



2024 Annual Report

Empowering people with disabilities to live, learn, work, play, and advocate with dignity and full inclusion for over 70 years.

Why The Arc Matters...



...because of WHAT WE MEAN

To the individuals we serve, The Arc means a fun place to go and see their friends, learn new skills, discover their passions and strengths, and be part of a caring and accepting community. To the families we support, it means a safe place for their child to go, to get a break when they need it, and to have a network of supportive peers and team members. To the community, it means a valued partner in supporting families so parents can work and contribute to the economy, preventing issues like poverty, crisis, and homelessness, and providing a much needed workforce with supports for success.

The Arc means so many things to so many different people. To us, it means Home, Family, and Friendships and a World Where Everyone Belongs. We are honored each day to offer quality programming that enriches people's lives and improves their well-being, whether that's at our campus, in someone's home, or out in the community.

From our staff, Board of Directors, participants, and caregivers, we thank you for your support and belief in our mission. With much appreciation,



Theresa Lewis
Executive Director



Carol Meade
Board President '24



Our Leadership Team

Theresa Lewis, Executive Director

Kyle Schramp, Senior Operations Director

Jenny Bosking, Development & Communications Director

Whitney Alber, Senior Program Manager

Leah Moser, Senior Program Manager

James O'Hara, Accounting Manager

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Danielle Rodriguez - Community Volunteer

Mindy Sorg - OPN Architects

Amy Stevens - GreenState Credit Union

...because of **OUR IMPACT**

The Arc

100%

Of caregivers say they are better off with our supports and services.

121,974

Hours of service provided to individuals with disabilities.

5,890

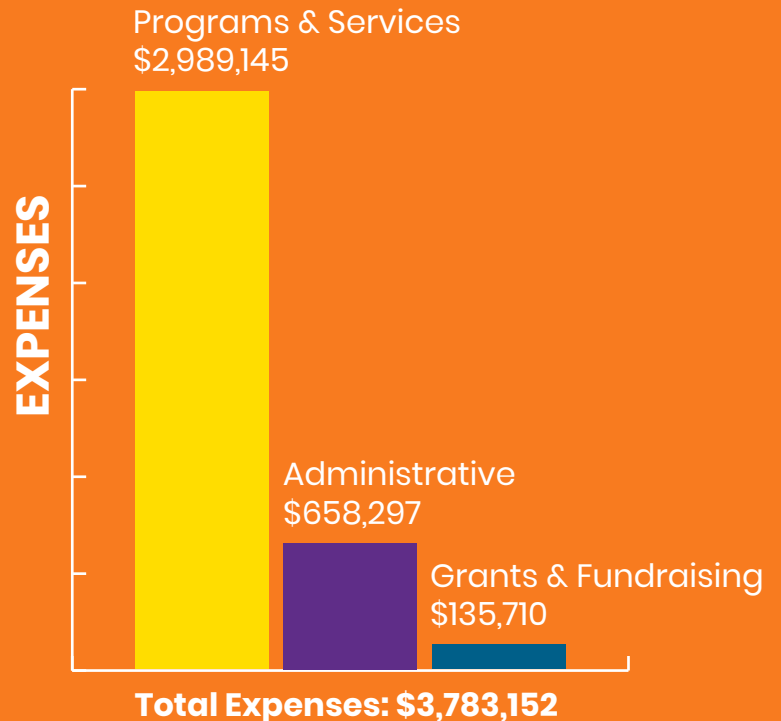
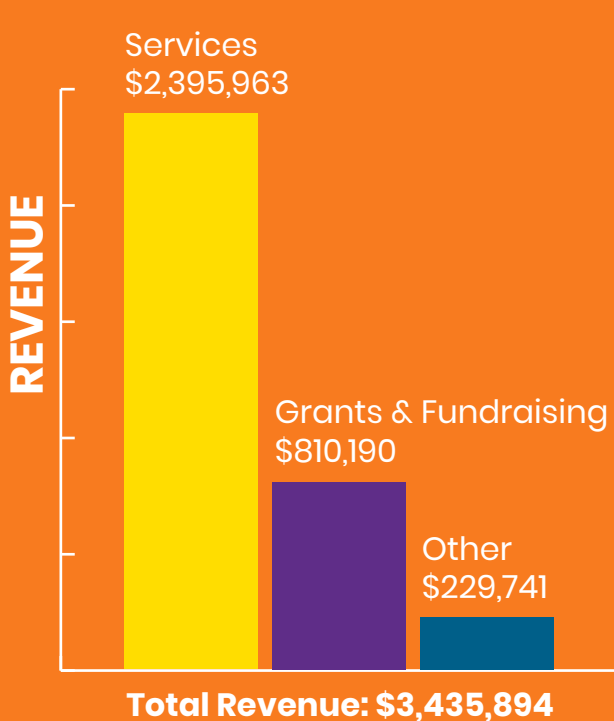
Views and participants for advocacy initiatives, trainings, Let's Chat series, Arc March, Transition Fair, and Journey of Hope events.

512

Participants receiving services and support through Afterschool and Summer Childcare, Adult Day Programming, Day Habilitation, Supported Employment, Project SEARCH, Customized Discovery, Individual Respite, Group Recreation, Supported Community Living, Medical Daycare, Integrated Health Homes, and Care Coordination.

...because of **FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

FY2024 7.1.23 - 6.30.24
unaudited



...because of OUR EVENTS

On August 10, 2023, The Arc celebrated our 70th Anniversary with an Open House & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to commemorate this milestone and our new inclusive playground and festive mural, now referred to as The Arc Park.



The Arc rekindled the Annual Sweetheart Dance in partnership with St. Matthew's Church. Adult participants danced the night away and reconnected with friends!

Over 150 adults, young and old, enjoyed the evening.

Our Annual Friend- and Fundraising event, Arc March, moved back to Lindale Mall, bringing back history, nostalgia, and a fun time for everyone involved. With just the peer-to-peer fundraising and private donations, The Arc raised over \$35,000 to support our programs and services.



...because it's A FAMILY AFFAIR



The **Wilkinson family** has been a staple at The Arc's signature event, The Arc March, since 2010. Greg and Kelly started their Arc journey with daughter Emma at The Arc March, having a team of over 50 family members and friends to honor and celebrate those with special needs. Greg and Kelly "love The Arc March, it's such a special event and Emma loves to see her family and friends. She loves a party and knows the day is all about her!"

Eventually, Emma started receiving services in the home with Gary Olson, who has been their only Service & Support Coordinator (SSC) during 14 years with The Arc. Emma's grandmother then became employed by The Arc to help provide respite support, and she takes Emma into the community to learn skills and to Arc group respites. Emma's favorite group respites are Cooking Club and Baking Club. She also attends summer programming, which has been "a blessing" to her parents so Emma can stay engaged and active over the summer months.

"The Arc is a place where Emma can go and hang with her peers, and it gives her independence. These services allow her a fun time away and for us to get a break to spend time with our son, Jake," says Kelly. Greg sees how "caring the staff are and as parents, we found a place where Emma can be herself and fully accepted for who she is. It warms your heart."



Emma has an Arc March t-shirt for each of the 14 years she's attended, and there was a time when she wore one to school every day!

Kelly, Greg, Emma, and Jake

...because of OUR RESOURCES

Emmalee Booth started with The Arc in 2015 when she attended Project SEARCH, our job skills training program in partnership with UnityPoint – St. Luke’s Hospital. Since then, Emmalee lives in her own apartment and receives life skills services with Habilitation and specialized care coordination with the Integrated Health Homes (IHH) program, both through The Arc.

Emmalee says The Arc makes her feel like a special person. “I felt special the first time I was selected to be interviewed by KCRG in 2022. They were doing a report about voting and they wanted to interview me!” She also says her IHH Care Coordinator, Bailey Freese, makes her feel special because “I can rely on Bailey to help me get through some things”.

Resourcefulness is a word Emmalee uses when she talks about why The Arc is important to her. She says The Arc has the tools and resources she needs when she’s “in a pickle”.

Emmalee loves being a part of The Arc’s Aktion Club. She experiences the most fun when she can meet new people and help plan service projects for the Club!



Emmalee is Treasurer of The Arc's Aktion Club, a service club for adults with disabilities in partnership with Cedar Rapids Kiwanis Club.

Arc and Cedar Rapids Kiwanis staff with members of The Arc's Aktion Club prepare laundry detergent packs with inspiring notes for residents of Geneva Tower.



...because of OUR DONORS

\$100,000 +

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\$50,000 - \$99,999

Henry Davidson
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\$25,000 - \$49,999

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\$10,000 - \$24,999

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We apologize if we have listed your name incorrectly or have omitted your name. Please contact us so we may correct our error. We are grateful for all support provided to the agency.

Complete List of FY24 Donors



<https://arceci.org/fy24-donors/>

...because we ARE NEEDED



Sean receiving an Arc award in 2015

Sharon and Bob Harschnek have been with The Arc for a long time. After adopting their son, Sean, they knew he would need a lifetime of supports. "Finding resources above and beyond the schools and medical field is a blessing and The Arc of East Central Iowa has provided that blessing" says Sharon and Bob.

"Our son, Sean, has enjoyed literally decades of programs, activities, and forming enriching wonderful relationships. He has touched many lives and they have touched his – and that has made all the difference."

Bob and Sharon give back – from attending events, to fundraising for our annual Arc March, to contributing to the annual appeal.

"You ask us 'why'? It's because when people ask 'Sean, how ya doing?' He will often say, 'Living the dream.'"

"Parenting a Special Needs Child Comes with an Immediate Need for Help."

*"A full and positive life is what we strive for, for our children. A place where friends are made, confidence builds, and all are accepted. That's The Arc."
~ Sharon and Bob*

