's Night Out, Sisterhood of Empowered Women, and others.

arc THRIFT STORES CONNECTION

11 15 chapters of The Arc in Colorado are funded by arc Thrift Stores. The thrift stores were created in 1963 to support the work done by the chapters. Over the years, the thrift stores have grown to be wildly successful. Their sales continue to support The Arc chapters and programs, supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This special relationship between arc Thrift and The Arc-PPR allows us to advocate for the rights and responsibilities of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities without constant fundraising.



COOL C.A.T.S. CLUB

Cool C.A.T.S. Club (Children of All Types Succeeding) is a vibrant, inclusive community dedicated to celebrating the unique world we live in. We host a variety of social events and activities designed for the entire family, welcoming participants of all abilities to explore their creativity and build camaraderie with others who share similar interests.

Our club offers engaging activities, including creative projects and community outings like bowling, cycling, and movie nights. Members can develop new skills, connect with like-minded individuals, and thrive in a supportive environment where everyone can express their unique talents.

Cool C.A.T.S. groups include Adaptive Cycling, Family-Friendly Bowling, C.A.T.S. in the Kitchen, Sibling Group, Moms and Dads of Children of All Types Succeeding (MAD CATS), and C.A.T.S. in Transition.

250
Families
Served

1,971
Total Event
Attendees

12
Adaptive
Cycling
Inquiries

520
Family Friendly
Bowling
Attendees

812
Chillin at the
Movies
Attendees

64
Total Membership
Applications

183
CATS in the
Kitchen
Attendees

158
MAD CATS
Attendees

286
CAT Parties
Attendees

11
Sibling Groups
Attendees

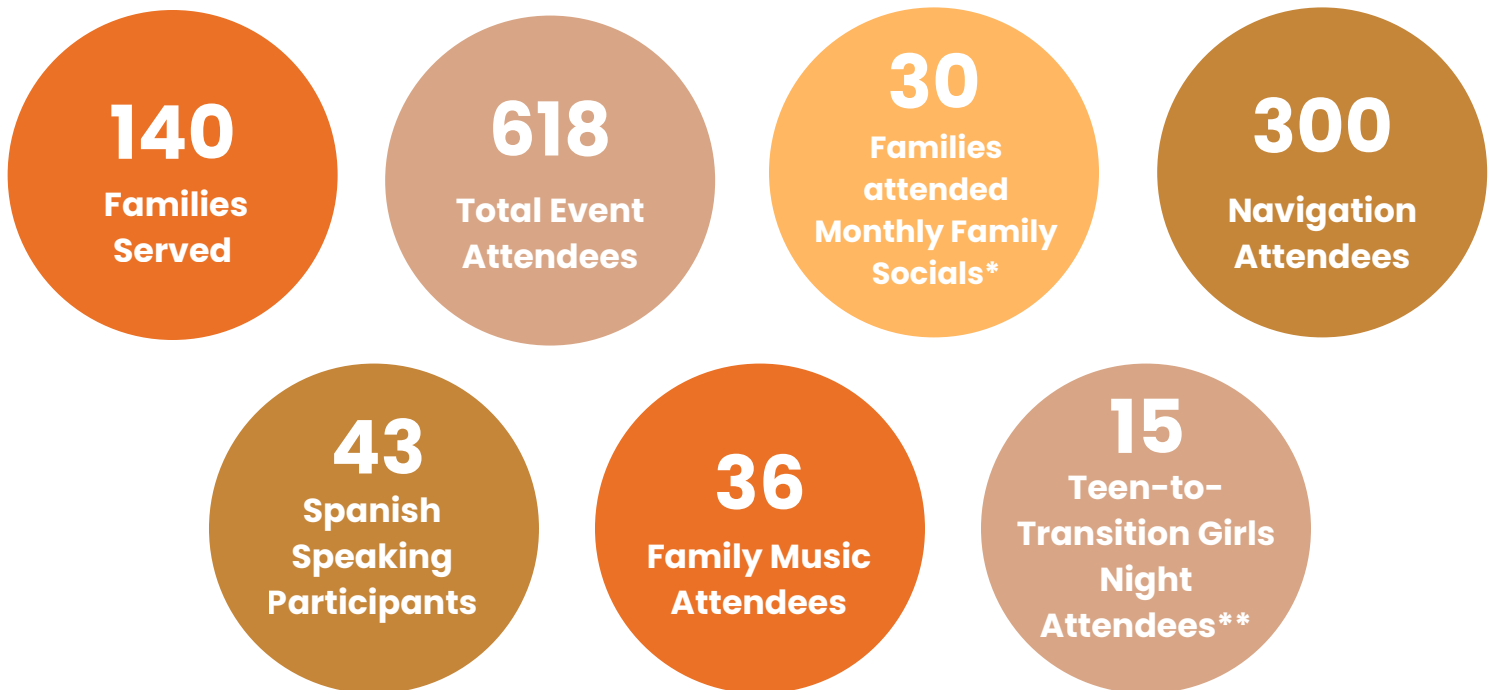
SUCCEEDING IN SCHOOL AND LIFE: A PARENT EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

The Succeeding in School and Life Program empowers parents to become their children's primary educators and advocates. We serve families whose children have an Individual Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan and require support at any level of need. We serve families whose children access their education through public, homeschool, or charter school, in-person or virtually. The Succeeding in School and Life Program focuses on parent education and ways for families to learn, connect, and build community!

We understand that learning is not isolated from social development, so we also offer programming for teens through transition age and their parents to build confidence, self-advocacy, and healthy social boundaries.

Join us for: Monthly Family Socials with Guest Speakers, Family Music, Teen-to-Transition Guys' Night Out and Girls' Night Out, Individualized Family Navigation Support, Parent Education Workshops, and much more!

All our programming, training, and services are provided at no cost.



*Family Socials began in September 2024 with 16 participating families and grew to 30 families by December 2024.

**Girls' Night Out debuted in December 2024 with 15 participants, setting the foundation for expanded youth engagement in 2025.



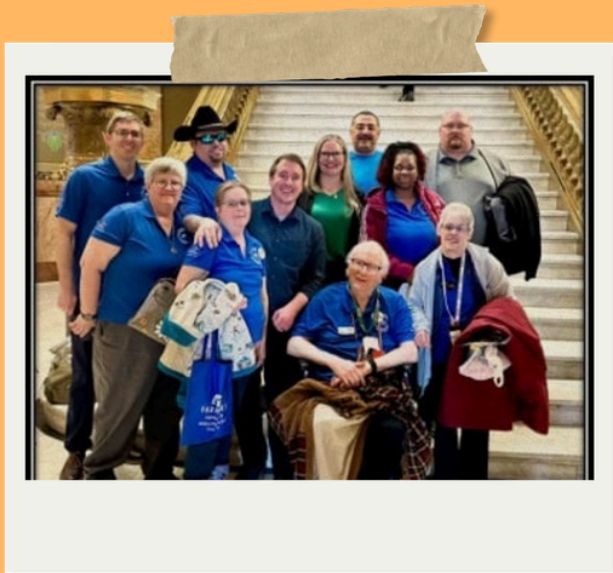
Give! Campaign

In 2024, The Arc Pikes Peak Region participated in our 11th Give! Campaign, an annual year-end fundraising campaign. With a matching grant of \$8,500 from our community partners: Michelle Enciso, The Arc Pikes Peak Region Pooled Income Trust, arc Thrift Stores, MGA Home Healthcare, Springs Copy, IT Specialists, and Rocky Mountain Insurance advisors, we raised \$14,182. This success was a result of fundraising efforts from the entire staff, the Board of Directors, and the friends of The Arc Pikes Peak Region.



2024 Events

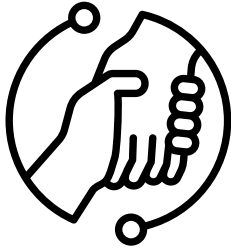
Throughout 2024, The Arc-PPR continued to host in-person events to engage with the community. 220 people joined us for the return of The Arc Ball, 437 attendees joined us for the Halloween Dance, and 275 people returned for the 2nd annual Summer Kickoff Picnic. In addition, 140 people celebrated with The Arc-PPR for our Annual Awards Celebration: Stepping Into The Spotlight. The Arc-PPR continued to partner with the Cool C.A.T.S. Club (Children of All Types Succeeding), community partners, and other disability organizations to sponsor fun activities for the IDD Community. Other events that continued: Sisterhood of Empowered Women, Guys' Night Out, and Virtual Karaoke parties.



Include U.S.A.

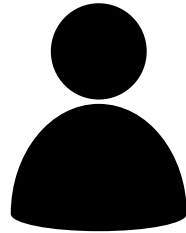
Include U.S.A. (Unique Self Advocates) is a group of individuals ages 18+ with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) who advocate for themselves and their needs and rights. Through Arc-PPR Advisors, self-advocates promote awareness and acceptance of all people to participate in our community in meaningful and fun ways. We also aim to educate the public about the many contributions of people with disabilities. We self-advocate at the annual Colorado Springs Legislative Town Hall and are an active chapter member of Speaking for Ourselves Colorado (SFO CO), a statewide, grassroots organization of people with disabilities who want to speak for themselves on issues that involve and affect them. Include U.S.A. meets monthly to learn more about self-advocacy, leadership, the legislative process, and to make social connections with others.

Program Impacts: By the Numbers



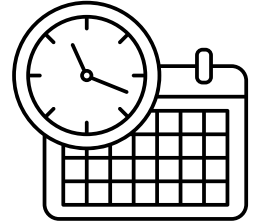
496

people served
through all service
types



12

individuals on the
Guardianship Program
Wait-List



1,211

hours of service
provided

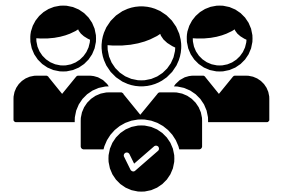


3,520

In-Person and
virtual social event
attendees

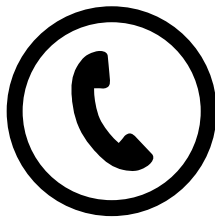


2024



410

Members in 2024



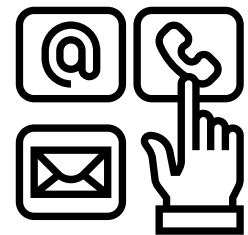
50

After hours guardianship
calls



71

people served in
guardianship program



1,350

contacts with, for, and on
behalf of people in
guardianship program

**Please note that each person was served an average of four times through the year, but counted only once.*

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Michelle
Enciso



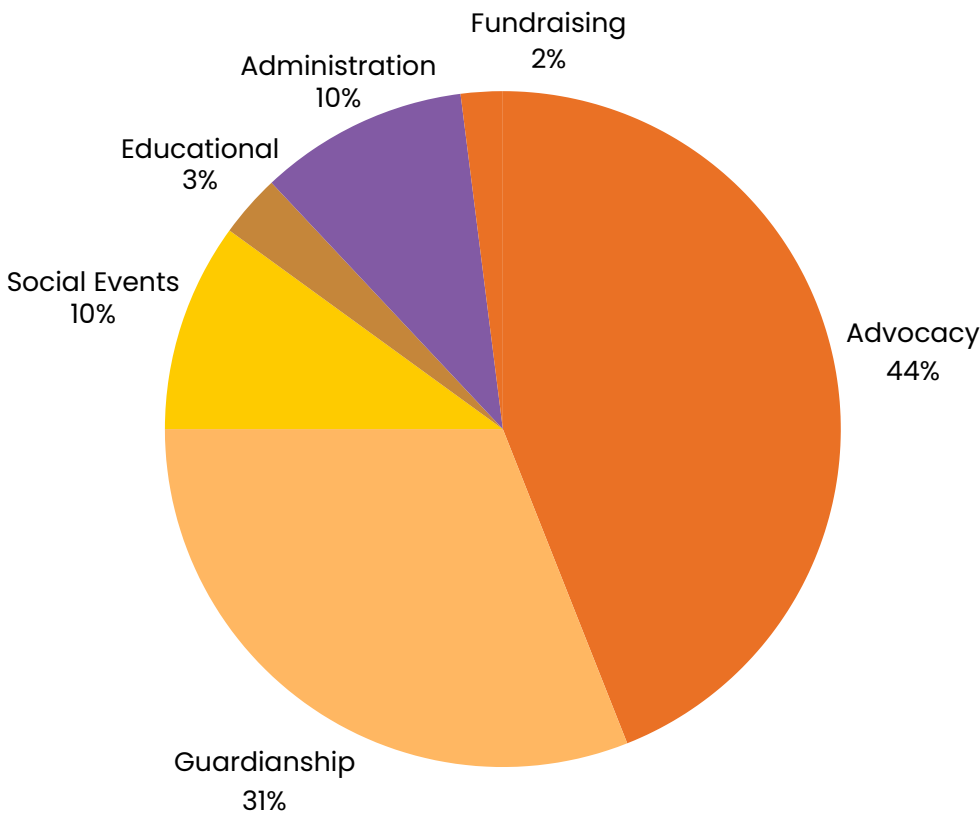
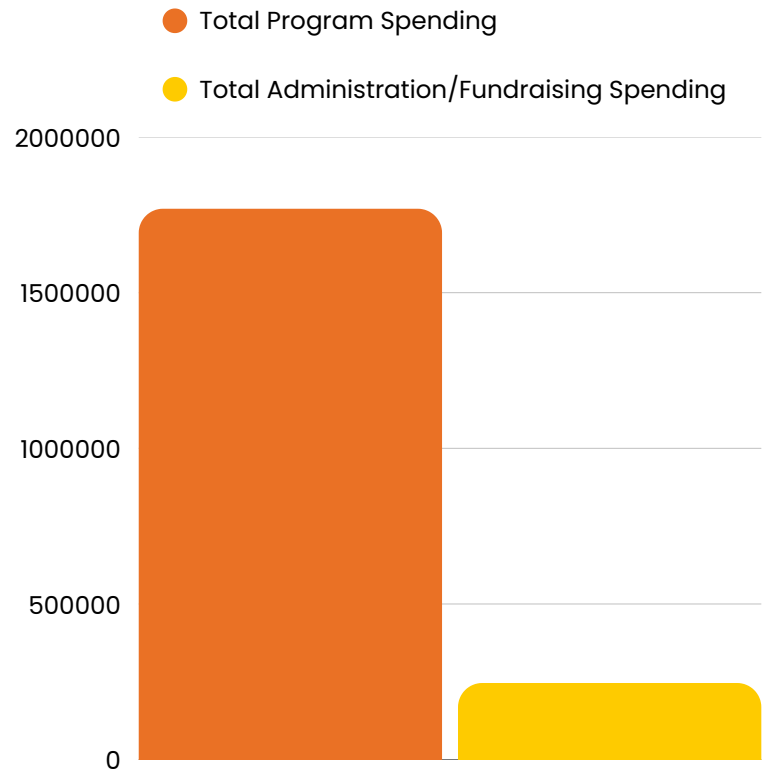
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Statement of Activities

Fiscal Year	2022	2023	2024
Total Revenue	1,653,351	2,432,129	2,537,435
Total Expenses	1,663,349	1,803,288	2,015,765
Revenue by Source			
Contributions (Foundations, Corporations, Dues)	1,936,999	2,108,011	2,224,703
Interest and Dividend Income	-376,712	257,455	167,886
Special Events/Others	93,064	66,663	144,846
Expense by Type			
Programs			
Advocacy	701,226	788,597	880,485
Guardianship	535,900	566,392	617,279
Social Events	177,294	190,221	192,625
Educational	54,386	58,967	61,858
Administration	138,328	150,337	200,547
Fundraising	40,845	44,228	45,596
Pooled Income Trust/Other	15,366	4,546	17,375
Program Expenses/Total Expenses Percentage	90%	89%	88%
Total Net Assets	5,772,786	6,401,627	6,923,297

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Total Program Spending vs. Total Administration/Fundraising Spending



88% of The Arc-PPR's funding supports programs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Support The Arc Pikes Peak Region Today!

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The Arc Pikes Peak Region supports individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities through advocacy, education, guardianship, and social opportunities. Your support of The Arc Pikes Peak Region today goes directly to helping our programs and services for individuals with IDD.

Volunteer and In-Kind Needs

- Fundraising volunteers
- Special event volunteers (planning and set-up)
- Photography and video services
- Entertainment
- Event food and supplies

Membership Opportunities

Do you believe in the rights of all people regardless of ability? If you said yes, then add your voice to thousands of people across the nation by becoming a member of The Arc Pikes Peak Region. Membership with our local chapter also affords you membership with The Arc of Colorado and The Arc of the United States. Together we can make our voices heard!

Membership Benefits

Membership in The Arc US and The Arc of Colorado

- 15% discount card for purchases at arc Thrift Stores
- Notice and invitations to all events sponsored by The Arc
- Updates on issues impacting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Discounts to some local events sponsored by The Arc
- Growing the voice on a local, state and national level

Membership Options

- \$20 Individual Membership \$35 Family Membership \$5 Consumer Membership
- \$250 Corporate Membership Gift of \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: () _____ Email: _____

Please make checks payable to The Arc Pikes Peak Region or pay with cash or credit card.

Credit Card #: _____ CVV: _____

Exp. Date: ____/____ Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

