Arc Human Services









We are a community
We are Arc Human Services

2017 - 2018

Arc Human Services, Inc.
serves people of all ages
with intellectual and
developmental disabilities
and mental illness
in a manner that allows them
to fulfill their ambitions,
protect their rights and
foster meaningful relationships
at home, at work and
in their communities.



Community Based Services

Volunteering at the Food Bank





AHS Community Participation Supports commenced on a new opportunity volunteering with **The Greater Washington County Food Bank** located in Brownsville, PA. The food bank is a non-profit organization that has been providing groceries and nutritional information to families in Washington County and the surrounding areas for over 30 years.

As part of the Community Participation Support Services, the individuals not only provide a much needed service to the communities in which they live, they gain a unique learning experience which focuses on employment related skills such as sorting, stocking, packaging, inventory, and retail sales through their onsite store. They also get to gain knowledge and develop skills in the agricultural field by participating in taking care of the fresh produce that is grown on site in raised growing beds. This partnership has been an amazing opportunity for the individuals not only to gain lifelong employment skills, but also to further their goal of community inclusion.

Changing Lives

Jacob K came to our Specialized Supports program in November 2017 after experiencing the significant trauma of losing his father to cancer the previous year. Limited verbal skills, combined with a diagnosis of Autism, meant Jacob was unable to express his wants and needs or understand and cope with daily stressors.

Arc Human Services provided Jacob with Behavior Analytic Programming through the lens of Trauma Informed Care, and his life has been transformed for the better. A firm understanding of Jacob's trauma was integral in developing the path to his success. Trauma informed care gives a framework to identify triggers that are unique to an individual. It also helps caretakers see the difference between problematic behaviors and trauma symptoms. For Jacob, Trauma Informed Care and Behavioral Analytic Programming provided him with newfound communication skills and the tools to thrive.

Jacob's team created programming to support him while he learned verbal communication skills and provided reinforcement to encourage use of his new skills. This allowed Jacob to connect with his family in new ways. The support of the Arc Human Services team and the daily commitment of his Mother, Stepfather, Brother, and Sister were instrumental in Jacob's success.



Changing Lives

Beth B is one of our most hard-working individuals. Her determination over the past year has been nothing short of amazing. Beth has faced many challenges in her life, but has pushed herself to overcome all of them. Her past has always been an obstacle for her, as it would lead to unsafe behaviors. Having a job was something that Beth, as well as her support team, was not sure would be possible.

Throughout her time at Arc, Beth has worked with her residential staff, team leaders, and program specialist to make immense progress when it comes to her safety. Beth feels as though she has a trusting team behind her and that she has the potential for so much more than she had previously thought. Her eyes were opened to opportunities she never thought of before, like getting a job.

Beth started her working career cleaning several of the residential houses. She would help with some of the janitorial tasks, like vacuuming, mopping, and taking out the trash. While Beth enjoyed this job, she wanted more for herself.

Beth asked an Employment team leader for a real job, out in the community, where she could make more money to be able to do the things she wanted to do. Not only was Beth advocating for herself, she wanted to be more independent and be able to support herself.

The Employment Department set up an interview for Beth at Coverall Cleaning Services. She was hired and has been working at a Bridgeville location.

Beth sets high expectations for herself and is grateful for the support she receives through her job coach. Her goal is to keep increasing her work hours, while decreasing the support she receives on the job. Beth is well on her way to being a completely independent employee!



Changing Lives

In 2017, Kara moved into the Mental Health Program for Transition-Age Youth to stabilize in her recovery while having a safe and supportive place to live. Lamonta joined the program shortly after for similar reasons.

Kara and Lamonta have made amazing strides in understanding and developing healthy relationships, creating coping skills, and learning how to accomplish daily tasks needed to maintain a stable and safe home environment, with the help of their peers, program staff, community members and a wrapping of supports.



While in the program, Kara and Lamonta cultivated a relationship that no one expected. They drew on each other for worked through strength, together, and stood by each other when life threw obstacles at them. As they looked to move from the residential program into an apartment through the community based Supportive Housing Program, they decided that being roommates was part of a recipe for longterm success. "This is the first time we will be on our own and that's scary...but with the help of our caseworkers and the rest of the people checking on us, it makes me feel we can do it," said Kara.

William L. is a resident of Arc Human Services Conway home. William came to us in September of 2017 from Pressley Ridge. He is 22 years old and enjoys riding his bike and going to the YMCA. William is always offering a helping hand wherever needed; he is always smiling and pleasant. William loves dogs, dancing and one day wants to swim with dolphins. William is always the life of the party always dancing and telling jokes. He is a pleasure to have as part of our Arc family.



THANK YOU

Cash Bash 2017 - Donors

Bethel Bakery
Buffalo Wild Wings
Carnegie Science Center
Charles Schwab & Co.
Chick-Fil-A
Children's Museum of Pittsburgh
Dave & Busters Pittsburgh
DoTerra Oils
Flight Trampoline Park
Fun Fore All
Heinz History Center
Holly Callender
Jackie Schmaltz
Jackson's Restaurant
LaGonda Machine, LLC

National Aviary
Pennsylvania Trolley Museum
Pittsburgh Cultural Trust
Pittsburgh Improv
Pittsburgh Steelers
Pittsburgh Symphony
Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
Primanti Bros
Red Lobster Restaurant
Snapology
Thirty-One Products
West Finley Volunteer
Fire Department

Annual Dinner 2017

Guthrie, Belczyk & Associates
Horizon Information Systems
Huntington Insurance
Miracle Landscaping
Northwest Savings Bank
Patrick DeMico
PDC Pharmacy
Pittsburgh Computer Solutions
Ron Bill Auto Body
Thomas Ayoob III & Associates



Jennifer Miele, emcee for the Annual Awards Dinner, working her magic and keeping everyone entertained.

THANK YOU

Annual Golf Outing - 2018

Sponsors & Donors

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Huntington Insurance Inc

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Miracle Landscaping

Nancy Muha and Family

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Ray Romanetti – The Meadows

Reich & Son Roofing

Ron Bill Auto Body

S & T Bank

Sales Tax Recovery

Sarah Kohl and Stephen Wawrose

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TJ & S

Toshiba

Tow-Tegrity Inc.

Washington Financial

Washington Health System

Children's Therapy Center

Washington Shop n Save



THANK YOU

Large Gifts & Grants

Edith L. Trees Charitable Trust
EQT Corporation
MAXIMUS Foundation
Northwest Charitable Foundation
Richard King Mellon Foundation
T. Phillip Stout Memorial Fund
The United Way of Washington County
Washington County Community Foundation



Northwest Bank Representatives presenting a check for \$10,000 to Arc Human Services. Pictured from left to right: Drew Ecklund (Senior Financial Consultant, Northwest), Bob Wicker (VP Commercial Lending, Northwest), Ed Picchiarini (CEO of AAdvantage/AHS), Cheryl P, John P, Chris Claspy (VP, Washington County Area Mgr, Northwest), Lynn Young (Ass't VP Business Service Advisor, Northwest), Marty H., Bill Dickson (Commercial Business Banking, Northwest), and Shelly Hanning (AHS Direct Support Professional)

Camp

2018 was very successful for **Camp Laugh-A-Lot**. We continued to expand our summer and winter camps, along with hosting several new monthly activities in our community.

The **summer camp** took place at the Vernon C Neal Sportsplex lasting seven weeks. This year we had 56 campers registered and averaged 41 campers per week. That is a 14% increase from the previous year. Throughout the summer, we work on communication and socialization skills with each camper. We do this through various group activities including arts and crafts, scavenger hunts, swimming, and outdoor games. This summer Camp Laugh-A-Lot went on seven outings to places such as Carnegie Museums, Pittsburgh Zoo, Meadowcroft Rockshelter, National Aviary, and Fun Slides.

This past winter Camp Laugh-A-Lot hosted its third winter camp. This year we had 46 campers registered, an increase of 84% from the previous year. It was held at the Chartiers Community Center for three days during the Christmas/New Year's school break. The campers participated in themed days, such as a Winter Wonderland day, Polar Express day, then a New Year's Eve Party day. Each camper was able to play games and complete crafts that went along with each theme.



Laugh-a-lot







Camp Laugh-A-Lot would not be possible without the generous support of the community. Camp Laugh-A-Lot is funded through donations and grants from The United Way of Washington County and Edith L. Trees Charitable Trust. This program does not receive any funding from the state. With the grants and donations we are able to offer camp at a low cost to families, provide lunch to each camper, increase the day-to-day activities and outings, offer specialized training for each counselor, and employ more counselors to help maintain the level of support our campers need.

We hope to keep expanding and providing Camp Laugh-A-Lot until every individual can have the opportunity to go to camp. Camp Laugh-A-Lot would like to say thank you to everyone in the community that helps make Camp Laugh-A-Lot an enjoyable camp experience each year. Look for us in 2019 as we celebrate the 20th year anniversary of Camp Laugh-A-Lot!

Celebrating Success



Staff and individuals of AHS residential sites at 28th Street (pictured above) and Paige Street (pictured below), enjoying the Annual Dinner as recipients of the **Aspire Awards** – "Working as a team with great ambition to attain personal goals". Congratulations!





Pictured at left: AHS Staff Rita Bird and Rick A. as he receives an **Employee Recognition Award** at the Annual Dinner for 27 years with Arc Human Services.

Eighteen staff and individuals were recognized for having over 20 years of service at Arc Human Services. Their hard work and dedication are inspirational!

Celebrating Success

Annual Dinner emcee, Jennifer Miele, presenting Sally Jo Snyder (Consumer Health Coalition) with the Community Supporter of the This award was Year Award. created to celebrate someone who helps build and improve relationships between consumer and the community, encouraging everyone to have a greater level of involvement. The awardee shows an outstanding commitment to the mission and vision of Arc Human Services.





Board President, Kenneth R. Pepperney, presenting Direct Care Staff, Mike Torres, with the **Caregiver of the Year Award** at the Annual Dinner. The Caregiver of the Year Award is given "To honor an excellent Direct Care Staff, whose extraordinary communication skills and outstanding work ethic go above and beyond, improving the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities every day." Congratulations Mike!

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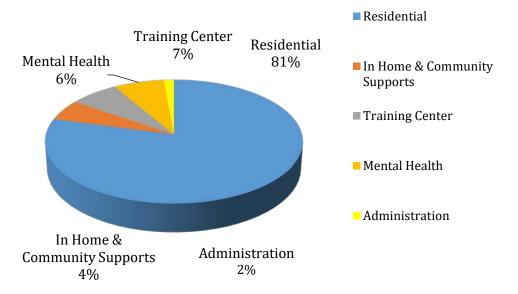
Community Based Programs Education and Activities Supervisor **Brent Troyan**

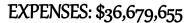
Assistant Director of Community Based Programs – Employment Department

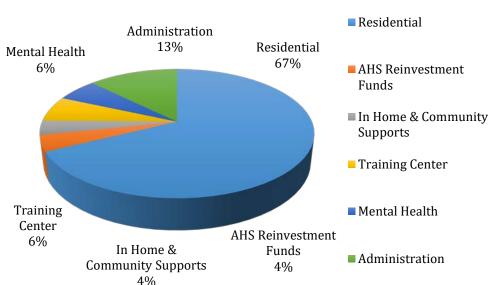
Statement of Activities

Fiscal year July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

REVENUE: \$36,679,655







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Rose Yesko
Green Valley Packing

Arc of Washington County

The Arc of Washington County, an affiliated chapter of The Arc of the United States and The Arc of Pennsylvania, was established by a group of parents who wanted to create a better future for their children, each diagnosed with a developmental or intellectual disability.

We are committed to providing support, guidance and assistance to individuals and their families to receive the level of services needed. Our goals are simple: to provide advocacy, assurance, assistance and accessibility to ensure active involvement for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Throughout the year, we help a number of individuals with disabilities and their families by providing resources, information and support in navigating the system to ensure they are receiving their needed services.

The Arc of Washington County is comprised of two programs: Advocacy and Self-Advocacy.

Our Advocacy program strives to connect families, build natural supports, and advocate with families in regards to all services across the lifespan for their loved one.

Our Self-Advocacy program encourages and empowers individuals with disabilities to use their voice and speak up for what they want. Self-Advocates learn various skills during monthly meetings, meet with local legislators to discuss issues of concern, educate the community about their rights and responsibilities and provide support to their peers to assist them in using their voice and promoting the message that "We Belong" in the community, no matter what their ability is.



Advocates and Self-Advocates meeting with PA State Senator, Camera Bartolotta.

Seated left to right: Darrilyn McCrerey, (Director of AWC); Maria (Self-Advocate).

Standing left to right: Senator Camera Bartolotta; Steven (Self-Advocate and AWC Board member); Cheryl (Self-Advocate); and Sally Jo Snyder (Consumer Health Coalition).

Making Connections



Individuals and Self-Advocates meeting at the AHS Meadowlands Training Center with Nancy Thaler, Deputy Secretary of the PA Department of Human Services, Office of Developmental Programs (ODP),. Pictured left to right: Marty, Victoria, Maria, John, Princess, Cheryl, Mike, Jeff, Nancy Thaler, Lauren, Ashley, Steven, and Brandon



Arc Human Services Staff and Individuals preparing for the Annual 4th of July Parade in Canonsburg. Princess is the chairperson for AHS/AWC annual Float entry. Pictured left to right: Ryan Insana (Job Coach); Dan Johnson (Ass't Director Community Based Services); Princess; Jordan Arroyo (Direct Support Professional); and Karen Gleason (Coordinator of Clinical Services)

Overcoming Barriers



What do I like about my community? What do I need from my community? What would I like to change about my community?

These are the questions that our Self-Advocates had in mind when completing the **We Belong Photo Voice Project**. Photo voice is a process that combines the power of a photograph with the power of words to educate and raise awareness about the reality of a group of persons too often overlooked or ignored. The project gave each person an opportunity to share part of their story, their day-to-day, their lives. Our Self-Advocates want others to know that their community is important to them, they have a voice in this world and they do belong.





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AAdvantage, Inc. is the parent company of <u>Arc Human Services</u> and <u>The Arc of Washington County</u>. AAdvantage Inc. is responsible for providing management and administrative services, which includes Human Resources Management, Fiscal Management, Property Management, and general administrative oversight.

AAdvantage Inc.

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