



Achieve



The Arc
Bristol County

The Arc's Human Resources Receives National Recognition



The Arc received CARF accreditation last spring, noting the high quality and compassionate care The Arc provides to the individuals and families we serve.

Our Human Resources Department led by John Neill has received exemplary recognition from CARF for Goal Development Training and Leadership Skills Training. CARF has published an article on our training in "Promising Practices: Innovation in Human Services."

It is with pride we share this accomplishment, and commend all the employees responsible.

(See page 3 for story)

The Arc Supports CRPD

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) is an international disability treaty that was inspired by U.S. leadership in recognizing the rights of people with disabilities. The CRPD is a vital framework for creating legislation and policies around the world that embrace the rights and dignity of all people with disabilities. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was the model for the CRPD, which values of independence and respect and concept of reasonable accommodation are echoed throughout the treaty.

The United States signed the CRPD in 2009. On December 4, 2012 the United States Senate considered the ratification of the CRPD but fell 5 votes short of the supermajority vote required. The media coverage of the Senate's failure to ratify the disability treaty has been overwhelming and the CRPD's Senate leaders remain committed to bringing the disability treaty up in the 113th Congress.

Why should the U.S. ratify the CRPD when we have the ADA? Ratification of the CRPD endorses U.S. Leadership in upholding the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities. A broad coalition of over 600 U.S. disability, civil rights, faith, business, and veteran organizations support the U.S. ratification of the CRPD holding



that American leadership in this arena is critical to the ultimate success of the treaty. Ratification is critical to maintaining our leadership role and to eliminating disability discrimination throughout the world and gives the U.S. legitimacy to export the model of the ADA to other countries. The absence of U.S. leadership in the CRPD and its Committee of experts matters in the international arena. Ratification provides the U.S. an opportunity to play an important and expansive role in the development of disability rights around the world without having to change any U.S. laws or add additional costs to its budget. **Please go to our website www.arcnbc.org or <http://cqrcengage.com/disabilitytreaty/> for tools to help you reach your legislators to endorse CRPD.**

Welcome

Dear Friends of The Arc,

If you are like me, you are already being surrounded with catalogues and ads, seasonal decorations



and holiday songs. It's that time of year for reflection and appreciating those we love. It is also a time when most charities reach out for your donation.

So, if you are like me, you consider a gift to a cause that means something to you, or your family, or your community. Please consider The Arc when you are making charitable contributions this year. The Arc is the organization in your region making a powerful

impact on the lives of thousands of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

Your \$25 donation would allow:

- One family to have 2 hours of respite
- One adult with disabilities to bowl on Project Rec-Connect's bowling league for a full season
- Transportation for 7 individuals to go to a cultural event

Your \$50 donation will enable:

- One child to be assessed for future treatment
- One family to participate in Education Advocacy and receive needed learning supports
- A vocational assessment for job readiness

Your \$100 donation would be used to:

- Teach 2 adults to draw or play a musical instrument

- Fund a learning session for future planning
- Provide 2 hours of emergency services
- Fund one siblings event, serving between 6 and 12 children

We are making a difference, please be a part of it by helping us to help those in need...make a gift today to The Arc.

To you and yours, a peaceful and joyous holiday season,



Michael Andrade
President and CEO

P.S. Please find enclosed an envelope to help you make your gift to The Arc of Bristol County. If you would like to make a gift by credit card, please go to our website www.arcnbc.org and click Donate. Thank you!

Introducing...

proPartnerships

choose your direction

proPartnerships is a self-directed support service which enables people with intellectual, developmental and other disabilities to have more control over the services they receive, and literally become the boss of their own lives. You make the choices; proPartnerships provides the guidance and tools you need to make it work.

We work with individuals like you and your family to identify who and what resources make up your current circle of support, then advise you in ways to complete the circle. proPartnerships will communicate with you to be sure your needs are being met, and goals are being reached according to your individualized plan.

Our role is to help you:

- Maximize funding resources
- Promote self-direction and personal growth
- Access available community supports, and
- Develop individualized approaches

Please contact proAbility to find out more about proPartnerships today.

Employment First

“Employment First means that integrated employment, with competitive wages and benefits, should be the first and preferred outcome for all working-age adults, including people with significant disabilities. Employment First emphasizes that state and federal policies and programs must prioritize “real jobs at real wages,” and align activities along these goals. The Arc’s legislative agenda supports “Employment First” principles as a strategy to increase competitive, integrated employment of people with I/DD.” From TheArc.org, National Policy Matters

Rhode Island and Massachusetts have both implemented Employment First policy in services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. proAbility and The Arc of Bristol County endorse this policy and are working to help individuals we serve attain integrated employment.

Below is an example of how Employment First is working.



Kevin Thurston is a twenty six year old man who lives with his family in Cumberland, Rhode Island.

Kevin is also an employee of Sodexo

Food Service. In 2008, Kevin secured a position as a dietary aide at Cumberland High School.

Initially, proAbility provided daily on site job training and coaching to Kevin, working alongside him as he became familiar with the responsibilities of his new job. It wasn’t long before staff were able to fade out completely, allowing Kevin to work independently in his new job as a dietary aide. He is well

liked, dependable, and knows his job well.

Kevin continues to be a valued member of the Cumberland High School Cafeteria team where he works twenty hours per week. proAbility staff check in with Kevin and his supervisor an average of once per week and the feedback is always positive.

The proAbility team feels fortunate to be involved in Kevin’s life. He is a talented, young man who is well liked by his coworkers and friends. From time to time, Kevin will join recreational activities offered by proAbility. That is; when he has the time. He enjoys outdoor activities with his family, books, video games, and writing novels, and is a very talented artist. All this, he is able to accomplish while working in his hometown high school. It is no surprise that, Sodexo, a competitive, community employer, recognizes that they have a valuable employee in Kevin Thurston.

The Arc’s Human Resources Receives National Recognition

The Arc of Bristol County received CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) accreditation last spring, and remarking on the high quality and compassionate care The Arc provides to the individuals and families we serve.

The Arc’s Human Resources Department led by John Neill has received exemplary recognition from CARF for Goal Development Training and Leadership Skills Training. CARF has published an article on our training in “Promising Practices: Innovation in Human Services.”

The Arc’s practices have been recognized by the state of Massachusetts Survey and

Certification team and the CARF survey team as an exemplary among human service providers. The most recent CARF survey report observed, “The organization has developed a remarkable human resource function that includes the identification and application of competency-based assessment, training, and development.” The Arc’s SMART program, competency-based training, and Leadership Series reinforce the organization’s goal to develop and retain superior talent. The combination of practices enables The Arc of Bristol County to offer high-quality supports and services for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities.



Training is a key component of The Arc of Bristol County’s programs to build a competent workforce and encourage leadership abilities.

More can be learned on The Arc’s website www.arcnbc.org or on CARF’s site www.carf.org.

Pet Therapy at Tarc

With the dog days month of August, The Taunton Resource Center was busy with events. But, on that theme we had two special events for our health and wellness events. We invited Bonnie Wyrostek and her black Labrador Mia to visit for Pet Therapy on Monday 8/12 and 8/19. As they arrived, they were greeted by six individuals that were attending the class, their excitement was fantastic asking many questions and telling stories of their animals. As the class went

on, there became a calmness to everyone came over them where they were able to just pet, groom, feed snacks, make Mia do tricks, or just sit with Mia helped all of them to relax and enjoy their day. You never know how much a pet can do for you! We look to in the future scheduling Bonnie and Mia to the Taunton Resource Center again as well as Middleboro Day Hab, and the Fall River Resource Center in the future.



Pancake Breakfast

Dear Friends of The Arc of Bristol County,

I would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time, talent and treasure to the success of the 11th Annual Pancake Breakfast held on Saturday, October 26 at the Portuguese American Civic Club in Taunton. Proceeds of the event will support our Taunton Area Resource Center (TARC), providing needed services and recreational activities to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities from the greater Taunton Area. The Pancake Breakfast is a volunteer-run event with food donated from community businesses, so all ticket sales go to helping those we serve.

Thank you to many volunteers and donors that helped make the breakfast a great success including: Fran McCarthy, Ted, Pat and Kaitlyn Griffin, Eddie McLaughlin, Barbara Leary, Elaine Rose, Donna McInnis, Samantha Wahl, Eric Williams, Daniel Jones, Anthony Castelli, Kyle and Trudy DelSignore, Patty Ramos, Pat Kirby, Kevin Connolly, Valerie Zagami, Rebecca Barry, Ashley Bears, Briana Eastwood, Troy Hixon, Doreen Mallette, Lesley Azzinaro, Karen Grant, Mary Sauder, Karen Fournier, Marion Prado, the



Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time, talent and treasure to the success of the 11th Annual Pancake Breakfast held on Saturday, October 26 at the Portuguese American Civic Club in Taunton.

Portuguese American Civic Club, Olive Garden, Bob's Discount Furniture Charitable Foundation, Benjamin's, Chateau/Nocera Restaurants, Whittenton House of Pizza, DeAvila's Catering, Party Cake/Party Cake, Home Plate, Bella Roma, Ninety Nine Restaurant and Pub, Smokey Bones Barbeque Grill, Hannaford's Market, Verc Rentals, Princess House, Reed & Barton, Briggs Corner Pizzeria, Celebrities for Charity Foundation, Cardi's Furniture, Bernie & Phyl's Furniture, Capron Park Zoo, Trinity Bar Restaurant, Holiday Inn Taunton, Mary Kay Cosmetics, The Fall River Resource Center, Workout World,

Jimmy's Restaurant, Roche Bros., and The Black Opal Florist. And last but not least, thanks to all who attended and enjoyed a wonderful breakfast of community, good will and great food! See you next year!

With gratitude,
Michael Andrade
President/CEO,
The Arc of Bristol County

Dining for a Cause

Tuesday, December 10th
4pm-10:30pm

Ninety Nine Restaurant
404 Pleasant Street
Fall River, MA 02721

Please
download
the voucher
from our
website
www.



RESTAURANT & PUB

arcnbc.org or contact: The Arc of Greater Fall River (508) 679-0001. The Arc will receive 15% of your guest check on December 10th. Please join us for good food for a good cause!

Join us for a night out!

Mother, Father & Sibling Support Groups

MOMs' Night Out

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month

6-8pm

Venue changes monthly

Please contact Amanda Masi (508) 226-1445 ext. 3130 for location and reservations.

Pizza or appetizers provided.

DADs' Night Out

Every 3rd Monday of the month Sept-June

6-7:30pm

141 Park Street

Attleboro, MA

Come join us for a night of pizza and conversation. Taking reservations for fall, please contact Amanda Masi (508) 226-1445 ext. 3130

Brothers & Sisters Sibshop will be taking a break for the holiday season. Please contact Amanda for upcoming Sibshops.

The Family Support Center hosts a wide array of workshops and support groups throughout the year. Please check out our website www.arcnbc.org or call (508) 226-1445 for upcoming events.



Kelly-Jean Robbins (center) received special recognition from Roche Bros. for 20 years of Service to the company. Pictured here is Rick Roche and Ed Roche at the Recognition Event. Congratulations Kelly-Jean!



Friends and families from The Arc of Greater Fall River enjoyed the Chowder and Clamcakes Dinner on September 27th. Thanks to all the sponsors, donors and guests who made the event a great success!

He laughs. He loves. He deserves to dream.



The Arc
Bristol County

Call or visit us to learn how you can help

www.arcnbc.org

888-343-3301

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GiftsToGive

Directors from The Arc and proAbility met with Jim Stevens, CEO and Founder of GiftsToGive in New Bedford to explore ways our organizations may work together to help the people we mutually serve.

GiftsToGive is building a community to tackle child poverty – and a new currency for philanthropy. At first glance, GiftsToGive is a former textile mill turned warehouse where surplus children’s gear is recycled, repurposed and gifted to children in-need.

GiftsToGive’s primary mission is to give all South Coast young people – the privileged and those in-need – an opportunity to practice Big Citizenship and Tangible Philanthropy through their gifts of time and treasure. Children



come to understand, through their “doing” the power of giving and service and that we all have gifts to give.

The Arc of Bristol County and proAbility are now Distribution Partners for GiftsToGive, to identify children and families in need, and help them benefit from the

generosity of GiftsToGive. The Arc will also be exploring volunteer possibilities and drives in keeping with our goals of community involvement and job skills building.

Pictured here are The Arc staff with Jim Stevens.

Jack-O- Lantern Spectacular



The recreation group from proAbility enjoyed a fun time on October 10th at the Roger Williams Zoo Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular. Proceeds from the many proAbility fundraisers help to make these events possible. Thank you for your part in enhancing the lives of the individuals we serve.

Monster Mini Golf Fundraiser



The Arc and proAbility parents joined together for a Monster Mini Golf Fundraiser on October 30th. Thanks to the many sponsors, volunteers and brave golfers who participated. Our sponsors included: Clifford & Sue Baron, Karen Chludenski, Law Office of Cara B. Conaty, Auto Body Concepts, Next Home Real Estate, Inc., Doorley Agency, Inc., Manuel Cunanan, DDS, Ocean State Boat Club, Robert & Sue Bizzacco, Karen Barnett, Wood Boat and Motor, and Drive Right Auto School. Thanks for your support!

Texas Dude Ranch



Project Rec-Connect traveled to a Texas Dude Ranch for their annual trip in September, where 16 individuals and staff enjoyed 4 days of "cowboy-life."

Mark Bumpers

Employee of the Quarter

Mark is one of the most compassionate people you will ever



meet. He has been supporting Jessica for almost 10 years. His title may be DSP but Mark has become part of Jessica's family. He

recently said that he looks forward to each time he is supporting Jessica because each shift is different from the last. Mark facilitates communication with Jessica's assistive technology as well as interprets her gestures while out in the community. Mark brings Jessica out into the community daily. They like to go out to eat in the local area. Mark assists with transporting Jessica and her art work to her exhibits. He will help with the setting up and breaking down of these exhibits throughout the year. Mark has been trained in Jessica's specific Aquatic Physical Therapy program. He implements this whole body therapy with Jessica once a week. Mark has vacationed with Jessica on Cape Cod. Mark is also a PCA for Jessica. He also helps to train and supervise the other PCA's that support Jessica in her home. Mark had in the past also helped to support another woman in our Brookline program. When she was hospitalized, Mark was at the hospital by her side not letting go of her hand. He whispered in her ear how much she was loved and that she was surrounded by her friends. Mark is a one of a kind staff and The Arc and all of the individuals that Mark supports have been blessed due to his generosity and kindness.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

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Attleboro, MA 02703
Tel: (508) 226-1445 • Fax: (508) 226-1476
Toll Free: (888) 343-3301
Web: www.arcnbc.org

THE ARC OF GREATER FALL RIVER

182 North Main Street
Fall River, MA 02720
Tel: (508) 679-0001 • Fax: (508) 679-9375

DAY HABILITATION SERVICES

5 Mill Street
Middleboro, MA 02346
Tel: (508) 946-2121 • Fax: (508) 946-2195

THE ADVOCACY RESOURCE CENTER OF GREATER NEW BEDFORD

412 B County Street
New Bedford, MA 02740
Tel: (508) 996-8551 • Fax: (508) 996-8553

PROABILITY

333 George Washington Hwy.
Smithfield, RI 02917
Tel: (401) 233-1634 • Fax: (401) 233-1674

TAUNTON AREA RESOURCE CENTER

437 Bay Street
Taunton, MA 02780
Tel: (508) 884-2971 • Fax: (508) 884-2964



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Achieve with us.

Pooled Trust Now Available from The Arc of Bristol County

The Arc is excited to partner with Bristol County Savings to establish a Pooled Trust Fund, giving families an affordable way to provide for the future welfare of their loved ones with disabilities.

What is a Pooled Trust?

A Pooled Trust is a self-settled trust, meaning it is funded with an individual's own money. A Pooled Trust is irrevocable, making it a very useful estate planning tool to protect an individual's public benefits and still save significant amounts of money for their future use. By pooling the funds, each

individual account in the pooled trust raises more productive dividends for investment purposes in accordance with the value of their account balance.

Is a Pooled Trust Right for me and my family?

Our Trust Management professionals are available to answer your questions and help you make the best financial decisions for you and your loved ones. Please call (888) 343-3301 extension 3102 for more information.

