

* From The Director's Desk *

Merriam Webster defines Advocacy as "The act or process of supporting a cause or proposal." We see advocacy every day here at The Arc. Our Service and Support Coordinators are advocating for services and funding for individuals and families. Day Habilitation staff are advocating for inclusion and integration for the individuals they serve in the community. Respite staff advocate to help families meet the many challenges they face on a daily basis. And consumers and families who use Arc services advocate daily for their rights for themselves and their loved ones. As you know this has been another year of changes related to Managed Care in Iowa. Changes to how services are authorized, how services are paid, and which MCO is managing the care/funding have all been challenging. As you read this the 2018 Iowa Legislative Session has already begun. This is a chance to have our voices heard. My hope is that together our voices and concerns will be addressed to improve the system. I will work to keep you posted on specific areas that we need your voice. In the meantime, a worthwhile resource is available to you. It is called [How to Be Your Best Advocate: A guide on How to Navigate Managed Care in Iowa](#). It can be found on several web sites, including the [Iowa Healthlink](#) page, the [Iowaaging.gov](#) site and on [infonyiowa.org](#). I encourage you to take a look at it. Please contact Arc staff if you need help advocating on a specific issue. We will do our best to help you.



Sincerely,
Anne Armknecht
Executive Director

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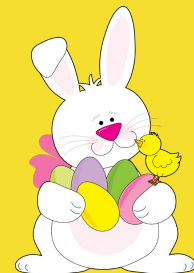
[Project SEARCH Information Night](#)

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Save the Date!

Easter Egg Hunt
March 24th, 2018



Project SEARCH Information Night



Project | SEARCH

Thursday, March 8th
5:30 - 7:00 pm

St. Luke's Hospital

Formal Lounge, Resource Center
1026 A Ave. NE | Cedar Rapids
Building just to the east of St. Luke's
Hospital

Come learn how young adults with disabilities can become involved in this unique employment internship training program. For adults age 18-30.

For more information please contact:

Stephanie Beary at sbeary@arceci.org or 319-369-7739 or
Nancy Rife at nrife@arceci.org or 319-365-0487 ext. 1063

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SAVE THE DATE!



Mark your calendars and **SAVE THE DATE** for our greatest event of the year - our annual **Arc March!** Stay tuned for launch of The Arc March event and registration page to be posted in the upcoming weeks. Start planning your teams and get ready for another exciting and fun-filled Arc March!



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

With the help from our wonderful sponsor **Veridian Credit Union** and approximately 286 volunteers putting in over 917.25 hours, we were able to raise over \$19,740.85 during our Wrapping for a Cause fundraiser this year.

Thank you to everyone who stopped out to support us!

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