Yet another year of summer programming is in the books. It was a busy, but great summer. With the final programs drawing to a close as the school year began it is a bit more quiet here in the office. We already miss the sounds of summer and look forward to its return next year.

September is the month we celebrate the many people who have given of themselves to make life better for others in the community. On September 25th we will honor many deserving individuals at our Annual Awards Night. If you want to spend an evening feeling really good about our community and some of the amazing people who make us proud to call it home, please join us at St. Patrick’s Parish Center starting at 7:00. I can assure you, that you will leave with a happy feeling in your heart.

A successful organization requires many teams working in unison to be successful. One of the teams that has made The Arc a success for so many years is our Direct Service Providers. They are the face of The Arc to our families. They work directly with our over 800 clients to provide services that allow them to be part of the community and to help them realize their goals. They assist individuals with disabilities the freedom to learn, work and play in community. Please join me in thanking our Direct Service Providers for the wonderful work they do.

The Arc calls on all advocates to join us in reaching out to the President, Congress, Governors, and state legislators to educate them and to urge them to preserve - not cut – essential programs and civil rights laws. These include Medicaid, Affordable Care Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, and Social Security to name a few. These federal programs provide the key to community living and inclusion for people with I/DD across the nation. Now more than ever, we must join together as a collective movement to ensure that these programs and civil rights are protected. For up to date information please visit www.thearc.org.

Early indications show that we might be in for a beautiful fall. Already trees are starting to show their red, orange and yellow leaves. Take time to enjoy this beautiful show of nature with family and friends.

Kyle Schramp
Interim Executive Director
Monday, September 25th at 7:00 PM
St. Patrick Parish Center
120 5th St. NW | Cedar Rapids, IA
Entrance is on 5th Street behind St. Patrick Church

Please join us as we celebrate the success of the past year and recognize the many great citizens and employees that help make a difference in our community and at The Arc.

Here are this year's award winners!

Volunteer of the Year
Patricia Maher

Volunteer Group of the Year
Metro H.O.G. Chapter 1362

Teacher/Educators of the Year
Megan Sova-Tower & Jennifer Porter

Para Educator of the Year
Nikki Rowe

Direct Service Professionals of the Year
Nikole Villanuva & Callan Timm

Professional of the Year
Brian Fagan

Employer of the Year
HyVee

Media Excellence
Z102.9

Business Supporter of the Year
Cedar Rapids Public Library

Outstanding Community Service
Diane Bloomhall

Scholarship Award
Nathan Williams

Bill Sackter Self-Determination/Self-Advocate of the Year
Kody Slife

Please come celebrate with us!