



Arc Human Services

Respect. Support. Empowerment.



ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

As we reflect on another remarkable year at Arc Human Services, I want to express my deepest gratitude to our incredible staff and dedicated direct support professionals. Your unwavering commitment empowers individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to lead fuller, more independent lives, and for that, I am profoundly thankful.

This year, our team has continued to build on our legacy while embracing the future with optimism and determination. At Arc Human Services, we remain steadfast in our mission to provide exceptional support to the people and families we serve, and I am proud to share some of our key accomplishments.

Our membership and support for The Arc of Washington County have grown significantly, further strengthening our community and expanding our reach. We've also made great strides in our technology initiatives, including implementing smart home systems and adaptive tools that open new opportunities for learning, growth, and connection. From exploring virtual reality applications for skill-building to equipping our homes with tools that foster independence, we are creating pathways for those we serve to thrive in ways that were once unimaginable.

Additionally, our recruitment efforts have yielded fantastic results, and we are actively addressing feedback from our employee engagement survey to enhance retention and workplace satisfaction, leading to better care and support for the people and families we serve. We introduced a new tool that allows us to celebrate and share daily positive moments at AHS, fostering a culture of recognition and connection.

On a broader scale, I am particularly encouraged by developments at the state level. Governor Shapiro, along with the support of our local legislators, Camera Bartolotta, Tim O'Neal, and Jason Ortitay have implemented one of the most significant financial investments in the support system for Intellectual Disability and Autism (ID/A) providers. This funding strengthens our ability to invest in the people we support and ensures we can continue to recognize and reward our incredible team.

None of this progress would be possible without the dedication of our staff, the generosity of our donors and partners, and the trust of the individuals and families we serve. Every contribution of time, talent, and resources helps us remain at the forefront of innovation, delivering the best possible care and opportunities for those who depend on us.

As we look ahead, our vision remains clear: to evolve, embrace new possibilities, and foster a community where every individual has the chance to realize their full potential. Together, we are building a future defined by inclusion, empowerment, and boundless opportunity.

On behalf of everyone at Arc Human Services, thank you for your continued support. We are excited to work together to create a brighter future for all.

Ed Picchiarini Chief Executive Officer

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, protects their rights, and foster meaningful relationships at home, work, and in their communities.





ARC HUMAN SERVICES COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS



EMPLOYMENT/IN-HOME AND COMMUNITY

Pressley has been working with Arc since spring of 2024. With her program specialist's help, Pressley moved out of her mom's house into her own apartment. She worked with her team to develop goals that she wanted to work on while living independently. With support from her DSPs in the in-home and community program, Pressley has been successfully living independently. She receives services a few days a week, which helps her to keep track of her schedule, meal prep, and focus on household chores.

CAMP LAUGH-A-LOT

Held over six weeks at Vernon C. Neal Sportsplex, Camp Laugh-A-Lot was a fantastic experience for approximately fifty-five adult and youth campers. The camp featured separate sessions for each age group and included exciting outings to Sky Zone, Chartiers Phoenix Movie Theatre, West Pike Bowl, and The Arc of Washington Art Gallery. Campers also enjoyed visits from Mad Science Pittsburgh, Wild World of Animals, and Fired Up Art Studio. It was a summer filled with fun, learning, and unforgettable memories!

EMPLOYMENT

In June 2024 the Employment Department closed out a 2-year grant for \$199,840.00 from the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED).

This grant focused on training and employment of the population we serve within the manufacturing industry. Arc Human Services presented manufacturing opportunities to approximately 25 job seekers with over 10 local manufacturing operations. Employment was achieved with business partners such as Supply One, RPM Industries, and Washington County Tourism.

In July 2023, the Employment Department secured a 2-year grant from Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council (PADDC) of \$160,000 to educate businesses and stakeholders about the benefits of employing those with disabilities. To date that department has held 2 job fairs, created and dispersed educational media, met with numerous employers and joined and attended a variety of chamber of commerce and rotary club meetings and events to promote the grant and educate on disability employment.





STUDENT TRANSITION PROGRAM

The Student Transition Program served sixteen students from three local school districts, emphasizing meeting their IEP goals through various lessons and handson activities. The Life Centered Education Transition Curriculum was implemented, focusing on daily living skills, vocational skills, and social skills. The students participated in volunteer opportunities at Chicco Baccello, The Washington Area HumaneSociety, Frank Sarris Public Library, The Health Club at Southpointe, and Range Resources. It was an enriching experience that helped students develop essential skills for their future.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

The Mental Health Program at Arc Human Services supports a total of 12 residents throughout Beaver and Butler county. Our program focuses on rebuilding important daily life skills as well as assisting our resident's with reintegration back into their communities. We help each resident work on establishing and maintaining a routine with weekly engagement in their community whether that be through volunteering, finding a meaningful activity, therapeutic rehabilitation or work.

We also help generate better connections with their friends, family, and with their support and treatment teams. Due to the hard work and commitment from both the residents and our program staff we were able to successfully move 2 residents out of our transitional programs this year giving us the opportunity to begin supporting and rebuilding skills with 2 new residents!

T.E.A.M.S. PROGRAM

TREATMENT **EDUCATION** ADVOCACY **MOTIVATION** SOCIALIZATION







Arc Human Services cares about the physical and mental well-being of our staff and individuals. The clinical department, in collaboration with other agency departments, has launched the T.E.A.M.S. Program. T.E.A.M.S. focuses on bringing individuals together to develop skills and build relationships through organized theapeutic, educational, and fun events and activities. Members advocate their wants and needs. and have a voice in the events and activities provided. T.E.A.M.S. strives to encourage community involvement and inclusion.

Events and activities organized this year include regional monthly peer groups to focus on mental health and wellness, community safety events, mindfullness yoga classes, art therapy, and pet therapy. We look forward to continuing our T.E.A.M.S. program and its mission into the upcoming year!



30 YEARS

Jennifer Johnson

25 YEARS

Scott Coligan Denise Jones Dana Krencik Tina Reynolds



Annette Cole Robin Gray Joan Plants Jean Wingard

15 YEARS

Cecilia Assad Tianda Childs Jeffrey Embert Teresa Hollobaugh Michelle Hunter Angela Long Sharry Peabody Autumn Ralston

STAFF RECOGNITION

10 YEARS

Samuel Ajiboye Peggy Anderson Arretta Bice Patience Burton Desmond Cicci Courtney Cook Christopher Duggan Scott Frisina Tammy Giles

Brandy Harmon Ricky Harmon Sandra Loreski Tracey McElroy Sue Monick Steve Oakley Jeffrey Smith Daniel Wozniak Donna Wright



5 YEARS

Gerri Acton Tracy Anderson Michael Aulagne Mary Bentley Tina Board Ramello Broughton Lacie Bryant Deanne Burkett Brian Burton Mariah Chandler Shannon Donnelly



Randy Drum Joan Estrada Danielle Garland Lawrence Grimm James Howard Jeffrey Hreno Veronica Kline Brooke Knopp Teresa Lay Sharon Lipscomb Breanna Marshall Amanda McCloskey Jeremy Mills Darnell Overton Hunter Pataski Travis Sallack Daron Smith Dylan Sorch Aaron Swan William Tate Brent Troyan Daniel Wukovich

GRANTS & DONATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Bullying Prevention and Safe Relationships Program

WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION Capacity Building Grant

STAUNTON FARMS FOUNDATION Winter Grant Round

UNITED WAY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY Community Impact Fund (FY 2024 - 2026) This is designated to the Arc of Washington County

LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT (LSA) WASHINGTON COUNTY 2023 Program Year

PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS (PCA) Creative Communities Cultivation

PENNSYLVANIA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL (PADDC) RFA Employment Program

EUGENE AND NELL PETRUCCI FUND (of The Pittsburgh Foundation / Community Foundation of Westmoreland County) **Discretionary Giving**

ADDITIONAL ACTIVE GRANTS

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (DCED) Manufacturing PA Training to Career Grant Program Active April 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024

UNITED WAY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

Community Impact Fund (FY 2022 - 2024) - Active July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024

Arc Human Services **BOARD & ADMINISTRATION**

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MEMBERS

James Carson Sandra Solow **James Protin Eric Chandler**

2023–2024 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUE: \$45,402,460



EXPENSES: \$45,402,460





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nancy Muha **Board President**

Kymberli Lambert **Board Secretary**

Marge Urbas Board Treasurer

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Sharon Lipscomb Advocacy Coordinator

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EMBRACING ADVOCACY THROUGH ART AND COMMUNITY CONNECTION



Guided by the inspiring words of our self-advocate, Rose, "Don't let an obstacle stop you on your road to happiness", The Arc of Washington County continues to strive for inclusivity and empowerment. This message is featured on our 4th of July parade shirts in 2024, and it encapsulates our journey in the past year: We overcame obstacles together, strengthened our family advocacy, and demonstrated our determination in fulfilling our goals.

Through our Self Advocacy in Action group, we foster events that strengthen self-confidence, raise awareness, and carve out ways for people to overcome challenges by offering a nurturing environment which inspires learning and growth. Newcomers are warmly welcomed, and lasting friendships are sustained. Smiles, now brighter than ever, stand as a powerful testament to personal growth and newfound confidence.

Here are just a few of the impactful opportunities our self-advocates engaged in over the past year:

- Employment Fashion Show: Showcasing style and career goals.
- Canonsburg 4th of July Parade: Raising awareness with the community.
- Monthly Self-Advocacy Meetings: Building skills and confidence.
- Technology Workshops: Enhancing independence through technology.
- · Adaptive Fitness Classes: Fostering health and wellness.
- Coffee & Tea Chat at Chicco's: Socializing and creating at our art studio.
- Entrepreneur Opportunities: Display and sell their work in the gallery and at vendor events.
- Leadership & Teaching: Offering opportunities to instruct art classes.
- Community Engagement: Seeking donations from establishments for community events

CONNECTING FAMILIES & THE COMMUNITY

One of the greatest benefits of partnering with a local community establishment is the natural curiosity it sparks among customers about who we are and what we do. When people visit Chicco Baccello, they often learn about our services and refer friends or family members who might need them. We frequently hear from people who've heard about us through word of mouth, simply by stopping in for a meal or a coffee. They'll come in off the street and say, "I've heard about the Arc–can you help me?" This organic interaction helps spread the word about the resources we offer and connects us with those who can benefit from our support.

We enhance community engagement by attending outreach events that connect families with vital state and county resources. We bring in experts to offer valuable education in a supportive, stress-free setting. Our aim is to empower families with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate their loved one's journey.

This year, Connecting Families focused on essential topics:

- Family Financial Planning for Special Needs
- Future Planning for Disabilities
- Special Education
- Families to the Max forum







ADVOCACY THROUGH



In our Connecting Through Inspiration Art Gallery, we proudly celebrate the power of creative expression across a spectrum of abilities. Our gallery serves as a platform where artists of all backgrounds can showcase their talents and experience the joy of artistic creation. Through our diverse events and classes, we emphasize how art can be an amazing medium for self-expression and connection.

Our gallery is particularly excited to offer inclusive opportunities for the community to engage together. For instance, there have been meaningful ways for families, staff and other community members to connect through our classes. Whether it's exploring the visual arts, delving into music through our popular guitar classes, or participating in inclusive events like those hosted for a local Girl Scout Troop–which helped them earn their Silver Award–there's a place for everyone to grow and bond creatively.

THE IMPACT:

- Empowerment: Inclusive art classes foster self-expression and confidence, helping individuals articulate their needs and perspectives.
- Community Building: Participants create strong connections and support each other, enhancing a sense of belonging.
- Raising Awareness: Art raises awareness of accessibility and social issues, advocating for change through exhibitions and displays.
- Skill Development: Participants develop key skills in communication and collaboration, boosting their advocacy efforts.
- Encouraging Inclusivity: These classes model inclusivity, inspiring broader advocacy for inclusive practices.
- Celebrating Diversity: Classes highlight diverse talents, advocating for a more equitable society.

Join us at Connecting Through Inspiration Art Gallery and discover how our programs can inspire and strengthen the connections within your own life, fostering creativity and shared experiences.

What opportunities will 2024 – 2025 bring? Become a Member of The Arc of Washington County today to stay in the know!

AADVANTAGE

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Denise Jones Chief Learning Officer

Cortney Rech Director of Human Resources

Craig Douglass Chief Administrative Officer

AAdvantage Is the parent company of Arc Human Services & The Arc of Washington County.

AAdvantage is responsible for providing management and administrative services, which include Human Resources Management, Fiscal Management, Property Management, and general administrative oversight.

AAdvantage

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