



For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities
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Rock Island, IL 61201

www.arcqca.org

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The Challenge

Winter 2022

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Celebrating 70 years of quality
innovative services...





Leaving a Legacy

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
- Adventures with The Arc

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



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COVER From left to right: Raymond Creighton, Katrina Obertance (staff), Jamie Seltor, Brenda Desmond (staff), Kristina Bell (staff), & Stacy Squires attend the historic opening of the I-74 Bridge span over the Mississippi River.

DOVE LEGACY MEMBERS

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.

- Thomas L. Hanson Special Needs Trust
- Michele & Mike Montford
- Fran and Marie DeWispelaere
- Rose VandeWiele
- Rick and Marcia Voltz
- Jan and Todd Haugen
- Doug & Kyle Rick
- Dennis and Sharon Baraks
- Cindy Ferguson
- Kathy and Tom Conrad
- David Conrad
- Matt Puck
- Connie Zogg
- Lizette Desseyn
- Jim & Twila Mitchell
- John & Helen Kerschietter
- Richard & Ruth Marie Motz
- Jim & Carol Horstmann
- Barb Goettig
- Mary Vande Voorde

Leaving a legacy involves a little planning, but can leave a lasting impact. An estate gift is a planned gift that goes into effect after your lifetime. An estate plan is essentially a set of documents that lay out your plan. By making sure The Arc is included in any of these documents, you will be making sure people with disabilities have the supports and services they need to reach their highest potential.

By including The Arc of the Quad Cities Area in your Will, Trust, or beneficiary designation, you pass on a lasting gift that continues our work to protect the rights of people with disabilities and support their full inclusion and participation in community life, now and for future generations. All these gifts provide a stable, permanent source of funds for the betterment of people with disabilities. Planned gifts cost you nothing now and can be changed as circumstances change.

A little planning now will create a lasting, permanent gift that will continue to work to protect the interests of people with disabilities now and in the future. When you do, you become a part of the Dove Legacy Society. Many Dove Legacy members have been impacted through the care of a loved one through The Arc's services. For others, The Arc's mission resonates with their central core values and beliefs.

When you leave a legacy to The Arc, you become a part of The Arc's Dove Legacy Society comprised of donors who have created a legacy by helping The Arc achieve our important mission to empower people with disabilities to achieve their own unique abilities and achieve their full potential. For many, The Arc has been instrumental in the care of a loved one. For others, The Arc's mission resonates with their central core values and beliefs.

Whatever the reason, please reach out to us if you would like to make a planned gift. Please contact **Sarah Wright** at wrights@arcqca.org or **309-429-6067**. Anyone can leave a legacy.

Trivia Night

Trivia Night that was originally scheduled for Saturday, January 29 at the Figge Art Museum has been canceled. Because this fundraiser gathers together large groups of people in an indoor area, we have decided that we cannot move forward with this event.

In a statement to the public, all the health care providers in the Quad Cities Area recently announced that cases are continuing to rise and are at rates the highest since November 2020. Hospital capacity is already at their limits. Trivia is fun, but not worth increasing the risk to participants, staff, and the dedicated health care professionals who have given us sound advice over and over again: to stay safe, socially



distance, get vaccinated and wear a mask.

We are heeding this advice and hope we can tempt you with trivia in the future.

Brittany Lane

With the acquisition of a property on Brittany Lane in Rock Island, The Arc increased the capacity of its Residential program which now features a total of sixteen group homes.

The home is a four bedroom, three bathroom home that has recently been renovated with a new kitchen and dining space, and updated bathrooms. The home provides comfortable indoor and outdoor living with the addition of a large deck with sliding door. The home is wheelchair accessible.

Brittany Lane is home to four individuals who are loving the new location including the deck which gets sunshine throughout the afternoon hours.

The Arc's residential program provides services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities with warm, welcoming spaces for anyone to live.

Pictured above: the living room

Pictured below: the large accessible deck.



Michael's Message...

The ongoing pandemic has been cyclical, just like the waxing and waning seasons. Restrictions ease, we enjoy a few moments of connectivity, then restrictions return with the news of a new variant. One thing is for certain, the virus is tenacious and will be with us in 2022.

The Arc has weathered these changes and will continue to do so with the characteristic creativity and endurance that has shaped our approach to providing quality and innovative services. As with all of the cyclical changes we have grown accustomed to, we will continue to utilize the tried and true methods that have helped diminish the spread of this virus and keep people safe.

This year marks a very special milestone in the life of The Arc, because we will be celebrating seventy years of quality and innovative services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Last year in preparation for our 70th anniversary we asked you to help us achieve two goals to establish two separate endowments on the Illinois and Iowa side of the Quad Cities. We established the Emergency Aid Fund with The Moline Foundation and asked for your help in raising \$70,000 to help people with disabilities in times of crisis. We also established The Arc of the Quad Cities Iowa Endowment at the Quad Cities Community Foundation and asked for your help in reaching our \$70,000 goal to create permanent funding for services in Iowa.

We are happy to report that in this very special year The Arc has achieved both of these ambitious goals and has done so with your help and the support of so many. **Thank you for helping us celebrate seventy years of supporting full inclusion and participation for people with disabilities in community life.**

The Arc was founded in 1952 by parents who believed their children deserved more. That they deserved to be included in their communities and to pursue fulfillment and happiness just like everyone else. The Arc has continued to grow and evolve along with the changing needs of people with disabilities. We will keep bending the realm of possibilities for people with disabilities until all people's abilities will be valued and respected by the community so that every person has the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

That vision is brought closer with the establishment of these two endowments that will act as a bridge between the Illinois and Iowa Quad Cities and will be a helpful tool to create a more inclusive community. There are still ways to help us celebrate our 70th anniversary. Please consider following us on social media, or attend our informative Spring Parent Learning Series sessions, or send in your donations with the enclosed gift envelope. These opportunities and more are outlined for you within these pages.

Michael Mang



70th Anniversary

The families who banded together in 1952 to help create a brighter future for their children might not have envisioned what that fledgling organization would become.

Today, The Arc of the Quad Cities Area is a multi-service organization that is integral to the lives of families and people with disabilities in the Illinois Quad Cities. A membership agreement formed with The Arc of the Quad Cities Iowa has expanded services into Iowa. To celebrate the 70th anniversary of quality services for Quad Cities families, The Arc created two endowments on either side of the river in the hopes of raising \$70,000 each

to support services in Illinois and Iowa.

Thanks to the support of so many, we are happy to report that we have smashed that goal! Thank you to everyone who has contributed to either the Emergency Aid Fund or The Arc of the Quad Cities Iowa Endowment. Your generosity is worthy of the sacrifices and visionary actions of those first founding families. Thank you for supporting people with disabilities. Your gifts will help us obtain a even brighter future.



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 workshops will be from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. via Zoom.**

High School Transitions - Illinois Encouraging Parents and Students' Active Participation in the Transition Process

- Presented by Cindy Gibson
- You and your student are essential partners in the transition process. Gain the tools and confidence to drive successful outcomes.
- Feel confident understanding and participating in IEP and transition planning, and learn about parental safeguards.

When: May 4, 2022

High School Transitions - Iowa Encouraging Parents and Students' Active Participation in the Transition Process

- Presented by Jody Beltran, Michelle Wehr, Carol Aden and Rachel Terry
- You and your student are essential partners in the transition process. Gain the tools and confidence to drive successful outcomes.
- Feel confident understanding and participating in IEP and transition planning, and learn about parental safeguards.

When: May 11th, 2022

PUNS- What is PUNS? What are my options?

- Presented by Matt Wells, Ranee Stufflebeem and Paula Lotz
- PUNS stands for Prioritization of Urgent Need for Services, but what does that mean for you and what services are offered?
- Prairieland Service Coordination Inc. will help you understand PUNS. Which services you are qualified for and how to discern which are the best fit for you.

When: May 18th, 2022

Job Training and Community Employment Services

- Presented by Andrea Taylor
- Interested in working after High School? This session will cover the types of programs available to help individuals find and be successful in the workforce.
- Learn about Job Corps, a residential training program funded by the Department of Labor and The Arc's Community Employment Services Program.

When: May 25th, 2022

Contact Sue Gadiant at gadiants@arcqca.org or visit arcqca.org to register

Vending Program

Vending Machines to Provide Jobs for People with Disabilities

Thanks to the support of the Scott County Regional Authority, The Arc of the Quad Cities Iowa will be able to purchase two vending machines that will be the basis for a social entrepreneur program supporting the creation of jobs for people with disabilities living in Iowa.

The Arc of the Quad Cities Iowa has a partnership with Good Will to place these machines in their Bettendorf location. The machines will be serviced by an individual with disabilities, making that individual the first employee of The Arc of the Quad Cities Iowa. Since 1962 The Arc has been an all

volunteer organization. For an organization that was founded on creating opportunities for people with disabilities, it is profound that the first employee will be a person who embodies that mission. The machines will will continue to further the mission of Goodwill.

The partnership with Goodwill was initiated by The Arc of Iowa. All proceeds from the machines will help support the The Arc of Iowa and The Arc of the Quad Cities Iowa.



CARF Accreditation

Meeting and Achieving High Standards

The Arc of the Quad Cities Area is kind of a big deal, and we have a seal of approval to show for it. The Arc has received accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

To achieve accreditation The Arc went through a rigorous process to prove its commitment to the community. This accreditation process ensures that organizations are currently meeting high standards as well as constantly improving services and programs.

The Arc underwent an internal examination of its program before requesting an on-site survey conducted by an expert team selected by CARF. The Arc demonstrated to the experts that we follow the rigorous and internationally

recognized CARF standards. The Arc also submitted a Quality Improvement Plan to CARF to commit to improving the areas that need to be improved.

The highest CARF accreditation is a three year award, and The Arc has received the highest level each application year. The CARF seal of approval goes beyond a competitive distinction for providers like The Arc. It provides a sign of quality for persons served that The Arc is committed to encouraging feedback, continuously improving services and serving the needs of the disability community. That is the real value of accreditation - and it's kind of a big deal.



Memorial Gifts

Since the beginning of the year 6.1.2021 to 11.30.2021

In memory of Don Johnston

Richard Bigger Jr.
Carpentier Mitchell Goddard & Co
Carroll County Democrats
Clarence and Lili Darrow
Alvin and Bridgett Edgeworth
Roger and Kathryn Harroun
Henderson County Democratic Committee
Dennis Jacobs
Lori Lefstein
Dick Leivovitz
Tom Lytton
Mary Maland
Mathilda and Jesse Mendoza
Drue Mielke
Connie Mohr-Wright
James Teros
Linnea Thompson
Amy Verstraete
Sharon Verstraete
Frank and Tammy Weikert
Sherry Williams
Craig and Cathy Wonderlich
Clarice Wunderlich

In memory of Dorothy Schiess

Jean and Leonard Chard
Mark Mueller
Marilyn Siebert

In memory of Jack Bateman

William Bateman

In memory of Nicholas Strieter

Louise Ramirez

In memory of Sean Lawhorn

Kathryn Lawhorn

In memory of Vincent Troy Chambless

Sheri K. Elliott

In honor of Lois Showalter

John and Jane Showalter

In honor of Benjamin and Brian Rubin

American Bank & Trust

In honor of Lee and Emily Van Opdorp

Barb Goettig

In memory of Daniel Dawson

Darline and Joseph Miljush

In honor of Sue Vroman

Danish Sisterhood #3

In memory of Darry Kannenberg

Charlene Cooper
Lorna Cox
Jeffery Dennis

In memory of Paul Ellison

Carollee Baltzer
Donald and Katherine Healy
Janet Johnson
Gary and Kay Roberson
Donald W. and Leona Peterson-Spear

In memory of Rose Van de Wiele

Mike and Tracy Poelvoorde



Innovation Through Inclusion

At The Arc, we are driven by a mission of a more inclusive world for everyone. Fulfilling this vision requires passion and diversity of skills and backgrounds. More and more employers are finding that hiring people with disabilities is a good choice. Some employers have known and benefited from the work of people with disabilities for some time.

The Butterworth Center & Deere-Wiman House in Moline, Illinois is one such employer. The property is operated by the William Butterworth Foundation and serves as a year-round site for quality education, cultural events, and a free meeting space for non-profit organizations. In order to host the community, the organization relies on dedicated staff to ensure that the property is not only clean and orderly, but the rooms meet the guests’ specifications.

Meet Taylor Apple, a seasoned Community Relations Representative. Taylor has been working for the Butterworth Center & Deere-Wiman House for six and a half years. He

started as a housekeeper and later shifted to working with community groups. He has slowly added on to his repertoire of responsibilities. Now he supports community groups utilizing the space. Ensuring that the Smart-TV settings are in-place, the microphones are turned on, and projectors are ready per each guest’s specifications for virtual meetings are some of the things Taylor

does regularly.

A housekeeper’s duties on a historic home filled with priceless antiques can be immense. One of Taylor’s first duties as housekeeper was checking the floor for broccoli after a recital. Obviously, leaving broccoli behind on an antique rug or hardwood floor could cause permanent damage and be deadly to the nostrils if left unchecked. In the home’s heyday, there would have been a small army of people to make sure the home’s occupants had every need not only met but, anticipated. Now the home serves as a community space that is well known and utilized by thousands of people each year. Taylor and the entire staff at Butterworth, work together with flexibility and good humor to meet the diverse needs of their guests and make the space welcoming for all.

Says Taylor, “In every position I’ve developed new skills, even using some outside of work.” Taylor would most likely consider himself an introvert, but working directly with the public through his job has

expanded some of his interpersonal skills. Sue Liggitt, Taylor’s then job coach says, “They gave him plenty of room to grow.”

The original occupants might not have envisioned a future where the guests of their home utilized virtual meeting technology, but they would recognize the community hub the

continued on next page...



Taylor Apple stands in front of the Butterworth Center where he started work as a housekeeper and now works as a Community Relations Representative.

“In every position I’ve developed new skills, even using some outside of work.”

Continued from page 5

home serves as today. The Deere family were always seeking out and innovating technology in their day. The Deere-Wiman House was one of the first to have a home elevator in the Quad Cities. Says Stacy Klingler, Executive Director, “We are following in their footsteps.”

Through programs like The Arc’s Community Employment Services program , many business models can achieve their overall commitment to diversity and inclusion.

With The Arc’s Community Employment Resources program, a job developer supports people with disabilities

by helping develop and navigate the relationship with the employer.

John Deere is considered a leader and a model in business. The family’s legacy continues through the William Butterworth Foundation and the historic Butterworth Center & Deere-Wiman House. By hiring people with disabilities the organization has been better able to fully meet the spectrum of needs of their guests and support the broader community.

From broccoli to information technology - Taylor has proven innovation happens through inclusion.



Taylor pictured in 2015 when he started his position in housekeeping

Parent Learning Series

High School Transitions - Illinois

Wednesday May 4, 2022
7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

High School Transitions - Iowa

Wednesday May 11, 2022
7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

PUNS - What is PUNS? What are my options?

Wednesday May 18, 2022
7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Job Corps Training and Community Employment Services (CES)

Wednesday May 25, 2022
7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

All classes are FREE through Zoom. Registration is required at gadients@arcqca.org or visit: arcqca.org



Congratulations to Antonella’s II winners of the 2021 Slice of the QC! Pictures left to right: Antonia Vitale, Giovanni Sgro and Samanta Sgro, Co-Owners of Antonella’s II at the Freight House in Davenport, IA.

Program Expansion

Land in Silvis Will Be Site Location of Job Training Center

People helping people – it’s the foundation of all credit unions and the cornerstone of IHMVCU’s mission to improve the financial well-being of our members, team members and the communities we serve. It’s with this idea in mind that IHMVCU is pleased to announce the donation of roughly 10 acres of land located at 1801 Crosstown Avenue in Silvis to The Arc of the Quad Cities Area.

“It was the perfect storm,” said Rick Schloemer, IHMVCU Community Outreach Coordinator and Community Funding Committee Chair. “We had land looking for a new home and The Arc was looking for land for a new initiative.”

The Arc’s goal with the land is to create a self-supporting social enterprise that will provide job opportunities and training for people with disabilities who are looking for job experience, specifically in agriculture and horticulture.

“This donation from IHMVCU is just the right catalyst to allow The Arc to support people with disabilities by expanding their potential through employment. This unique opportunity will help us to build a new pathway to guide people with disabilities while they find success on their life journey, just like IHMVCU helps their members find success on their financial journeys” said Michael Glanz, The Arc of the Quad Cities Area Executive Director.

The land will expand The Arc’s services to support individuals with disabilities to transform their lives through job training development, career growth, community integration, horticultural therapy, and increased financial autonomy. Individuals will gain the soft skills, technical instruction that they need to work in horticulture, agriculture, or a career of their choosing followed by job assistance, placement and job coaching. The land is located adjacent to Walmart on Crosstown Avenue in Silvis.



Pictured from left to right: IHMVCU team members: Rick Schloemer, Melissa Brown, Lisa Olson, Lindsey Ramos, Ann McMillian (back), Jacob Greene, Janice Hickman (back), Christina Flores, Matt Jefferson (back), Delaina Miller, Elliott Lard (back), Brian Laufenberg. The Arc team members: Michael Glanz, Joan Conrad (BOD Pres), Randy Peeters (back), Meg Davis, James Crawford, Kristal Shriner (back), Anne Neumann (BOD).