

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Hello Arc Friends and Family!

Spring brings lots of excitement to The Arc. Not only are the vaccines (mostly) available for those choosing to be vaccinated, but we are looking forward to venturing out in the community and seeing all of you at our Arc March in May! In addition, there are many exciting things happening on the legislative front. The America Rescue Plan will bring millions of dollars to Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) programming beginning this month. The Governor's budget will also bring additional funding to HCBS for the next fiscal year beginning July 2021, and we are hopeful this will go directly to increased rates for in-home services. If you were not aware, a new HCBS Access Act has been proposed which will require automatic coverage of HCBS under Medicaid and eliminate the waiver system. This would allow anyone who needs services to access them without waiting lists. The bill also would require rates that fully support the services provided and adequate wages for Direct Support Professionals (DSPs). Public Comments are due on this Act by April 26, 2021 to HCBSComments@aging.senate.gov, and we encourage you to get educated and provide feedback. You can find a summary of the Act here: https://aahd.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/HCBS_Access_Act-03162021_MemotoStakeholders-Dingell-Hassan-Casey-Brown-0426_-Deadline.pdf. And finally, while House File 492 did not pass, the Department of Transportation agreed to install adult changing tables in modern interstate bathrooms. The first one is under construction in Victor, Iowa (between Iowa City and Des Moines). This is great news!



More to come - we welcome you to take this advocacy journey with us! To join our efforts, please email me at tlewis@arceci.org.

Sincerely,
Theresa Lewis
Executive Director

DAY HAB HIGHLIGHT

Day Hab individuals are very excited to see the sun! It has been long months of staying inside and not being able to venture out into the community due to COVID. We are very excited for warmer, sunny days ahead! We look forward to getting outside to go for walks, plan some outdoor activities, or just find a place nearby to get some fresh air and enjoy the sunshine! One bright spot during our months indoors is we were able to partner with the Eastern Iowa

Arts Academy to do a virtual art class. Pre-COVID we were going to the Arts Academy twice a month to participate in art activities. While it will still be awhile before we can return to the Academy safely, we have been very excited to have the class virtually. It has been a great opportunity for individuals to express themselves through different art activities, and a nice addition to our activity list while remaining safe during the pandemic. When talking with individuals that participate in art class, Shawn says "It's pretty fun, I like art and can't wait until we can return to the building". Keith also says "I like it, Heather (the teacher) thinks outside the box".



We currently have a waiting list for our Day Hab program and we are eagerly awaiting updates to the CDC guidelines on social distancing recommendations with the hope that we can bring more people into our space safely in the near future. We are now beginning the process to assess some of our Pre-COVID, community activities to determine if we could return to any of them while maintaining our COVID-19 safety measures which include social distancing and masking. Current participants should be on the look-out for updates on this. Lastly, we are making plans to be able to safely serve two more groups over the summer, and more information should be coming soon on this.

PROJECT SEARCH ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

We are still accepting applications for the next Project SEARCH group which begins September 2021.



Project SEARCH is an employment training program for young adults ages 18-30 who have graduated high school (or the equivalent) with an intellectual or related disability. It is held at UnityPoint Health - St. Luke's Hospital.

Please click on the button below for an application and if you have any questions please contact Stephanie Beary at sbeary@arceci.org. **Application deadline has been extended to April 20th.**

[PROJECT SEARCH APPLICATION](#)

THE ARC MARCH

Have you registered yet?

If you haven't, be sure to get registered today! The registration **deadline is this Wednesday, April 14th!** Whether you plan to participate in person or virtually we ask that you register. If you can't make it but still want one of these very cool shirts be sure to register also!



Saturday, May 8th
Coe College's Clark Field

10:00 am - Activities Begin | 11:30 am - Walk Starts

UPCOMING PARTNER EVENTS

MODE (Women's Clothing Store)

Tuesday, May 4th

5:00 - 7:00 PM

Collins Road Square - 1394 Twixt Town Rd
#1394, Marion

The logo for MODE, featuring the word "MODE" in a bold, black, sans-serif font with a registered trademark symbol, set against a light pink rectangular background.

20% of all sales will be donated to The Arc!

Chipotle

Saturday, May 8th

3:00 - 7:00 PM

Lindale Mall - 4444 1st Ave NE Suite 538, Cedar
Rapids



Tell them you're with The Arc and we'll receive 33% of the sale!

2021 GOLF TOURNAMENT

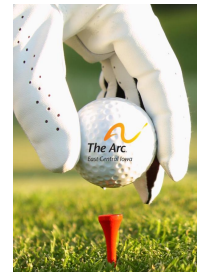
Get signed up now for The Arc's 30th and final Golf Tournament!

Thursday, June 17th, 2021

At Hunter's Ridge Golf Course in Marion

For event details and to register, go to the [event page](#).

We hope you will join us for one last round in the name of The Arc!



EVENT DETAILS AND REGISTRATION

WE ARE HIRING

Are you looking for a new job or maybe a second job? Do you know someone who is? We have many open positions available right now!

- Part-time Job Coach
- Service & Support Coordinator
- Quality Assurance Specialist
- Client Database Coordinator
- Community Integration Program Specialist
- Full-time & Part-time Direct Support Professionals
- Daycare & Summer Program Staff

Join Our
TEAM

Go to www.arceci.org/jobs/ to view job descriptions and apply!

APPLY NOW

Your donations help us support those with disabilities in our community.

