

For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities 4016 9th Street Rock Island, IL 61201

www.arcqca.org

Achieve with us."

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Rock Island, IL Permit No. 123

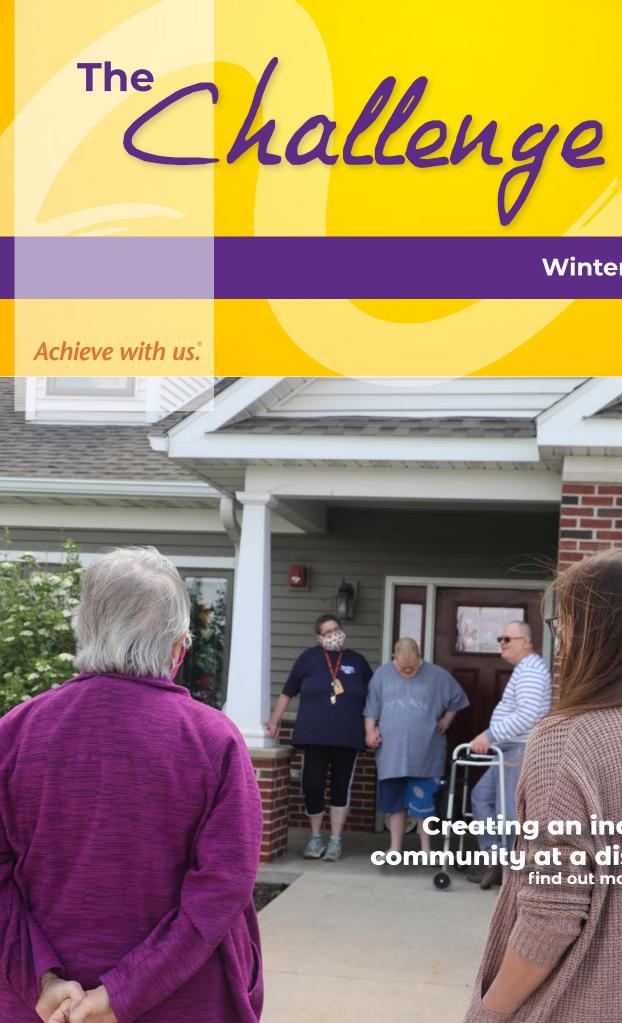
Or Current Resident

Do you have a vehicle that's more of a hassle than a help? Give your old vehicle new purpose and avoid costly repairs by donating it to The Arc. When you donate your car, you donate the road ahead for people with disabilities.

THE ROAD AHEAD

WWW.ARCQCA.ORG OR CALL 1-877-ARC-CARO





Winter 2021

Creating an inclusive community at a distance find out more inside...

The Challenge | Page 2



Founded in 1952, The Arc of the Quad Cities Area is an independent non-profit organization that provides support for over 300 Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in our community.

The Arc provides: Residential Community Day Services Vocational Training Assistive Technology Community Supports Community Employment

The Arc of the Quad Cities Area 4016 9th Street Rock Island, IL 61201 309-786-6474

For more information about The Arc's programs and support services, visit:

www.arcqca.org



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Cover: Family and friends visit outside the 3rd Street Group Home to greet residents. These organized visits helped individuals remain connected to loved ones as an important outlet for mental and physical health. Organized visits helped to foster these relationships at a safe distance.



Dove Legacy Members have made a commitment to leaving a legacy of love through their will or estate plan. Their gift will live on in perpetuity through the **Wilber L. Burress** Endowment.

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Thomas L. Hanson Special Needs Trust Michele & Mike Montford Fran & Marie DeWispelaere Rose VandeWiele Rick & Marcia Voltz Jan & Todd Haugen Kyle Rick Dennis & Sharon Baraks Cindy Ferguson Kathy & Tom Conrad David Conrad Matt Puck Connie Zogg Lizette Desseyn Jim & Twila Mitchell John & Helen Kerschieter Richard & Ruth Marie Motz Jim & Carol Horstmann Barb Goettig Patricia Kukla Molly Montgomery Trust Rose Poewoorde VandeWiele Patricia Gaydos Nany Lyford

Every year, The Arc honors donors who have reached milestones in their giving, and any individuals who have passed over the previous year at the Honor Tree ceremony. As you can imagine, The Arc uses the imagery and stability of a tree to symbolize the ebb and flow of life and how these forces affect life in the natural world and life within The Arc.

In the book The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein, a tree gives a boy, what it has to offer, over and over again until it is a stump that the much older boy uses to rest. But trees are much more than these commodities. They give us food and oxygen, help stabilize and cool the environment, enrich the soil, and as many scientists are now discovering - give to and support one another within a forest ecosystem. Many of the services trees provide can't even be measured. Trees and forests give slowly, if we sit back and let them.

Leaving a legacy also fits the analogy provided by trees. However giving in this manner is less like the Giving Tree model of giving commodities (fruit, wood, etc.). They are much closer to giving of services provided by forests (oxygen, clean air, and water). Benefactor forests provide for us defini-tively, providing the services we all depend on in perpetuity.

By including The Arc of the Quad Cities Area in your Will, Trust, or beneficiary designation, you pass on a gift of essential services that support the full inclusion and participation in community life of people with disabilities, now and in the future. Your gift provides The Arc with a stable, permanent source of funds for the betterment of The Arc's essential supports and services.

Legacy giving is giving slowly and on a much, much longer timeline than anyone can imagine. Rather than a single gift at one point in time, it is giving a system of supports that will sustain the lives of others.

If you would like more information about ways to leave a legacy or to speak to someone about making a gift please contact The Arc's Development Director at **(309) 429-6067** or wrights@arcqca.org. Thank you.

Spring Parent Learning Series

The Arc of the Quad Cities Area is hosting a Parent Learning Series focused on providing the tools parents of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities need to be the most effective. Attendees will learn how to create and protect the life you wish for your child, sibling, or loved one. **All sessions will be held via ZOOM.**

Arc Industries Past, Present and Future:

- WIOA and AI past, present and future-
- How the WIOA- has affected the sheltered workshops
- Community Employment and partnership with Al

• First person experience from an individual

When: March 31st from 1pm-2:30pm and April 1st from 6pm-7:30pm

What To Do After Graduation, Next Steps:

- Transition options with Megan Mutti of the Arc of Illinois- family advocates
- The PUNS list, how to apply, waiting list and requirements
- how to qualify and the process of applying **When: April 8th from 6pm-8pm.**

Identifying Signs of Abuse and Advocating to Protect:

- Identifying signs of abuse with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, living at home, on their own in the community or in a group setting.
- Preventing abuse, neglect and exploitation through systemic and individual advocacy; facility monitoring and oversight; and enforcement of fundamental rights.

When: April 22nd 6pm-7:30pm

All Sessions are free to participate.

To register contact Sue Gadient gadients@arcqca.org (309) 786-6474 or visit www.arcqca.org



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It's safe to say 2020 was a year we will never forget. We are grateful for your continued support through the ups and downs of the past year. We remain hopeful for a fresh start in 2021. We see the light on the horizon.

The Arc's goal is to continue to support people with disabilities to live their best lives. We've done that by building a strong network of support services that put the needs, dreams, and goals of the people we support at the heart of everything we do. This strong person-centered approach has helped us shape our services toward greater connectivity with our community. During a pandemic and national upheavals, we've managed to do that at a safe distance.

Growing connectivity safely has been our promise and we have delivered on that promise over and over again. To that end, we have managed to move much of the programming enjoyed by people enrolled in Community Day Services (CDS) to an on-line platform. We've added smart TVs and increased the number of personal technology devices in each home, which allowed these sessions to be enjoyed at many different locations; whether that's at a CDS site, at a group home, or in the comfort of their own home or apartment. We have seen the participation in these sessions grow as more and more individuals become more comfortable with the technology.

We have also relied on growing new partnerships and deepening existing partnerships to extend our reach into the community. We have build terrific and self-sustaining partnerships with our community. These partnerships have enhanced our ability to embed people with disabilities in their community. Like a community based CDS group that starts and ends their day at the Rock Island Fitness & Activity Center. Programs like these are set in the bedrock principal that "we are better together". That our mission, enhanced by partnerships and centered on person centered programming, can and will withstand the upheavals of the previous year and seize on the opportunities that lie ahead.

We are grateful that many of us have the opportunity of being able to get the vaccine as part of the la group. However we continue to plan and advocate for distribution that is fair and equitable for people with disabilities and their caregivers. Most all of the individuals we serve are choosing to get vaccinated. The Arc continues to encourage our staff to also become vaccinated, as this is our best shot to try to get people back into community services. We are all in this together. Through collective action toward vaccination across both persons served and our employees, we can smash this virus!

Here's to a connected, strengthened, and healthy 2021.

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Expanding Choices in Residence

Newly Rehabilitated home in Rock Island Expands Choice

The smell of fresh paint greets visitors to a home under construction on Brittany Lane in Rock Island. Soon this first will be replaced with homey furnishings and the aromas of home cooked meals.

expansive efforts to offer the highest amount of choice in residents for people with disabilities living in the Quad Cities. The opening of this home on Brittany Lane in Rock Island will offer four residents the opportunity to live in their own community with the supports they need to live their best lives.

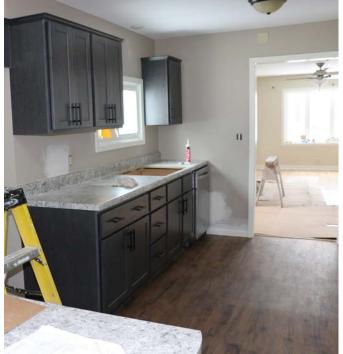
The home offers an accessible housing option with a ramp, large open communal areas, four private bedrooms, office space and accessible outdoor areas. The home might not look big on the exterior, but once inside you can see the home offers large open, airy rooms

complete with hardwood floors and fresh paint.

"We are proud of our efforts to expand the impression of a home under construction number of housing options in our area that correspond to the demand for smaller, more intimate housing choices" says Michael Glanz, The Arc's Executive Director. "The home at The Arc of the Quad Cities Area has made Brittany Lane is a wonderful offering for families".

> Although the home is still under construction at this time, we anticipate that it will be ready to live in by the spring. The home at Brittany Lane represents an overall shift in residential services toward offerings with small settings. With this home and the other sixteen homes, The Arc is able to offer more choice for residents with four. five, six, seven, and eight bed homes. More choice in residents is another chapter in a story of greater independence for individuals with disabilities. This chapter has been a part of a story that has been unfolding for almost 70 years.

Soon, four individuals will move into this house they will put their own personal stamp it as it becomes their home.





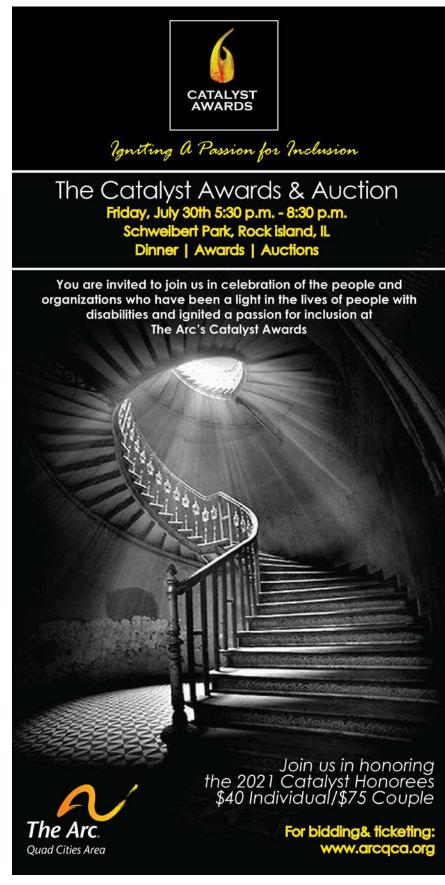


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Name:	I am paying for myself only	
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ty, State, Zi	0	
N	 Registration Form can be sent to: The Arc of the Quad Cities Area 	
The Arc. Quad Cities Area	4016 9th Street Rock Island, IL 61201 wrights@arcqca.org	

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Catalyst Awards

Awards Will Continue With an In-Person Event



The Catalyst Awards, Dinner & Auction is an opportunity for The Arc of the Quad Cities Area to recognize the people and organizations in the Quad Cities that have ignited a passion for inclusion.

We are preparing the 2021 Catalyst Awards, Dinner and Auctions to be held on Friday, July 30th at Schweibert Park in Rock Island. The event will still feature all the things it is known for: music, delicious food, auctions and awards. Because planning for 2021 has built in considerations for safety. The Arc has decided to hold this event outdoors at Schweibert Park in Rock Island and will be a much more casual event. All the elements that make is a distinctive event will remain intact.

The symbolism of The Arc's Catalyst Awards - celebrating the people and organizations who have been a light in the lives of people with disabilities is much needed at this time. So organizers were determined to have an in-person event. "The most important aspect of this event is to honor our honorees and raise important funds for our services" says Michael Glanz, Executive Director. "We are excited to have an safe, in-person event with all the considerations to make everyone can safely and comfortable enjoy this great event".

2021 Awardees will be announced later this year.

Memorial Gifts

Memorial & Honorary Gifts since July 2020

in memory of David Allison Linda Wilkinson Andrea Allison Mark and Mary Dowdal

in memory of JoAnn Baeke James F. and Martena K. Byron

in honor of Gina Marsh James B. Marsh

in honor of Jan Johnson Alfred and Joan Beck Linda Bjurstrom Thomas and Kathryn Blade Helen Brandt Grayson and Lois Brottmiller Teresa Collins James and Marie Darby Raymond and Mary Jo Davis Rosaline Erickson Carol Francis William and Lois Gerse Dorothy E. Hedberg Stephen and Christy Horst Lois Patch, Duane and Carol

Curry Jim and Susan Johnson Rev. John and Helen Leaf Lisa Lowe Shirley Luebke Susan Morton Joseph and Deborah Robb Nancy K. Servine Dorothy Smead Mitchell E. and Joyce E. Strach Margaret Swenson Terry and Susan Welty Wayne and Lee Ann Wille Daniel Witkowski

in honor of Matthew Montford Jim and Twila Mitchell

in honor of residents of Rose House Sonja Knudsen

in honor of Stacey Douglas Stephen R. Haines

in honor of Tom O'Shea Erin O'Shea

in memory of Benjamin John Duffy Barb Goettig

Schmidt Arvid and Carol Hagberg Mel and Angie Snook

in memory of Christine Nelson William Nelson

in memory of Christy Koontz Jennifer McKean

in memory of Dan Dawson Darline Akins

in memory of David Allison Douglas and Dianne Allison Patrick and Karen Burghgrave Pat Tracey

in memory of Ellen Roys Blake Roys

in memory of Jack Bateman William Bateman

in memory of Jay Dralle Ron and Becky Smolenski

in memory of John (Jack) Daniels Phillip Cray Mary and Donald Devine Mary Lou Kean Joe and Amy Smith Anchor Lumber Do-it Center Terry and Deanna Smith Cindy Stevenson

in memory of John Fanter Arthur and Diane Fanter

in memory of June Ramsey Donald and Katherine Healy

in memory of Katie Ward The Arc of Scott County

in memory of Lavern Bald RB and Elaine Hostetler

in memory of Lisa DeWispelaere Christi DeWispelaere

in memory of Mario Almanza Judith and Jeffrey Lockwood Rosemary Lopez

in memory of Betty Jean Griffin

Truman and Diane Symmonds

Darrell Parker Tracy Almanza

in memory of Mary Welsh Eugene and Elaine Bouwens Frank and Theresa Dewaele Terri FarditurkmaniLisa and **Richard Garrett** Donald and Katherine Healy Karen Shoemaker

in memory of Matthew Steen Jack and Kathy Lee Tim Meenan

in memory of Nicholas Strieder Louise Ramirez

in memory of Patricia Kukla Jan Pauly James Kukla

in memory of Pete Clark

Anonymous Thomas and Judith Callahan Carolyn Campbell Cheryl and Butch Crow David and Melissa Dell James and Marcia Garrison Steven and Christian Kraft

in memory of Richard Morrow Sue Gadient Beulah Morrow **Richard Morrow** Presentacion Wickersham Carol or Jeana McAllister

in memory of Rob Tolmie Amy Maxwell

in memory of Ronald W. Forari Alanna B. Forari

in memory of Rose Vande Wiele Mike and Tracy Poelvoorde

in memory of Sean Lawhorn Flora Lawhorn

in memory of Timothy and Marjorie Šchroeder Tom Schroeder

in memory of Tom Hughes Mary Garner

in memory of Victor Mayer Illene and Richard Luthanen

in honor of the Nefzger Family Ben & Gav Nefzger

Administering the Vaccine

Preserving the Health of the People We Serve

DSPs are helpers and heroes. They have already done so much to combat Covid-19. They have taken the steps day after day that have kept themselves and the people we serve safe. They have already done so much, serving people with disabilities so well beyond what words can describe.

There is something they are doing to preserve that legacy and all the good work that has brought us to this moment. To truly defeat Covid-19, we are thankful that so many of our employees getting vaccinated and showing their commitment to helping others.

Employees of The Arc are getting vaccinated through local health care providers and through The Arc's nursing service that will be administering the vaccine to employees mid-February. Additionally almost all individuals served by The Arc have expressed their interest and consent in receiving the vaccine.

Because of these measures taken by our employees and persons served, we are very hopeful there will be a return to increased community services in the future.



Direct Support Professional. Freedom receives her first vaccination at Community Health Care. The Arc's essential employees are in the IA group and first in-line to get the vaccination.

Coming Up....

MARCH 31 FREE thru Zoom

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

APRIL 8 FREE thru Zoom

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

APRIL 22

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

APRIL 22

FREE thru Zoom 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

PARENT LEARNING SERIES Arc Industries Past, Present, & Future TOPICS: WIOA, Arc Industries, Community Employment Services, Sheltered Workshops

PARENT LEARNING SERIES What To Do After Graduation **TOPICS**: Transition options, the PUNS list, How to Quality, and Applying.

MLK DAY OF SERVICE Pav What You Can Restaurant St. John's Lutheran Church Come pick-up a great meal for a

donation, pay nothing if you cannot afford, or pay it forward.

PARENT LEARNING SERIES Identifying Signs of Abuse TOPICS: Identifying signs of abuse. Preventing abuse, neglect, & exploitation. \$40 Individual/\$75 Couple

MAY 11-25

COMMUNITY WIDE FOOD DRIVE Food Drop Off sites to Be Announced In honor of MLK Day of Services

JUNE 18

Highland Springs Golf Course Registration: 8:00 a.m.

CHARITY GOLF OUTING Assigned T-times Lunch & Prizes to Follow \$100 per player, Hole Sponsorships \$150

JULY 30

Schweibert Park 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. CATALYST AWARDS Dinner, Auctions, Awards Honoring 2021 Honorees

MLK Day of Service

Providing Inclusive Volunteering Experiences & Fulfilling Needs

The Arc is honoring the life and legacy of Additionally, along with The Arc's partners in Martin Luther King Jr. through service with the disability awareness community. will hold help from a grant from The Arc of the United a food drive from May 11 to May 25. The Arc is States. Along with our partners The Martin currently seeking service partners. We'll Luther King Jr. Community Center and the provide the boxes, arrange pick-up, and River Bend Foodbank an inclusive group of spread the word. Partners provide the food volunteers including people with disabilities drop off site. Please contact Sue Gadient for offered direct food assistance with a mobile more information at gadients@arcgca.org. food pantry. We are proud that people with disabilities are afforded the opportunity for civic engagement through volunteerism while tackling the ongoing food crisis in our community.

The Arc will continue serving it's community through our partnership with NEST Cafe on Thursday, April 22nd from 11a.m. to 1:00 in St. John's Luther Church parking lot where individuals will help serving patrons to NEST Cafe pay-what-you-can non profit restaurant. Customers can enjoy a meal for a suggested donation, pay nothing if you can't afford it, or pay it forward by helping someone else get a meal. Please join us for a nourishing, quality meal April 22.

"LIFE'S MOST PERSISTENT AND URGENT QUESTION IS: HAT ARE YOU **DOING FOR** OTHER DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR



