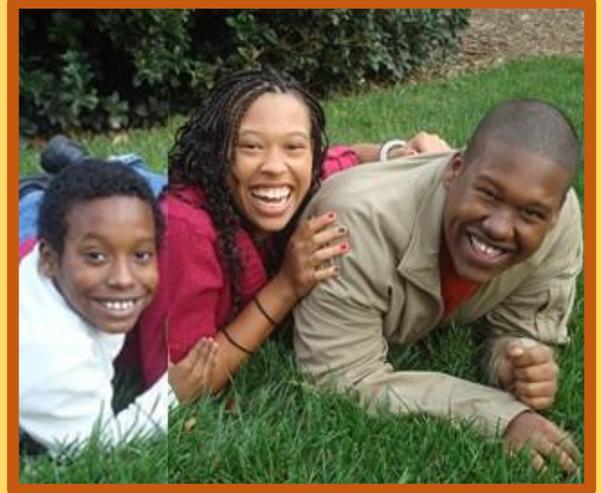


The Ari Advocacy Center

FAMILY ADVOCATES ~ POST-SECONDARY SUPPORT SPECIALISTS ~ SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCATES ~ MASTER FACILITATORS

The Ari Advocacy Center is an independent, non-profit, family support organization. Our model provides a comprehensive range of services for children, young adults, parents, family members, and caregivers of North Carolina's school-aged children. Authentic family engagement allows us to cultivate active and sustained participation from family and community members committed to advocating for the academic success of Black students.



Family Advocates

The Ari Center uses a strength-based approach to support how families engage in schools and on their terms. The Ari Center is a brave space, where individuals can show up and be their full selves without leaving parts of themselves or their experiences outside. Authentic family engagement allows us to cultivate active and sustained participation from family and community members committed to advocating for the success of Black students.



The work of The Ari Center is undergirded by our core values and includes a suite of **FAMILY IMPACT SERVICES**, which fills the family support gaps identified by those we serve. Our services address obstacles to the advancement of family engagement practices and supports broader systemic, equity issues

Post-Secondary Support Specialists

We provide transition services that focus on enhancing the academic and functional achievement of all children, at all ages, as they progress through school to graduation. It is never too early to start post-secondary planning. We work to identify natural, community, and/or school-based supports and develop goal-oriented plans to best support the child's goals for their life after high school. Emphasis is placed on student involvement to foster the best possible chance for success and to empower families in making informed decisions regarding continued education, employment, and living independently after high school graduation. The priority is not only that the child graduates, but that they also realize post-school outcomes that address their strengths and abilities.

Special Education Advocates

An Individualized Education Plan (IEP) should not only meet compliance procedures as outlined in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) but must provide educational benefits and allow students to make marked progress. Progress should be meaningful and not a mere trivial advancement. Annual reviews and discussions of needs and progress are held during IEP meetings. Our non-attorney, special education advocates work to ensure that parents not only understand their rights but also who team participants are, what information is considered, the resources available to them, and the impact of their child's specific needs on decisions made about education and support services, including appropriate outcome measures.

Master Facilitators

We fill the family support gap during multi-disciplinary team meetings by using a robust case management infrastructure. Our unique perspectives and lived experiences coupled with a system of care approach and individualized planning, ensures a sustained focus which centers the voices of children, young adults, and their families who may be involved with not only an education agency but also social service systems, behavioral and mental health, juvenile justice, foster care, and displacement service agencies. We usher families into the leadership space and help teams come together and make decisions with an emphasis on fostering independence and positive post-secondary outcomes for their children.

The Ari Advocacy Center Core Values

EXCELLENCE

Excellence is not something we strive for, it is our standard. We commit to exceeding the expectations of families in every partnership.

01

FAMILY LEADERSHIP

We advance a strength-based narrative of Black families, which invests in their power and voice to pursue academic success for their children.

02

COLLABORATION

The ecosystem must be strong, with complimentary roles, working towards common goals, while providing maximum opportunities for reevaluation and realignment.

03

TRUSTWORTHINESS

Being able to trust your partners means that you can achieve more together. There can be no positive outcome without families trusting us and trusting the process.

04

Find out more at:

WWW.THEARICENTER.COM