

Summer 2008

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a note from Daryl

Welcome lazy, hazy days of summer! Earlier this year we had a whirlwind of a spring at the Arc of the South Shore. There were so many activities on the calendar that the spring months seem like a blur. In April, we had our **56th Annual Dinner Dance**, where we had **over 370 guests** in attendance. Every year this popular event attracts more and more people. Thanks to the generosity of so many donors over 80 individuals were able to attend and dance the night away! Our second event, the **21st Annual Louis Bailey Golf Outing** was also a smashing success! (Actually nothing got smashed except golf balls) Over 100 golfers enjoyed the challenging course; we thankfully avoided the threatening rain. This year the **Arc raised \$21,000**. Please save the date for **June 15, 2009 for our 22nd Golf Outing at the South Shore Country Club**.

The Arc had a couple of fun and fruitful projects that could not have been possible without the collaboration with many wonderful people and organizations!

- *A Family Fun Day at **Webb State Park** sponsored by the **Weymouth Rotary Club** that raised money for the Arc of the South Shore and the Weymouth Food Pantry.*
- *A pilot program called: **Savings Makes Sense** thanks to **Braintree Cooperative Bank and the State Treasurers Office***
- *Collaborating with a group of graduate students from the **Whelock College School of Social Work** in offering a workshop on **Sexuality**.*

In other Arc news, this past spring we completed the **DMR Quest** survey and certification process. Thanks to the many outstanding and dedicated employees in residential and day services, we received a **two-year license** from the state Department of Mental Retardation.

If all this wasn't enough on our plate, the Arc has embarked upon a strategic planning process that will result in a four-year plan for future development and growth as an organization. Many people responded to the survey forms sent during the first phase of our planning process, and these responses will guide us as we identify goals we wish to accomplish over the next few years.

I was thrilled by the *many wonderful comments* we received. The numerous expressions of appreciation for the dedication and commitment of the employees, I feel must be shared with all of you!

Many grateful family members made comments such as: "The staff are wonderful" and "Staff are phenomenal" I also want to share some specific quotes people wrote: (please see page 4 for more quotes)

"Members of the staff understand and care for my son. They are very patient and communicate with us on a regular basis."

"This journey has been wonderful. My family member is treated respectfully and the staff are proactive rather than reactive."

I am very proud of these responses. I look forward to the next phase of this this planning process as we build on our successes and continue to make the Arc a stronger agency.

Special Events The 56th Annual Dinner Dance! The Mardi Gras Celebration!!



On Friday, April 11, 2008 the ballroom at The Lantana, was transformed into the site of a Mardi Gras celebration.

Over 371 guests, participants, supporters and employees came together to celebrate the Arc's **56th Annual Dinner Dance** in a style all their own. Wearing purple, green, and gold beads the group danced the night away while taking time to honor those who have made a positive impact on the organization. The Arc honored the following: **Victoria Roberts**, Consumer of the Year, the Employee of the Year award went to **Joseph Silva**. **George A. Toma**, President of **George Washington Toma TV and Appliances** received the Business Appreciation award and last but not least, **Arthur Davies** was honored with the Volunteer of the Year award. Save the Date for our **57th Annual Dinner Dance – Dancing with the Stars, April 17, 2009.**



Volunteer of the Year, Arthur Davies and Special Events Volunteer Shannon Driscoll



Consumer of the Year, Victoria Roberts and Michelle Mahoney



Daryl Cook with Employee of the Year, Joseph Silva

The 21st Annual Louis Bailey Golf Outing!

The Arc of the South Shore celebrated its 21st Annual Golf Outing on Monday, June 16, 2008 at a new location, South Shore Country Club in Hingham. This year, we netted **\$21,000**, which will directly impact our clients, children and adults with developmental disabilities. We also welcomed two new committee members, **Robert Falconi**, from **Falconi Companies** and **Scott Towne** from **DRL Associates**. A special thanks to ALL our committee members and volunteers for their dedication and commitment, we look forward to seeing you again next year! A special thanks to Amanda Imbruglia, Terry Smith, Julie O'Connell, Jay Nothnagle, Scott Merrill, Kevin Riordan, Stuart Darrah (left picture) for participating in our golf outing. We hope you enjoyed yourselves! We also want to congratulate the winning team: Ron Erickson, Bob Bussey, Kenny Dunn, Paul Mavilia (right picture)! We look forward to next year's **Golf Outing on June 15, 2009!**



News From Around the Arc

The Community Supports Program

Participants from the Community Supports program have just completed an eight-week financial education program. The program, a version of the **State Treasurers Office Saving Makes "Cents"** financial literacy courses, covered basic money advice, including how to differentiate between dollar bills of different denominations and the definition of interest on a bank account. The pilot program was a collaborative effort between the **State Treasurers Office, the Arc of the South Shore and the Braintree Cooperative Bank.**



Left to right: Charlene Luciano, Braintree Cooperative Bank, Rebecca Lehane, Michael Wilcox, Braintree Cooperative Bank, Treasurer Timothy Cahill, Greg Walsh, Amanda Imbrugila and Katie Hanley, Arc of the the South Shore.

The Residential Supports Program

Victoria "Vicki" Roberts who lives in one of our residences and is an employee at the Harbor Industries, recently turned 60 years old this spring. A big birthday bash, complete with a Tom Jones impersonator, was held in honor of Vicki. All of her friends attended and celebrated this momentous occasion at the Weymouth Elks. The guests enjoyed the great food, a delicious birthday cake, danced the day away and some even participated in Karaoke! Good Luck Vicki, may you have many more!



Day Services Programs

The Day Habilitation participants have some new faces to greet them in the morning with the addition of **Terri Cann, Mary Jo Campbell and Jacqueline Paige-Hammond.** We are very happy and fortunate to have these developmental specialists as they all bring enthusiasm and experience to our Day Hab. The Day Hab program is enjoying the summer with trips out in the community and recently visited the **New England Aquarium,** which was very enjoyable for everyone.



Mark Quirk at the Edge of the Sea's tidepool touch tank at the aquarium

A crew continues to give back to the community by delivering meals to home-bound seniors in the Weymouth area and enjoyed the volunteer luncheon held recently. **Harbor Industries** also has some new faces as we welcomed **Marie Poulin, Carla Pettograsso, Stuart Darrah, Jackie Pettinelli, Christina Morales, Rebecca Lehane, David Sera and Ryan Grimmel.** **Stuart and Marie** were recently selected and voted to be on the **Arc of the South Shore's Board of Director's.** We look forward to their insight into the programmatic issues of the agency as well as its vision for the future. We also want to welcome **Charlie Hatch** as he joins **Harbor Industries** in the capacity of van driver. Speaking of which, **Rebecca Lehane** recently landed a job at the **Red Parrot in Hull** as a Hostess/Bus person! Congratulations go out to her on this achievement.

And, finally, we are lucky to have **Aidan McGrath** this summer to support the direct care staff and work with our participants in both the Day Hab and Harbor Industries' programs. Aidan is an intern through the Holy Cross Club of Greater Boston's Summer Fellowship Program. It has been a very successful collaboration.



Kudos Korner

Kim Drew has bloomed socially



Kim Drew with her father in the Sensory Room

Kim Drew recently made many personal accomplishments since the beginning of the year. With the help of a generous donor the sensory room was updated and Kim with the assistance of her instructor has been able to flourish from a daily sensory routine. This routine includes, the Therapressure (brushing) program and the Therapeutic listening program as well as other stimulating support strategies. Kim is now initiating social interactions throughout her day by approaching people, giving eye contact and smiling. This program is designed to provide Kim the opportunity to support her work toward skilled goals and objectives. We are so proud of Kim and her accomplishments!



Debra Santon, Human Resource Director and John Canti, Mass Bay Self-Insurance Group

Kudos to Debra Santon

Our next kudos goes out to Debra Santon, our Human Resources Director. Deb recently started a safety training program for the Arc and was recognized by the Massachusetts Bay Self-Insurance Group with the President's Award for her efforts to promote quality safety training. Thanks Deb for keeping us all safe!

Continued from Daryl's Notes

Family comments continued...

"Our son is happy and proud to go to the Arc everyday, and we as his parents are happy with... the competent and caring staff."

"Very reliable transportation and a wonderful, caring bus driver."

"Obviously these people are not in the field for the money. They truly care about the individual, working hard and maintaining a sense of humor."

"Staff are respectful, punctual, and professional."

These are just a sample of the many wonderful comments we received.

Picture of the Month





TO: Iraq FROM: The Arc **Update**

We wanted to thank everyone who participated in the "To Iraq from the Arc" care packages campaign, a special thanks to our friends at the Quincy Credit Union for their additional assistance.. We sent over 80 packages to Capt. Brennan Fitzgerald and the 761st EOD- Explosive Ordnance Disposal company (right picture). These soldiers are far from the conveniences of everyday life and thanks to everyone who contributed, the company had a bit of the Boston spirit to make them feel at home.



Thank you, Taffy!



Taffy with son, Jay and husband, Geoffrey at the Special Olympics Winter Games

The Arc wishes to thank **Taffy Nothnagle** for her many years of voluntary service on the **Arc of the South Shore's Human Rights Committee**. Taffy recently resigned from the committee and we wanted recognize her commitment and dedication over the years and thank her for all she has accomplished. The following remarks from Elizabeth Duffy most eloquently express our sentiments:

“Taffy Nothnagle has been an important and valuable member of Arc of the South Shore for about 30 years. She first became involved after the birth of her son, Jay, who was born with Down Syndrome. Over the years, Taffy has made it her priority that the different types of people that Arc represents have been given a voice, and that their voice is heard. She has fought,

with other members, for safe housing with competent and understanding personnel to help these people adjust to living in a group setting. Taffy was one of the “pioneers” in introducing our young Down Syndrome adults to the workforce when she helped to orient and train them to work in various grocery stores in the area.

Taffy is part of a strong network of involved parents, children and caregivers, who all have the best interests of the client in mind. Her own son, Jay, has benefited tremendously from having Taffy and Jeff as parents. He is outgoing, independent, and participates in many activities, especially the “Special Olympics”, which Taffy is also very involved with.

We'll surely miss Taffy at our meetings, and we'd like to thank her for her contributions and many years of involvement.”

Submitted by **Elizabeth Duffy**, friend and fellow **Human Rights Committee** member.

News From Around the Arc

The Early Intervention Program



Its not just child's play

The art-making process relies on the natural ability of all children to relate to color and form. Children with a variety of developmental delays benefit from visual expression and learning. These forms of “child’s play” increase their attention span and develop fine and gross motor coordination with the use of markers, crayons and brushes. Skills such as sharing, turn-taking, listening, and learning the names of colors are also developed. Art stimulates the imagination and abstract thinking and becomes the vehicle for expression and developing relationships.



Legislative and Advocacy News

Initial Conference Committee FY09 Budget Report from The Arc as of July 3, 2008

House and Senate Conferees provided the best possible budget for individuals served by DMR, the Community First Program and Early Intervention. In addition, the conferees agreed on the DMR name change to **Developmental Services**. Not only is today a big day for MASS, but the legislature showed its commitment to individuals with disabilities and the community services system!

We await confirmation from the DMR and EOHHS regarding some of the line items but we are confident with the main thrust of our update.

Highlights:

- ~Family Support and DOE-DMR line items receive biggest increases in 10 years- wait lists will see a decline
- ~Residential Rate and Community Residential were funded at higher levels
- ~Autism line received higher allocation
- ~Community First received \$20 Million- higher allocation
- ~Early Intervention accounts funded at higher levels
- ~DMR name change passes

Thank you Chairs DeLeo and Panagiotakos, Speaker DiMasi and Senator Murray and our friends in the House and Senate for such a positive budget.

The Arc wants to recognize the efforts of MFOFC, ADDP, MDDC, MASS, AFAM, MAC, MDSC and other organizations who worked so hard on all or some of the issues important to our community and the cooperation we received from those at DMR and EOHHS who have the important job of providing and overseeing services.

We have included a copy of the budget chart.

Name Change Language

SECTION 9. Section 1 of chapter 19B of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 1 and 2, the words “mental retardation” and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following words:-
developmental services

SECTION 113. The department of developmental services shall serve the same population as the department of mental retardation and shall not exclude any class of individuals that is currently receiving services from the department of mental retardation. This name change is solely for administrative purposes and shall not determine the scope of individuals served by the department.



GOT JOBS?

Keep **Harbor Industries** in mind when you are planning your next mailing, product assembly or any other fulfillment projects.

Harbor Industries offers flexible options including supported work groups, as well as supervised individual job placements at your site. Contact the **Harbor Industries Job Developer, Robert Mackey** for more information on services provided at **781-413-2226**.

Classifieds

The **Day Habilitation** program is currently looking to add a **Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)** on a part-time basis as well as a part-time **Speech Therapist**. If anyone is interested in learning more about these opportunities please contact Anne Holton at 781-335-3023, extension 2219.

The **Early Intervention Program** is currently seeking Full or Part time **Master's Level Social Workers, Psychologists or Counselors** to provide services to families with young children with disabilities on the South Shore. Please contact Debra Santon at 781-335-3023

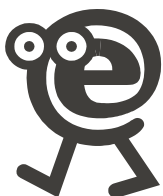
Volunteers Needed

The Arc of the South Shore is looking for people who are friendly and outgoing, enthusiastic and motivated. If you want to help others and you want to make a difference, then we want you! There are so many areas at the Arc in which to volunteer. If you have a specific interest working with senior citizens or with young adults or perhaps you prefer providing office assistance, we can match you with a volunteer position that's right for you.

The Arc has a variety of areas in which to volunteer. Here are just a few of the places YOU can make a difference:

- Adult Day Programs
- Selling Note Cards
- Chaperone an outing
- Clerical Support
- Planting and Gardening

Do we have your email?



Keep up with the latest news- join the Arc's E-news alerts! This email will keep our friends, supporters and families up to date on everything going on at the Arc; legislative updates, events, volunteer opportunities and much more!

Help us keep you informed by sending your email address to info@arcsouthshore.org

Wishes

Gifts that go far

Here are a few ways to make our wishes come true. If you have these items or know where we can pick them up. Please call us at 781-413-2230. **These items need to be in working condition.** Thank you for thinking of us.

Harbor Industries

- *Laptop Computer
- *25 New Cafeteria Chairs

Day Habilitation

- *Chair Scale
- * Walkman CD player
- * AAA batteries

Early Intervention

- * Laptop Computers (five)

Community Supports

- *Softball Equipment

Office needs

- * Software: Adobe PageMaker 7.0 licences (2)
- * Development Software Upgrade
- * Color Copier

Please feel free to drop off your items at the Arc of the South Shore at 371 River Street in North Weymouth between 8:00am and 4:00pm.

Please call 781-335-3023 for more information.

Membership

Arc of the South Shore Membership Join or Renew Now!!

Become a member of the Arc today and be an advocate for tomorrow.

As a member, you join us on a local level in support of more than 1,500 individuals and families served annually by the Arc of the South Shore. It also gives you automatic membership in the Arc of Massachusetts and the Arc of the U.S., providing statewide and national advocacy efforts on behalf of children and adults with mental retardation and developmental disabilities. One hundred percent of your dues will go towards making your voice heard on state and national levels and making sure those we serve are well protected.

Help us help others; your membership fee supports our actions and entitles you to member benefits including:

- ~Discounted – Group Auto, Home & Renters Insurance
- ~Discounted – Group Term Life Insurance & Major Medical Insurance
- ~Participation in Community Support Program activities and outings
- ~Reduced costs for selected special events
- ~Financial Planning Information & Assistance to families with children with special needs
- ~ MetDESK Division of MET Life
- ~Quarterly mailings of the Beacon newsletter
- ~Name listed in the Arc of the South Shore Annual Report



Yes! I want to become a new member I would like to renew my membership

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I am a:

- *Professional in the field of human services
- *Corporate Supporter
- *Parent/Relative*
- *Community Supporter
- *If you are a parent or relative, please indicate the name of the participant _____ and birth date _____

Type of Membership

- Membership \$25.00
- Business Membership \$100.00
- Associate Membership \$_____ (other)

Call 781-335-3023 or email: info@arcsouthshore.org

Note Cards On Sale

Our Employment Program, Harbor Industries, creates beautiful note cards designed by adults with developmental disabilities. All proceeds from note card sales will benefit Harbor Industries. To order a pack of 12 assorted note cards at \$10 per pack, fill out the form below. If you have any questions, please call Marilyn Garland at 781-335-3023, ext. 2229.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of Card Packages (12 assorted cards per package): _____

Method of Payment (Please Check):
 Check (payable to *The Arc of the South Shore*)
 Mastercard Visa

Credit card # : _____ Exp. date _____
Signature: _____



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Executive Vice President

Anne Holton

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Marilyn Garland

Contact Us:

Mail: 371 River Street
North Weymouth

Phone: 781-331-3023

Email: info@arcsouthshore.org

Web: www.arcsouthshore.org



57th Annual Dinner Dance
 April 17th, 2009
 6:00pm to 11:00pm
 Lantana Function Hall
 Randolph, Ma



22nd Annual Louis Bailey Golf Outing
 June 15th, 2009
 12:00pm to 8:00pm
 South Shore Country Club
 Hingham, Ma



11th Annual Quincy Artsfest
 September 13th and 14th, 2008
 Come and support the Arc's **Art from the Heart**
Artists and their heartwarming creations!
 Quincy Park and Recreation Department, One
 Merymount Parkway
 Quincy, Ma

save the dates for

The Arc of the South Shore invites you to



371 River Street
 North Weymouth, MA 02191



The Arc of the South Shore's mission is to provide the highest quality services and advocacy for children and adults with mental retardation and cognitive, physical or developmental disabilities.