

Achieve



Masquerade Ball March 25th

Please join us on March 25th at 6pm at the Providence Marriott Downtown for a Masquerade Ball to benefit proAbility. The Ball will be the 6th annual dinner auction put on by parent volunteers, in which all proceeds help to fund activities and events for children and adults served by proAbility.

"We do this every year because it makes a difference," said Deb Wood and Sue Baron, Auction Chairs. Both women have sons in pro-Ability's programs. "Because of the donations and volunteers working on this event, all the funds from the auction go to proAbility."



From last year's Gatsby Dinner Auction.

Ways to Support The Arc This Spring

Masquerade Ball

March 25th, 6pm
Providence Marriott
Tickets \$25 Please call 401-233-1634

Arc Strong: Achieving Dreams 5K Run, Walk & Roll

Sunday, May 7
Borderland State Park
Go to www.arcnbc.org to sign up

34th Annual Arc Charity Golf Tournament 2017 State Representatives' Cup

Monday, June 12
Country Club of New Bedford
Contact Jennifer Sweet 508-226-1445 ext. 3102

The Arc of Bristol County's 58th Anniversary Celebration

Wednesday, June 14th
Holiday Inn Taunton
info@arcnbc.org



"Money from this event makes an enormous difference in the lives of the children and adults from pro-Ability. Activities funded by the Ball will provide new opportunities for individuals to try new experiences, feel accepted in their community and make new friends," said Darlene James, Director of proAbility.

Over 100 live and silent auction items will be available on March 25th, with something for every taste and budget. Tickets are \$25 each and includes dinner and the opportunity to bid on wonderful prizes. Guests are encouraged to dress in the Masquerade theme, and masks will be available for purchase that evening. To reserve your ticket, or table of 10, please call 401-233-1634.

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.
LIVE UNITED



Achieve with us.

Welcome

Dear Friends,
Happy New Year! I sincerely hope that you and your loved ones had a great holiday season. Here at The Arc, we had many celebrations and it was wonderful to see great joy shared by all.



As 2017 begins, we have many uncertainties with the many changes in our federal government. While we await further appointments and news on policy issues, I want to assure you that we will work collectively with our colleagues at the federal and State governments to ensure that the voices of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are heard and acknowledged.

Here in Massachusetts, we join our partner organization, ADDP, in hoping for the following in 2017:

***A healthy economy** that supports further economic recovery for the citizens of the Commonwealth.

***Strong support from families, self-advocates, direct support professionals and members of the advocacy community** in teaching the public about the value and tremendous contributions EOHHS health and human service programs

bring to the Commonwealth.

***Increased collaboration between the health and human service community, and the state**, as the Commonwealth invests in the future with its innovative Accountable Care Organizational structure.

***Strong voices from the Commonwealth on behalf of Medicaid/Mass Health, as Congress and the incoming White House debate the future of the Medicaid entitlement.** A block grant program would transfer greater authority to states, but less monies in the future.

***Greater efforts to promote employment and day services for people with I/DD.** Families and people with disabilities are eager to work but are in need of greater support of the disability employment infrastructure. Structural barriers are significant including reduced day/employment funding, transportation, and benefits counseling.

***Respect for our diverse workforce inclusive of the wonderful men, women, immigrants and others** who help people with disabilities live and work in the community.

***Fair and adequate funding** that will allow all of our programs to provide quality, safety and security to all participants, ranging from residential to employment, and shared living to medically intense.

We are excited about working on these areas, including our newly developed Strategic Plan. Towards this vision, the Board of Directors and I are evaluating our organizational structure to ensure that we have adequate leadership capacity. I am delighted to share that one of our first changes is that Kevin Salera has been appointed to Chief Operating Officer. In this new role, Kevin will be responsible to support all programs and services to expand optimal service delivery and regulatory compliance. Kevin has done an outstanding job this past year as Vice President, and this new role will allow him to expand his current responsibilities across the agency.

I sincerely look forward to sharing our progress and critical updates in the coming months and hope that you will join me in our amazing advocacy. Please take a moment to review the wonderful accomplishments and upcoming events throughout this newsletter. My sincere thanks for all your support and best wishes for a healthy and safe New Year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael M. Andrade'.

Michael M. Andrade
President & CEO

Holiday Tradition Continues

Thanks to the South Attleboro Knights of Columbus, Sensata Technologies and St. Theresa's Parish for hosting a wonderful Holiday Party for individuals served by The Arc of Bristol County! What a great annual tradition!!! Pictured here, volunteers from the Knights of Columbus and The Arc.



proAbility performs Holiday Review

Performers from proAbility's Day Services and Supports performed a "Holiday Review" on December 11th at the Assembly Theatre in Burrville, RI. The performance was the result of months of education and rehearsal with the Trinity Rep Active Imagination Network (TRAIN). Participants were able to explore and express their creativity as well as work on skill building such as initiative and maintaining conversations, increasing eye contact, and building self-confidence. Congratulations proAbility performers on a great show!



Bristol County Savings Bank presented The Arc with a check for \$7,000 for a grant to support education advocacy on December 16 at the Holiday Inn Taunton. Pictured (left to right): Dennis Kelly, Chairman of the Board, Bristol County Savings Bank (BCSB) and Chairman, Bristol County Savings Charitable Foundation (BCSCF); Joseph Nauman, Board Member, BCSCF-Southcoast Advisory Board & BCSB and EVP - Corporate & Legal, Acushnet Company; Dr. Jean MacCormack, Chairperson, BCSCF - Southcoast Advisory Board, former UMass Dartmouth Chancellor and Board Member, BCSB; Patricia Kirby, Director of Development and Public Relations for The Arc; Michael Andrade, President and CEO for The Arc; Dennis Leahy, Executive Vice President, Treasurer & CFO, BCSB and Treasurer, BCSCF; and Patrick Murray, President & CEO, BCSB and President, BCSCF. All total, Bristol County Savings Bank donated \$199,500 to 27 organizations throughout the communities it serves, including \$97,000 to 13 organizations in the Southcoast Region.



On Sunday May 7th, The Arc of Bristol County is celebrating the strength and hope of thousands of individuals and families we are privileged to serve, and inviting you and our entire community to celebrate and support us. Arc Strong: Achieving Dreams 5K Run, Walk & Roll will be held once again at Borderland State Park in Easton, MA as a fundraising event with a family fun celebration and inclusive activities for all ages and abilities.

New this year, we are holding the event on Sunday morning. We are incorporating a high school scholarship opportunity, see page 6 for more information. Also we are encouraging teams from each location of The Arc of Bristol County to get involved with the event, either by running or walking, or by volunteering.

Community involvement will empower the triumph of being a part of our run, walk and roll, and support The Arc in our mission to enhance the lives of children and adults with disabilities. The options for your participation are endless, but may include:

- ◆ **Event sponsorship:** underwriting costs of the event

- ◆ **Team sponsorship:** contributing to a corporate or community team
- ◆ **Run, Walk or Roll:** as friends and family to support you, and The Arc
- ◆ **Team Leader:** invite friends, family and co-workers to be a run or walk team
- ◆ **Contributor:** of walk/run giveaways, or refreshments for the day

More information is available on The Arc's website www.arcnbc.org. Please contact (508) 226-1445 or email info@arcnbc.org about ways you can be part of Arc Strong and support The Arc of Bristol County.

Spotlight on Caregivers

Karen Wigin has been providing alternate care for The Arc since 2013. After providing compassionate and reliable alternate care to a variety of AFC members, she was approached to become a primary caregiver. Karen is a committed and caring caregiver, she works closely with AFC Coordinator Cindy Reis and always communicates information in a timely way. Since becoming a caregiver, Karen has also been called upon to provide alternate care (respite) to a few AFC members. These members speak very highly of Karen and this is just a testament to the person that she is. The Arc of Bristol County's AFC team is very appreciative to Karen Wigin for the consistent, reliable, kind and compassionate care she provides to each person who walks into her home.



Families invited to be part of Social Inclusion Project

The Arc has received a grant through DDS to sponsor family-led activities through our Attleboro, Taunton and Middleboro offices through our Family Support department.

The Arc invites families from greater Attleboro, Taunton and Middleboro to meet with Family Support staff and discuss the family's dreams of inclusive activities for their family members, and also what may be needed to fulfill their dreams (funds, direct support, transportation, etc.). The Arc will offer mini-grant funding to fulfill localized inclusive activities, and offer the staff assistance in organizing the projects. For more information, please contact Donna Brown at 508-226-1445 or email dbrown@arcnbc.org.

Memory Café

A welcoming place for individuals living with memory changes & their care partners

Wednesday, February 15
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Attleboro Public Library
74 North Main St., Attleboro

Offering a morning of stories, music, art and activities led by guest artists while relaxing and enjoying a cup of coffee and light refreshments

The Memory Café is sponsored by The Arc of Bristol County

The goals for Memory Cafés are to provide social connection, access to support, and engaging activities for individuals living with memory changes and their care partners

For further information about the Memory Café, please contact Donna Brown 508-226-1445 extension 3105, or dbrown@arcnbc.org. An RSVP is kindly requested; care partners must accompany guests. The Arc's Memory Café is supported by funding from DDS.

Project Rec-Connect Trip

A group of sixteen Project Rec-Connect participants went to Punta Cana from October 3 to 6. Hurricane Matthew was in that region at the same time, but luckily the group only experienced some

rain. The resort had lots of things to do and they explored as well as enjoyed going shopping. The rest of the vacation was spent visiting the beaches or pools as well as a special meal put together by the

resort just for our group. They attended dinner and a show one night which consisted of local dancers and other cultural arts.



The Arc of Bristol County receives funding from the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation

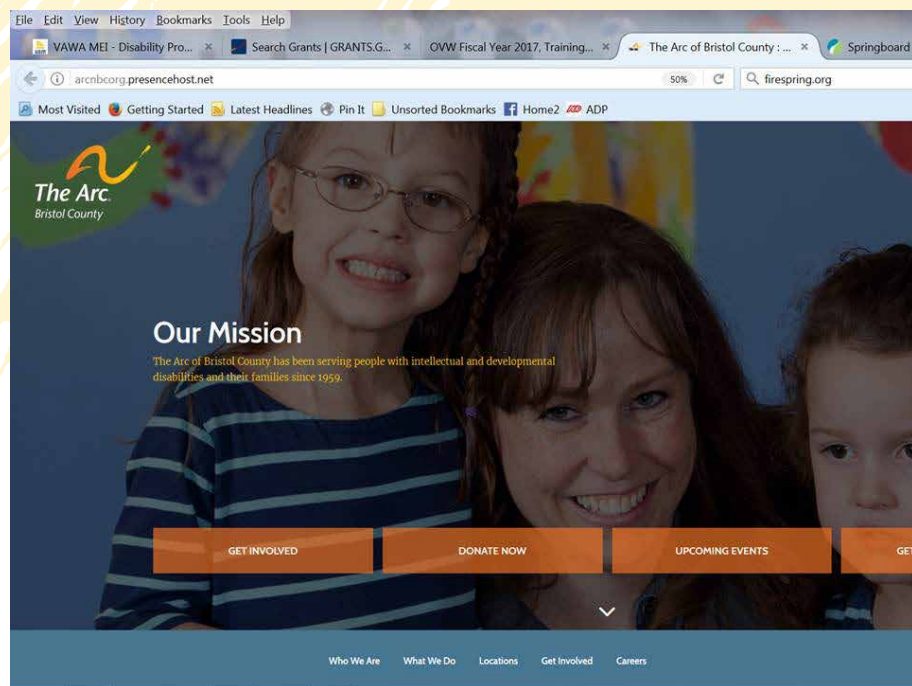
The Arc of Bristol County was one of forty-one organizations to receive funding from the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism on December 9, 2016. The \$15,000

grant will provide assistance to families through our Family Support services. Thanks to the Flutie Foundation for a generous grant for The Arc's Family Support efforts.



Pictured here: Lisa Borges, Executive Director the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism; Donna Brown, Vice President, The Arc; and Patricia Kirby, Director of Development and Public Relations, The Arc.

New Website for The Arc



Trudy DelSignore

Employee of the Quarter

Trudy truly exemplifies the true meaning of dedication. Trudy has been working for The Arc for 12 years, the last 7 years in the Taunton



Office (TARC) and she is the glue that holds everything and everyone together. She is the interior decorator for all seasons at TARC; and when people come to visit they always comment on her seasonal decorations.

Trudy is TARC's Administrative Assistant and the coordinator of the Human Rights Committee. She does an amazing job with this committee and even makes sure she has goodies for everyone.

Trudy keeps track of activities such as bingo, arts and crafts and dinner and a movie. She also goes above and beyond her duties by keeping track of birthdays, anniversaries and various "sunshine" items. She has an amazing memory about people she works with, and other important things in the life of The Arc.

Trudy is always ready to jump in where ever needed. She juggles all this while also maintaining phone calls and other administrative tasks. She is the superhero at the TARC and we are so fortunate to have her.

Next time you are on the internet, log onto www.arcnbc.org and check out our new website. The Arc was looking to freshen and update our website, and make it easy and efficient to find information you may need. And while you are there, be sure to sign up for our newsletter so updates and invitations to events at The Arc come right to your email.

Exciting New Scholarship Opportunities For 2017 High School Seniors

Arc Strong Empowerment Scholarship

This scholarship opportunity is targeted to graduating seniors have demonstrated a commitment to the human services field, through their friendships, mentoring, volunteering and leadership that fosters greater inclusion and acceptance of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The scholarship is intended to empower these individuals to expand their studies, thereby, building their advocacy skills for the future. Scholarships are available to students in Bristol County, MA or Northern RI, who seek studies in the areas of special education, psychology, social work, political science, social justice and/or related fields.

William Jackson Dream Fund

Meaningful employment and personal satisfaction is a vital aspect of adult daily life. With that in mind, The Arc of Bristol County would like to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in expanding their learning and training beyond high school.

Scholarships are available to students with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities in Bristol County, MA or Northern RI, who wish to advance their careers and independent living dreams.



To apply, visit www.arcnbc.org and select scholarships. All awards of will be presented at the upcoming Arc Strong event. These scholarships can be used for tuition, adaptive equipment, books, or supplies at a higher learning institution of their choice.

34th Annual State Representative Cup

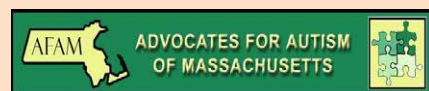
to benefit the Arc of Greater New Bedford

STATE REPRESENTATIVES CUP



Monday, June 12, 2017
12:30 pm Shotgun
Country Club of
New Bedford
North Dartmouth, MA

Please call Jen Sweet at
508-226-1445 for more information.
Sponsorship opportunities available.



SAVE THE DATE

Join us for AFAM's
Annual Autism Spectrum
Awareness and Acceptance
Day at the State House

Monday, April 10th
Great Hall And Grand
Staircase
The State House
Boston, Massachusetts
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Questions – Contact: Judy Zacek –
781-891-6270, Ext 6102 Or visit:
www.afamaction.org

**Come, join other families
and make an impact!**

Recognize someone who's provided extraordinary dedication to those served by The Arc...

If you know a person or organization that has made a difference in support of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families; please consider nominating them for any one of The Arc of Bristol County's 2017 Annual Awards listed below:



Self Determination Award: honors an individual with a disability who has demonstrated exemplary self advocacy skills for themselves or on behalf of others.

Family Leadership Choice Award: pays tribute to the commitment of our organization's founders. The award honors an individual and/or family member who has provided exemplary support, guidance, and advocacy to and on behalf of families.

Community Excellence Award: recognizes outstanding accomplishments by community members who embody practices that promote inclusion and integration. This award is presented to an individual or community organization that has shown an outstanding commitment to the principles of The Arc.

Arc Spirit Award: recognizes a volunteer and/or employee who had advanced the mission of the organization. An individual's contribution must have a large impact for those supported by the organization.

Awards will be presented at The Arc of Bristol County's upcoming Annual Celebration to be held on Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at The Holiday Inn, Taunton. We ask that all award recipients be available to attend this event.

Nominations must be received by May 1, 2017. Nomination forms are available at any Arc office, or you may complete an online form at www.arcnbc.org. If you have any questions, please contact (508) 226-1445 or info@arcnbc.org.



Pictured here 2016 Arc Annual Award Winners

Seeking dissemination assistance with the 2017 Family and Individual Needs for Disability Supports (FINDS) Survey

In 2010, The Arc of the United States conducted a national online survey, called the Family and Individual Needs for Disability Supports (FINDS) Survey, which sought to capture perceptions of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families on a range of life-span issues.

We are pleased to announce that the Research and Training Center on Community Living at the University of Minnesota in collaboration with The Arc has launched the 2017 Family and Individual Needs for Disability Supports Survey. We are inviting people aged 18 years or older who provide primary unpaid and frequent support to a person with

an intellectual or developmental disability (I/DD) living in the United States and its Territories to provide feedback on their experiences. We hope to gather survey data which is reflective of the diversity of the United States, which is why we are seeking the support of our colleagues in disseminating the survey to a wider audience.

Administration Office

141 Park Street
Attleboro, MA 02703
Tel: (508) 226-1445 • Fax: (508) 226-1476
Toll Free: (888) 343-3301
Web: www.arcnbc.org

Day Habilitation Services

5 Mill Street
Middleboro, MA 02346
Tel: (508) 946-2121 • Fax: (508) 946-2195

Hillside Adult Day Health Care

50 Walton Street
Attleboro, MA 02703
Tel: (508) 226-6150

proAbility

25 Thurber Blvd.
Smithfield, RI 02917
Tel: (401) 233-1634 • Fax: (401) 233-1674

Taunton Area Resource Center

437 Bay Street
Taunton, MA 02780
Tel: (508) 884-2971 • Fax: (508) 884-2964

The Arc of Greater Fall River

182 North Main Street
Fall River, MA 02720
Tel: (508) 679-0001 • Fax: (508) 679-9375

The Arc of Greater New Bedford

412 B County Street
New Bedford, MA 02740
Tel: (508) 996-8551 • Fax: (508) 996-8553



Achieve with us.

TEEN BOWLING

Tuesdays, 3:30-5 pm

February 7, 14, 28
March 7, 14, 21, 28
April 4, 11, 18, 25
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
June 6, 13, 20, 27

North Bowl Lanes
71 East Washington St.
North Attleboro

PRE REGISTRATION REQUIRED
REMEMBER TO WEAR SOCKS
If interested please contact
Liz Bonnyman 508-226-1445 x3151
ebonnyman@arcnbc.org
*Shoes & Bowling Lane Rental
Provided by The Arc*

Family Support Upcoming Programs

Dads' Night Out!

Want to find out what other Dads are doing?

Have questions about supporting your child?

Join us for a relaxing evening and enjoy pizza with other Dads.

Time: 6:00pm to 7:30pm

- Monday February 20th
Taunton Office 437 Bay Street
- Monday March 20th
Attleboro Office 141 Park Street
- Monday April 17th
Taunton Office 437 Bay Street

Contact Ida Lindquist for more information at 508-226-1445 extension 3150 or by email at ilindquist@arcnbc.org

If child care or transportation is a barrier for you to attend this group but you would like to attend, please let us know.

Mom's Group

Join us for an evening to talk, share advice, and network with other Moms

Time: 6pm—7:30pm

- Monday February 8th
Taunton Office 437 Bay Street
- Monday March 8th
Attleboro Office 141 Park Street
- Monday April 12th
Taunton Office 437 Bay Street

If interested in attending, please contact Ida Lindquist at 508-226-1445 extension 3150 or by email at ilindquist@arcnbc.org.