

Challenger

A NEWSLETTER THAT CONNECTS, ENGAGES AND INFORMS

70 Years!

On August 10th, The Arc hosted an Open House & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to celebrate our past, present, and future in serving and advocating for individuals with disabilities and their families. It was a wonderful opportunity to connect with old friends and make new friends!

The Arc's Aktion Club (service group with CR Kiwanis) served popcorn, Arc participant Sam Claussen served as MC and DJ, and we heard from current Executive Director Theresa Lewis, past Executive Director and Arc parent Delaine Petersen, 2015 Project SEARCH intern Jeff Stutterheim, and past Board President and Economic Alliance CEO, Doug Neumann, who initiated the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Inside the building, members of The Arc's Team and participants hosted program highlights in each of our classrooms. In one of the rooms we displayed The Arc's Decade Posters, which provided historical facts about The Arc and disability services from the 1950's to 2010's. It was a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate the impact our programs have for both individuals and their families. Outside the building, children and adults enjoyed our new inclusive recreation area and danced to some happy tunes.

A special thank you to Traverso, sponsor of the event, for their support and volunteers. We appreciate everyone who stopped by and made this such a special event for our community!



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From the Director's Desk

Hello Arc Friends and Family!

Happy August! These past few months have been a whirlwind of activity for The Arc. Not only did we break ground for our new parking lot and inclusive recreation area, we completed the project and now have a full-sized, beautiful area for our participants and people of all ages coming to downtown Cedar Rapids to enjoy. There are so many individuals, foundations, and local businesses to thank for helping us achieve our dream (please stop by and view our unique and colorful donor wall), but I would like to say a special thanks to our top funders: City of Cedar Rapids, Linn County, and the Hall Perrine Foundation; as well as our partners who made the magic happen: Cuningham Recreation, Gametime, B&M Construction, Hall & Hall Engineers, New Leader Manufacturing, deNovo Marketing, artist Laura Saylor Smith, and CR Signs, Inc. And if that is not enough, The Arc was selected as a lucky recipient for a Cedar Rapids mural project. We are so proud to adorn such a fun, whimsical, and inspiring painting on the 2nd Street side of our building. Thanks to Murals & More, the City of Cedar Rapids SSMID, and David Maier and Matt McGrane for bringing artist Jennifer Davis here to brighten the spirits of everyone who passes by The Arc!



Theresa Lewis

Cheers to everyone who attended our 70th Anniversary Open House & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on August 10th. We are humbled by the outpouring of support and celebration of our past, present, and future of this life-changing organization. The Arc has such a rich history of advocacy and service, and we are proud of our legacy in creating lasting change for the individuals and families we serve as well as the community-at-large. The Arc looks forward to advocating and serving for another 70+ years. Our vision is to continue to grow the services and supports individuals and families need, to address gaps in programming, to further advance dignity, inclusion, and equity for those we serve, and to assure we achieve a world where everyone belongs.

The Arc looks forward to celebrating future milestones with you. And we expect to see you admiring our mural and having fun in our recreation area very soon!

With appreciation,

Theresa Lewis
Executive Director



Advocacy Corner

First Annual Summer Potluck with Journey of Hope an Ability Experience

Thank you to all who attended The Arc's First Annual Summer Potluck with the cyclists from Journey of Hope an Ability Experience. We had a wonderful time with JOH sharing a meal and appreciate everyone who cheered on our softball teams. This year's JOH crew was made up of 30 fraternity brothers from around the United States all dedicated to the mission of raising awareness for disability services. The JOH team began their journey on June 10th in San Francisco, CA and completed their journey on August 12th in Washington D.C. We've had the pleasure of hosting them for many years and look forward to the years to come. To learn more about JOH visit <https://abilityexperience.org/>. If you would like to donate to the North Route teams mission visit <https://give.abilityexperience.org/give/88800/#!/donation/checkout>.



September 11th, 2023

The Arc of East Central Iowa and United Way of East Central Iowa are honored to partner together again this year to commemorate September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance and National Disaster Preparedness Month. On Monday, September 11th from 2:00 - 4:00 PM at Veterans Memorial Building in downtown Cedar Rapids, our agencies along with community volunteers will assemble winter emergency preparedness kits and resources to support vulnerable populations. Our Keynote speaker is Kaj O'Mara, Senior Meteorology Consultant, J.S. Held LLC. Kaj will share how various weather-related disasters could affect our area and how preparation is key in recovery. We would like to thank The Arc of the US for providing the grant funding for our event. If you are interested in volunteering at our event register at <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ejwnf3mz96043de6>.

For questions email our Advocacy Program Coordinator, Kristen Krambeer at kkrambeer@arceci.org.

**9/11
Day of
Remembrance**

The Arc
East Central Iowa

United Way

Services Spotlight

School Age Summer Programming

This summer FLEW BY! We started our summer fun at Kennedy High School on Tuesday, June 13 with Kona Ice and ended our busy summer with a dance party and ice cream social on Friday, July 28! The weeks were packed with crafts, cooking, baking, field trips (Splash pads, parks, movies, bowling, Pelican Snowballs, Dan and Debbie's, Wickiup Hill, Tipton Aquatic Center), guest speakers, and so much more! We were able to enjoy 64 participants this summer with the help of 40 amazing staff! This summer was filled with a lot of laughter, new and old friendships and ever-lasting memories!



Welcome To The Arc



Hi, I'm Karla Pisarik and I am the new Community Services Supervisor.

I came to The Arc from St. Luke's Hospital and our family is very familiar with the services, as our son is an Arc recipient.

We live in Cedar Rapids and enjoy cheering on the Iowa Hawkeyes and the Chicago Bears. When I'm not working, I enjoy the warm weather and spending time with friends and family.

Looking forward to meeting everyone!

70th Anniversary Open House

Thank you to everyone who was able to celebrate with us!



Participant Spotlight



Kaiya Chapman

About Me.

I am 7 years old and live in Cedar Rapids. I have a sister named Kinsleigh. I also have a dog named Rose.

Favorite Arc Activities?

I love going on field trips! I especially enjoy it when we get to go swimming or go to a splash pad.

Favorite Outside Activities?

I enjoy swimming, fishing, and more swimming!

Favorite Hobby?

I love to dance! I just had my very first dance recital.

Favorite Foods?

Mashed potatoes and puffy Cheetos!

Other Favorites?

I love Blippi and spending time with my family!

Planned Giving

Have More Power - Save Taxes & Grow Your Income

We all want to make a difference, but sometimes we may feel we lack the ability or resources to have the impact we want. However, you may be surprised how easy it is. We have tools and ideas to help you save taxes and even create new income streams while helping The Arc of East Central Iowa. No matter what you choose to do, or how you do it, we can help you.



The Basics

- **Appreciated Stock** - Easily make charitable gifts by transferring appreciated stock to The Arc. We receive the present value of the stock, while you pay no capital gains tax and receive an income tax deduction. Most investors do not know they can do this.
- **Your Estate** - Write or update your estate plan. Aside from the many benefits that come from planning, you can also create a gift for The Arc. Your will takes care of your family and favorite cause while not sending too much money to Washington.

Income for Life

- **Charitable Gift Annuity** - In addition to income and possible capital gains benefits, you, or you and one other person, receive fixed payments for life.
- **Charitable Remainder Unitrust** - You choose who and what the trust pays, and how long it will last. It can also benefit more than two people.

Special Opportunities

- **Real Estate** - You can donate property outright for tax savings or create a life estate which gives you a tax deduction today while you retain the right to live in it for life.
- **Life Insurance** - Purchase or transfer a life insurance policy and give it to The Arc or name it as a beneficiary. A few dollars can result in major benefits to establish your legacy.

To learn more or have any planned gift questions, please call Jenny Bosking at 319-365-0487 ext. 1024.

You Make a Difference

Thank you for all of your continued generous contributions to The Arc. This edition of the Challenger recognizes volunteers, donors and members who generously supported The Arc from May through July 2023.

Thank You

General Donations

AFP (Association of Fund Raising Professionals), Aktion Club-Kiwanis, Joshua Bean, Andrew Bellagamba, Benchmark Inc, Cherie Bendixsen, Jane Bockenstedt, Cargill, Equitable Foundation, Gannett Foundation, GCRCF, General Mills, Hall & Hall Engineers, Louis Harvieux, Todd Henry, Dawn & Stan Herkelman, Ruth Hojka, Ann Jeffries, John Deere, Walter & Ida Kansky, Jeffrey Keslar, Cheryl & William Lehman, Patty Lynott, Lynette Marling, David Maier & Matt McGrane, McIntyre Foundation, Mercy Hospital, MidAmerican Aerospace, MIDCO Foundation, Laurel Murphy, Laurie & James Neuhaus, Lisa Nicole, Susan Polglaze, Raygun, Raytheon Technologies, Woodward Richard, Jess Rockwell, Kristin Schaefer, Anthony Schwendinger, SMID/Downtown District, Shelly Strellner, Sunshine Fund, Joseph Terfler, Cheryl Tlusty-Marsh, Van Meter Inc, Clint Wade, Cheri Whittaker, W.P.C.F Employees Fund, Walmart

Memorials

Sara Smith

Ryan Smith

Donald Stagg

Kurt & Angela Tjelmaland

Cody Whittaker

Cheri Whittaker

Membership

Arc Builder

Don & Gwen Eells, Mark Hanrahan (MidAmerican Aerospace), Pete & Delaine Petersen

Arc Friend

Dale & Judy Fitzgibbons, Eric & Ann Hearn, Dale & Debra Rettenmeier, Albert & Marcia Simon

Arc Advocate

Harvey & Ellie Denlinger, John & Mary Florang, Laura Grempe, Margaret Kenney, Doriene Loomis, Edna Lyons, Cheryl Tlusty-Marsh and Gary Marsh, Bill & Sandy McVicker, Leslie Petersen (Leslie C Petersen Guardianship), Michelle & David Pfoff, Ted & Nancy Priebe, Scott & Terrie Seibert, Dave Thinnies (Thinnies & Liesveld), Judy Woods

Volunteers

Hours - 190

Amy Belice, Adam Brown, Jeff Corrigan, Jody Donaldson, Jessica Fahey, Terese Fisher, Maria Gaffney, Teri Gibson, Nate Haas, Brad Hauge, Darrin Keller, Heidi Kinder, Kristen Krambeer, Cherri Lock, Carol Meade, Ben Mulholland, Jacki Nau, Michael Neurerburg, Danielle Rodriguez, Waldemar Rodriguez Sanchez, Kristin Schaefer, Erica Smothers, Mindy Sorg, Amy Stevens, Natalia Vorobtsov, Blake Wilkinson

Inclusive Recreation Area Donors

Angel: \$250,000+

City of Cedar Rapids

Champion: \$100,000-\$249,999

Hall-Perrine Foundation, Linn County

Builder: \$50,000-\$99,999

Cunningham Recreation - Gametime, Henry Davidson Foundation in the Spirit of Inclusive Play for All

Advocate: \$10,000-\$49,999

Cedar Rapids Bank & Trust, de Novo Marketing, GreatAmerica Financial Services, Jared & Carol Hills, Dawn & Stan Herkelman in Celebration of their son, Sammy, New Leader Manufacturing, The Kernels Foundation, In Celebration of Kirsten Smith

Supporter: \$5,000-\$9,999

Cargill, Hall & Hall Engineers, YMCA of the Cedar Rapids Metropolitan Area

Patron: \$500-\$4,999

100+ Who Care, B&M Construction, The Bosking Family, Terri Christoffersen, Corridor Business Builders, Teri Gibson, First Federal Credit Union Foundation, Bill Quinby, Dale & Debra Rettenmeier, Schimberg Co. Employees, Roger, Oline & Jake Stigers, Blake & Angie Wilkinson

Friend: \$100-\$499

Devin & Jessica Bettmann, Cherri & Joe Lock, George Morrison, Ann & Ted Ruske, Dale & Sara Todd in Celebration of their Son, Adam, Washington High School Special Ed Department, W.P.C.F. Employees Fund



For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

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The Arc of East Central Iowa

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Address Service Requested

Mission Statement

The Arc of East Central Iowa empowers individuals with disabilities and their families to engage in lifelong opportunities to live, learn, work, play, and advocate with full dignity and inclusion in their communities.

Make a Difference
Donate at www.arceci.org



Raffle for a Cause

Sponsored by:



We have many great packages up for grabs!

1. Bonfire & S'mores in Hawkeye Style
2. City of Great Tastes
3. Have a Ball Playing Pickleball
4. Isle Enjoy a Getaway
5. Let's Eat Out
6. Notre Dame Football Tickets
7. Outdoor Pizza Oven with Everything
8. Rekindle Your Love of Reading
9. Taking Care of YOU
10. Up, Up and Away
11. We're Off to See the Wizard
12. Win With Hawkeye Wrestling

Package descriptions are available at arceci.org.

There are many ways for you to purchase your raffle tickets.

- Buy them online at arceci.org.
- Stop by The Arc's main office Monday - Friday from 9:00 - 3:30.
- Purchase them from any office staff member.
- Purchase them from an Arc Board Member.

Drawing will be held Tuesday, Oct. 3rd via Facebook Live. Need not be present to win.

TICKET PRICING: 1 - \$5.00 • 3 - \$10.00 • 10 - \$25.00 • 50 - \$100.00