The Arc East Central Iowa e-Challenger

Serving those with intellectual and developmental disabilities **December 2019**

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped to make a difference in the lives of so many consumers and families that rely on The Arc services and supports. You know who you are. Perhaps you donated to our annual campaign. Or you volunteered at or attended one of our many community events. Maybe you dropped off some items from our Wish List, like craft supplies for the kids. And then there are all of the businesses that have provided sponsorships and grant funds to help us meet our mission. We are so grateful to all of you for your support. The fact is that we need your help to continue to provide services and advocate for the needs of persons with disabilities right here in your local community. If you haven't already, please consider a donation to The Arc of East Central Iowa's Annual Campaign. Your donation stays right here in your community, helping your neighbors, friends and coworkers. I wish for you all a wonderful holiday season, filled with joy, family and friends.

Sincerely,
Anne Armknecht, MBA HC
Executive Director

YES! I WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO THE ANNUAL CAMPAIGN!

WRAPPING FOR A CAUSE

ONE WEEK LEFT!
Our annual **Wrapping for a Cause** booth is at the Lindale Mall Food Court. Bring us your holiday gifts and let us wrap them for you! Don't let wrapping stress you out.... let us take care of that for you! All proceeds from this event stay right here at The Arc to support those with disabilities in our community.

Lindale Mall Food Court

Monday - Saturday | 11:00 am - 8:00 pm
Sunday | 11:00 am - 5:00 pm
Christmas Eve | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

2019 RISE UP ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

The Arc of East Central Iowa rises up each and

every day to help those with intellectual and developmental disabilities rise up in each of their own lives. These wonderful individuals amaze us every day with what they accomplish and continue to strive for. We need you to rise up with us! We need your support to help maintain and grow programs vital to those we serve. As we approach the holidays and this time of giving, please consider a donation to our ***2019 Rise Up Annual Campaign.***

Rise Up Featured Individual Story
Rise Up Campaign Video

YES! I WANT TO HELP THOSE WITH DISABILITIES RISE UP!

GAZETTE GIVES BACK

We are a 2019 Gazette Gives Back recipient. From now until December 31st please go to www.TheGazette.com/GivesBack to vote for us! Your vote helps us earn FREE advertising space in the Gazette.

The Gazette GIVES BACK

VOTE NOW

WISH LIST

From every day items to special requests. We are always in need of items to keep our office and programs running. Click on the button below to view our Wish List. Donations can be dropped off at The Arc's main office anytime.

OR

If you like to do your shopping online and would like to have it directly delivered to us... we have a AmazonSmile Charity List for your convenience.

SHOP OUR WISH LIST

SHOP OUR AMAZONSMILE CHARITY LIST

AMAZONSMILE

When shopping on Amazon, be sure to utilize AmazonSmile! Designate The Arc of East Central Iowa and Amazon will donate .5% of your purchase to us!

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

SHOP ON AMAZONSMILE NOW

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Arc offices will be closed the following days for the upcoming holidays.

- Christmas (December 24th & 25th)
- New Years (December 31st & January 1st)

** The Arc Daycare WILL BE OPEN December 31st.*

HOLIDAY PARTY FUN

On Sunday, Dec. 8th many of our consumers, staff and the community gathered in the Hallagan Center at Mercy Hospital for an afternoon of holiday fun! Santa came to visit, cookies were decorated, letters were written, games were played and so much more fun was had. This fun afternoon wouldn't have been possible without the help of the many volunteers. We also want to thank the staff of Collins Community Credit Union for designating their Casual for a Cause dollars in August to support our holiday party.

ARC MARCH - SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars and save the date!

The 23rd annual Arc March is March 14, 2020!

GOLF - SAVE THE DATE

This year we celebrate 30 years of our Annual Golf Tournament!

We hope you can join us to help make this one of our most

successful Golf Tournaments yet!

Save the Date....
June 18th, 2020
Hunter's Ridge Golf Course

WE ARE HIRING

We are looking for more wonderful, compassionate people to join our team! If you're interested in a job where you can make a difference please check out our job opportunities and fill out an application today!

Here is what Lois Fergus has to say about working at The Arc of East Central Iowa...

"I enjoy working with the consumers at The Arc. My life's passion has been working with the special populations group. Before retirement I worked in the public schools with individuals with special needs. I also developed the CompuPlay, later changed to CompuPlace, program in this area. That program provided access and learning with computers for these individuals. Happily a very capable person was able to continue the CompuPlace program when I chose to retire and pursue a more relaxed lifestyle. Being a Direct Service Provider at The Arc has allowed me the flexibility to enjoy retirement activities while still pursuing my passion--interacting with the delightful consumers at The Arc."

APPLY TODAY

ASK CONGRESS TO SUPPORT PERMANENT MFP DURING KEY NEGOTIATION PERIOD

Senate is considering a proposal to make Money Follows the Person permanent - please take 2 minutes to speak in support of community services for people with disabilities!

The Ask:

- Use ANCOR'S call tool or email tool to ask Congress to support permanent renewal of the Money Follows the Person program in any legislation - it is currently in the Grassley Wyden Prescription Drug Pricing Reduction Act.

The Details:
The Senate included permanent renewal of MFP in a bipartisan drug pricing proposal announced by Senators Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Ron Wyden (D-OR) - see ANCOR's statement on the proposal here. However, the forecast for that bill is mixed at best because the House disagrees with some of the larger pharmaceutical provisions in the Senate bill and because impeachment is consuming Congressional bandwidth. As such, it is likely negotiations for that bill will be prolonged into February 2020, during which time Congress will likely do another short-term extension for MFP. Because initial

negotiations for the Grassley Wyden bill are starting, it is important to speak up now to show that MFP is a priority issue for the disability community.

Please join us in asking Congress to make MFP renewal permanent as soon as possible.

Please do not reply to this email. This mailbox is not monitored.