



Achieve



*Arc Strong-
emphasizing the
passion, drive
and abilities
that people with
intellectual and
developmental
disabilities have,
but rarely are
acknowledged*



Arc Strong:
Achieving Dreams
RUN, WALK & ROLL

**Arc Strong:
Achieving Dreams
5K Run, Walk & Roll**
Saturday, May 9, 2015
Registration: 8:30am
Run, Walk & Roll: 9:30am
Borderland State Park
259 Massapoag Ave.
North Easton, MA
*Followed by Refreshments
and Family Fun*
Runners registration \$25
Walkers registration \$15
Youth aged 13-18 years \$5
Children 12 and under Free
Volunteers are welcome, please
contact The Arc
Runner/Walker registration
www.racemenu.com/arcstrong
or go to www.arcnbc.org to Arc
Strong

Achieving Dreams
*- inviting you to promote hope,
and permission to dream, and
the means to achieve what
was previously only imagined*

On May 9th, The Arc of Bristol County is celebrating the strength and hope of thousands of individuals and families we are privileged to serve, and inviting you and our entire community to celebrate and support us. **Arc Strong: Achieving Dreams 5K Run, Walk & Roll** will be held at Borderland State Park in Easton, MA as a fundraising event with a family fun celebration and inclusive activities for all ages and abilities.

The community is invited to participate in this event. Community involvement will empower the triumph of being a part of our run, walk and roll, and support The Arc in our mission to enhance the lives of children and adults with disabilities. The options

for your participation are endless, but may include:

- ◆ *Event sponsorship underwriting costs of the event*
- ◆ *Team sponsorship: contributing to a corporate or community team*
- ◆ *Run, Walk or Roll: as friends and family to support you, and The Arc*
- ◆ *Team Leader: organize your friends, co-workers and family part of a walk or run team, each raising funds in support of their efforts*
- ◆ *Contributor of raffle prizes, walk/run giveaways, or refreshments for the day*

More information is available on The Arc's website www.arcnbc.org. Please contact Pat Kirby at (508) 226-1445 extension 3111 or email pkirby@arcnbc.org about ways you can be part of Arc Strong and support The Arc of Bristol County.



Welcome

Dear Friends,
As Spring is in full swing, I am excited to share with you the many exciting opportunities that have been happening throughout



our agency. I find it befitting that April is Volunteer Appreciation Month because we have a flurry of activities accomplished by devoted volunteers:

- State budgets are supportive of family supports thanks to the advocacy of so many families this past month and for those who attended our legislative breakfasts.
- Our Family Advisory Council's Project Sunshine launched its creative Mason Jar fundraiser to support respite services for families. In addition, they held an outstanding Flapjack breakfast and joint transitional fair to raise funds and awareness of services.

- Deb Wood hosted an exceptional Auction event for proAbility and was later presented with the Statewide Advocacy Award by the State of Rhode Island, Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals, as well as working on a Golf Tournament on June 15th and a painting night on June 22nd to benefit proAbility.
- Board Member Jackie Theis is spearheading our first, Arc Strong: Achieving Dreams 5K Run, Walk and Roll on May 9th at Borderland State Park. It is shaping up to be a great event with so much wonderful community support.
- Our 32nd Annual New Bedford Golf Tournament is off and running thanks to the aid of the Representatives Cabral, Schmidt, Markey and other southeast house members.
- Our families in Middleboro our helping us to design an accessible, barrier free, community garden.

All of these accomplishments are possible thanks to the support of our volunteers. My sincere thanks for all your dedication and support. As our annual celebration is approaching, please take a moment to **NOMINATE A HERO** for any of our award categories.

In closing, I would also like to recognize that April is Autism Awareness Month. We are proud to announce that we are committed to expanding our services to individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders and hope to be launching a Family Autism Support center soon! We are in the process of developing an Advisory team and are looking for any volunteers interested in serving.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our agency events or at our Annual Celebration on June 10th. Until then, I hope that you enjoy this quarter's Achieve newsletter.

Sincerely,



Michael Andrade
President and CEO



March 21 proAbility volunteers once again held a very successful Dinner Auction called "Take A Walk On The Wild Side" and raised over \$10,000 for proAbility.



proAbility crew enjoys the annual Fishing Derby, Thanks for Coach Deb Wood and the generous donors at proAbility events!

The Joy of Volunteering

My name is Brendan Scanlon and I began volunteering at The Arc in March 2015. Being a part of the "Rec-Connect" program, which aims to bring clients into recreational settings, has been an absolute blast. I have loved every second of my volunteer work and have made so many friends through the process. We did many different activities together, like swim and fit classes, visits to museums, movie nights, bowling, and so much more. I am constantly surprised at how creative Troy Hixon is in organizing the events for the program. He does such a great job and I admire the way he interacts with all of the individuals. I also appreciate Troy's effort in making me a central part of the events, having me take lead in numerous occasions and teaching me the leadership skills it takes to take charge in the event setting. He had me taking attendance, gathering the group, leading swim and fit classes, and interacting with employees at the event sites.

I went into this volunteering endeavor thinking that I would



be the one helping the clients, but it turned out that they helped me. The individuals that go on the events have taught me so much more than I could have ever anticipated and I am extremely grateful for that. I learned how to have a good time no matter what I am doing because it is the people that you are with that makes the experience. We are constantly joking around, taking selfies, and playing games like I would with

any of my other friends. The joy and politeness of all of the clients have made me feel so comfortable wherever we are and quite frankly, it is difficult to walk out of an event not smiling.

Thank you to all the other volunteers and all of the clients for making my experience at The Arc unforgettable! I cannot wait to see what The Arc has in store for me for the future!

proAbility

GOLF TOURNAMENT
Monday, June 15, 2015
Starting at 1:00 p.m.
Montaup Country Club
500 Anthony Road
Portsmouth, RI 02871
Call Todd at 401-233-1634
ext. 12 to register.

A golf club hitting a golf ball on a green. The club is a driver, and the ball is in mid-air, just off the tee. The background is a bright blue sky with some green grass at the bottom.

The Arc took part in Attleboro's Annual Volunteer Day celebration, pictured here are Representative Elizabeth Poirier, Senator Richard Ross, Valerie Zagami from The Arc's Board of Directors, and Attleboro Mayor Kevin Dumas.

Hillside Adult Day Health Center

The Arc is delighted to have Hillside Adult Day Health Center part of our growing organization. We hope to inform you more about what is happening and available at all our locations through our publications. Happy to share the letter below which expresses the high quality and compassionate care participants receive at Hillside:

To the staff at Hillside,

I would like to thank you all for the work you do for so many people in your program. I am so happy to know that Joan is in good hands while she is at the program.

Joan is much more at ease around people and willing to try new things. I am happy for her when I hear she is playing games and doing exercise. She eats her meals and snacks and has made new friends.

At home she laughs more, talks more (even though it is not directed at us).

She is much more at ease when we go out to eat, we go over the menu together and she lets us know what she wants to eat.

Joan's posture is better; she sits up and looks around the room smiling at people. She laughs when a child is acting up in the restaurant.

Joan is more connected at family functions too. She is more sociable and happy.

Thank you so much, we are so happy with the changes Joan has made.

With sincere gratitude,

Phyllis Ruzzano

Hillside Adult Day Health became part of The Arc of Bristol County on December 1, 2014. Hillside Adult Day Health is located at 50 Walton Street, Attleboro, MA 02703. Helen Stradone is the Director and can be reached at (508) 226-6150.

First Tuesday with



On the first Tuesday of each month, The Arc will be partnering with a local restaurant who will offer their menu while contributing to The Arc. Each month's offering will be posted on our website www.arcnbc.org, through emails and at each office of The Arc. You can help by joining us with your family and friends, share with others, have a meal and help The Arc at no additional cost to you.

May 5 - Uno's in Attleboro, Smithfield and Taunton

Please go to our website www.arcnbc.org to download the coupon for each First Tuesday. You must have the coupon on the day and location indicated for the donation to The Arc to be valid.

Thank you for your support!

32nd Annual State Representative Cup

to benefit the Arc of Greater New Bedford

STATE
REPRESENTATIVES
CUP



GOLF
TOURNAMENT

Monday, June 8, 2015

12:30 pm Shotgun

Country Club of New Bedford

North Dartmouth, MA

Please call Pat Kirby at 508-226-1445 ext. 3111 for more information. **Sponsorship opportunities available.**

Recognize someone who's provided extraordinary dedication to those served by The Arc...

If you know a person or organization that has made a difference in support of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families; please consider nominating them for any one of The Arc of Bristol County's 2015 Annual Awards listed below:



Self Determination Award: honors an individual with a disability who has demonstrated exemplary self advocacy skills for themselves or on behalf of others.

Family Leadership Choice Award: pays tribute to the commitment of our organization's founders. The award honors an individual and/or family member who has provided exemplary support, guidance, and advocacy to and on behalf of families.

Community Excellence Award: recognizes outstanding accomplishments by community members who embody practices that promote inclusion and integration. This award is presented to an individual or community organization that has shown an outstanding commitment to the principles of The Arc.

Arc Spirit Award: recognizes a volunteer and/or employee who had advanced the mission of the organization. An individual's contribution must have a large impact for those supported by the organization.

Awards will be presented at The Arc of Bristol County's upcoming Annual Celebration to be held on Wednesday, June 10, 2015 at The Holiday Inn, Taunton. We ask that all award recipients be available to attend this event.

Nominations must be received by May 11, 2015. Nomination forms are available at any Arc office, or you may complete an online form at www.arcnbc.org. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Kirby at (508) 226-1445 ext. 3111 or pkirby@arcnbc.org.

The Arc helps families advocate with legislators



Rep. Shaunna O'Connell visited our Taunton office this spring, pictured here with Michael Andrade and Lesley Azzinaro



Thank you Rep. Patricia Haddad, Rep. Antonio Cabral, Rep. Carole Fiola and Rep. Alan Silvia for attending the Southern Bristol County Legislative Breakfast.

This winter, The Arc of Bristol County along with ten other regional service providers invited Massachusetts Legislators to breakfasts held in Northern and Southern Bristol County. Individuals, family members, staff and administrators all got a chance to discuss the needs of the disability community and the effects the state budget can have on their lives. Thanks to everyone who attended, the organizations who worked with The Arc in organizing these events, and the legislators who were part of this vital dialogue.

John "Darrell" Enloe

Employee of the Quarter



John "Darrell" Enloe has been working at the Community Directions program at the New Bedford Rehab Hospital for

over 20 years. His dedication to the individuals that have been supported through this very medically involved program has never wavered. Darrell arrives each morning ready to read the local paper with the individuals and then discuss the day's current events. He

will also encourage one individual to work on his computer to access sports information (as one of the individuals is a very big sports fan). Darrell has to help with ADL's, learn about G/J tubes and lots of other medical terminology and procedures. He does all of this with a calm demeanor and does not get flustered.

Darrell is very creative and has a great imagination. He works with the individuals to look through magazines and cut out fun pictures that can make eye catching murals. Darrell will work on these murals for

weeks. No task is too big for him.

Over the past year, Darrell has helped to cover at Day Habilitation in Middleboro. Darrell fit in immediately. His experience and knowledge allowed him to be able to just jump right in and help with supports at the day hab. The individuals supported there love him. When he enters the day hab, he is greeted with, "Darrell is here. I want to work with Darrell"

Darrell is a committed and dedicated staff who years on the job deserve recognition of employee of the quarter.

The Arc of Bristol County Celebrates 56 Years

Please mark your calendar to join The Arc of Bristol County on June 10, 2015 as we celebrate our 56th Anniversary at the Holiday Inn Taunton. The night will feature dinner, awards and dancing for all who attend.

A special part of the evening is presenting The Arc's Annual Awards to individuals or organizations that have provided exemplary support, guidance and advocacy for people with disabilities. Anyone can submit a nomination for The Arc Awards, and are encouraged to honor an exceptional individual or organization in this manner. Nominations are accepted by mail, email or online through our website www.arcnbc.org. Please submit nomination by May 11, 2015.

Invitations for the 56th Anniversary Celebration will be in your mailbox soon. Dinner will be \$25 for members of The Arc of



Michael Andrade and Paul Camille (left and right) present David Bliss of Bliss Bros. Dairy (center) with The Arc's Employment First Award at the 55th Anniversary Celebration in 2014.

Bristol County, and \$40 for non-members. Annual Membership to The Arc of Bristol County is only \$25 for individual/family membership, and \$50 for business membership. Checks can be made to: The Arc of Bristol County. For more information please go to our website www.arcnbc.org.



Thank you to everyone who participated in our Flap Jack Breakfast on April 18th. Your generosity will help other families in need.

From the Family Advisory Council Project Sunshine.

Deb Wood - RI Advocate of 2015



Pictured (l-r), Elizabeth Roberts, Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Deb Wood, Maria Montanaro, Director, BHDDH, Micah Sukenik, Employee at New England Institute of Technology, Michael Andrade, President and CEO of proAbility and The Arc.

On March 31, the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals awarded Deb Wood the Third Annual Fogarty-Olean Advocacy Award for her dedicated advocacy for the rights of individuals with developmental disabilities. Deb has been a devoted advocate for individuals through her volunteerism, her tireless fundraising and helping individuals attain employment.

In his nomination of Deb for this honor, Michael Andrade wrote: Deb is a passionate, intelligent and driven warrior fighting every day to better the lives of people, like her son Jason, and families affected by autism spectrum disorder or other intellectual and developmental disabilities. Deb Wood is a true champion of individuals with disabilities, and inspires others with her generosity and drive.

In her remarks, Deb thanked the members of the Fogarty and Olean Families, as their advocacy has made her son's world better. She hopes her advocacy will someday help another family in similar circumstances.

Arc Vacation 2015 Fun filled Adventure!!



Branson Road Trip

We are excited about our next Arc vacation. This year's trip will be a 6 day, 5 night adventure to Branson, MO. We depart from Providence airport on Wednesday, December 9th and return on Monday, December 14th. Below is a list of events that we will be doing.

Barbeque – Fun Attractions
Live Stage Shows – Museums – Shopping
Holiday Events – Other Branson activities

The cost of this western style fun is **\$1995.00 per person**. If you wish to purchase trip insurance, it will cost \$110.00 additional. The cost includes round trip airfare from Providence to Branson, meals, and the many amenities that are included.

Contact Troy Hixon at (508) 884-2971 to register.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Project Sunshine Jar Glass Available Now!

Support The Arc of Bristol County's Family Advisory Council's fundraising efforts to host recreational opportunities for those of all ages with ID/DD

- Enjoy your favorite beverage
- Start a collection
- Fill with goodies for gifts

To order or for pickup info,
email dbrown@arcnbc.org



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

Child & Family Services
146 Pleasant Street
Attleboro, MA 02703
Tel: (508) 226-1445 • Fax: (774) 203-3523

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

Hillside Adult Day Health Care
50 Walton Street
Attleboro, MA 02703
Tel: (508) 226-6150

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

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

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



Achieve with us.

Family Support Announces Upcoming Programs

Parent Transition Support Group

Is your child between the ages of 16 - 22 and in the process of transitioning out of school?

2nd Tuesday of the Month
10am-11:30am

The Arc of Bristol County
141 Park Street
Attleboro, MA

Please contact Amanda Masi, (508) 226-1445 ext. 3130 or amasi@arcnbc.org.

Moms Night Out

Childcare provided for children up to age 12.

Please contact Amanda for date and location of the next meeting, (508)226-1445 ext. 3130 or amasi@arcnbc.org.

Dad's Night Out

3rd Monday of the Month
6:00pm to 7:30pm

Please contact Liseqi for date and location of the next meeting, (508)226-1445 ext. 3200 or lfeliz@arcnbc.org.

Teen Bowling

Tuesdays 3:30-5pm at North Bowl Lanes

Pre-Registration required, contact Liseqi Feliz (508)226-1445 ext. 3200

The Arc's Saturday Program

For more information please contact your Family Support Coordinator or Lee Desmarais at (508) 226-1445 ext. 3104