

Larin Krautbauer is well-known and adored in The Arc community. Not only is Larin a kind and happy presence, her parents, Mark and Jennifer, think Larin has participated in just about every Arc program over the years. An active 24-year-old, Larin is busy with Day Hab five days a week and she loves to attend evening and weekend group respite activities. Larin also has a job at the YMCA. It's a job she secured after she graduated from Project SEARCH, The Arc's job skills training program and then completed successful job coaching through our Supported Employment program. ***Larin is a shining example of how The Arc positively impacts our valued participants.***

SEEKING ANSWERS AND DEFYING THE ODDS

Jennifer had a normal pregnancy, but Larin's first few years were filled with persistent illness, missed growth milestones and many concerning questions. She was diagnosed with Turner's Syndrome and Failure to Thrive. Neurologists told Larin's parents she would probably not walk or talk. Jennifer and Mark shifted their expectations and worked to provide Larin with all the love and support they could find. Larin defied the odds and despite cognitive delays, Larin is a walking, talking ray of sunshine who loves to try new things and show the world what she's capable of.

THE ARC FILLS IN THE GAPS

Larin started at The Arc when she aged out of mainstream after-school daycare options at age 12. Needing safe and appropriate care for Larin so Jennifer and Mark could continue to work full-time, they met with Whitney Alber, The Arc's Senior Program Manager. Jennifer learned that The Arc was the only agency in town to provide extended daycare for people with special needs. *"We didn't know, quite frankly, that The Arc existed!"* Whitney helped Jennifer and Mark fill out Medicaid Waiver paperwork and Larin began her relationship with The Arc.

"IT'S EVERYTHING! WE ARE SO BLESSED!"

Finding The Arc was a gamechanger for the entire family. Larin found her community of friends, has an active social calendar and continues to grow and learn through Arc opportunities. She gets to do what Jennifer describes as "normal things." Her current favorite activity is the Young Adult Social Club. Jennifer says, *"You know, with The Arc, you just don't have to worry."*

The Krautbauers are consistently one of the top fundraising families for Arc March. *"It's just everything! The Arc has been there for us, and we want to be there for them. I don't know what we would do without The Arc."*

THE ARC NEEDS YOU!

The Arc of East Central Iowa relies on the support of our community to continue to provide meaningful programs and services like the ones that mean so much to Larin and her family. **Please join us in supporting Larin and our entire Arc family.** Your donation will stay right here with The Arc of East Central Iowa and will help us continue to be the supportive resource that so many families need.

Your gift will truly make a difference in the lives of the individuals we serve and their families.

Thank You!

