

All Aboard The Arc

NEWSLETTER

A Year in Review

WINTER 2021

Conga line at the recent Luau Dance.



Changing our name to The Arc of Greater Brockton is the cornerstone of new branding initiatives.

Over the Summer, members of the staff and Board of Directors undertook an analysis of the organization's marketing, branding and communication materials, and messaging. Through the assistance of MavroCreative, a marketing/graphic design firm, the team considered a variety of new logos, tag lines, colors and marketing materials. Through careful deliberations a consensus was established to modify the organization's name, establish a new tag line, and implement new branding colors for each of the departments and business entities. In conjunction with these exciting changes, the team agreed upon a suite of new print materials, social media platforms and the development of a new website. Our goal is to have complementary and aligned communication platforms that effectively and professionally convey our resources and services throughout the region.

We are excited to now be recognized as:



Learn more about our
Branding Initiative on page 6

Helping Hand Resources at The Arc of Greater Brockton

The Arc of Greater Brockton Team understands that individuals and families can experience various hardships from time-to-time. We welcome the opportunity to provide assistance through our Friends of The Arc Helping Hand Fund and Family Support Essentials Room.

The Friends of The Arc Helping Hand Fund is available to cover the cost of an unexpected expense, as well as to support skill development programs and recreation activities. *(Additional information on back cover.)*

Our Family Support Center Essentials Room is open and stocked with non-perishable food items, personal hygiene items, and Personal Protection Equipment.

(See page 10 for additional information).





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Worst of Times – The Best of Times

It has been almost 14 months since we last communicated and there is much to report. When we last communicated, The Arc of Greater Brockton was in the midst of a series of transitions never before experienced in the history of the organization. Program staff changes and retirements, program closings due to a once in a hundred years global pandemic, the retirement of our long tenured executive director, and the selection of a new executive director to replace Jay Lynch all merged and created unprecedented challenges for the Board of Directors. I am happy to report, however, that in addition to overcoming these challenges, the organization is moving to the forefront with new and exciting opportunities.

But, it took a village forged by public and private partnerships! Over the last year and a half, BAArc staff has heroically provided services to families and individuals virtually and, when necessary, in person. The Abington Savings Bank approved a federal government small business loan. The State Department of Developmental Services continued funding for programs and services. All Aboard The Arc donors loyally continued their support. Granting agencies such as The United Way of Plymouth County, Easton Lions Club, and The Goddard Foundation came through yet again. Without a doubt, these public and private partners positioned BAArc so that we could keep our employees whole. The result: effective and efficient services for our individuals with disabilities and their families throughout the critical months of the pandemic.

The 2021-2022 year began with a Board decision to initiate a one year plan to address the unknown program and staffing challenges resulting from the pandemic, assess our facility and marketing needs, and ensure the agency's financial stability. As a result, we are extremely proud to make you aware of the following:

- The facility at 1250 West Chestnut Street in Brockton has been named The Jay Lynch Center. The official commemoration honoring Jay is scheduled for the spring of 2022.
- The Brockton Area Arc has been renamed The Arc of Greater Brockton. The change is consistent with our state and the national Arcs and more appropriately reflects our regional commitment.
- Facility improvements at West Chestnut Street are underway and will continue throughout the fiscal year. Stop by and see for yourself our newly painted interior, artwork and renovations.
- On-site daily programs are up and running at more than 90% capacity. Support services are in full swing.
- We have a new suite of marketing materials, social media platforms and a new website to promote the organization and provide comprehensive resources and information.
- Our fiscal years FY20 and FY21 document a sound financial position. This has been accomplished because of the public and private partnerships noted above.
- The Board of Directors will initiate a 3-year Strategic Planning process (July 1, 2022 through June 2025) beginning in the winter of 2022. We will reach out and encourage all stakeholders of The Arc of Greater Brockton to participate.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Palladino
President of the Board of Directors

2021 A Year of Transition, Perseverance, Challenges and Change



So much has happened since our last All Aboard The Arc newsletter that it will be impossible to capture it all, but let's review a few of the highlights.

The Fall of 2020 brought a successful transition in leadership as Jay Lynch retired after 37 years with the organization and Dean Rizzo took the helm. The transition included a October 20, 2020 celebration of Jay's leadership with a spirited drive-by parade and a virtual ceremony that included an announcement by the Board of Directors to name the building we own "The Jay Lynch Center". An official dedication ceremony will take place in the Spring of 2022.

Also in October 2020, the organization celebrated another successful All Aboard The Arc fundraiser and \$10,000 drawing, raising over \$45,000. An active and long-time supporter of the organization, Suzanne Brown, was the winner of the \$10,000 drawing, and her support continued as she generously gave \$3,000 from her winning ticket back to the organization. Our next All Aboard The Arc event will take place in the Spring of 2022.

▲ Facility Improvements:

The organization has transformed several internal spaces within the facility through the establishment of two exercise rooms (Fit Zones), two sensory rooms (Chill Zones), a fully equipped music room (Music Zone), and art gallery spaces (Art Zone). The Art Zone is a collaboration with Brockton Arts, local artists in the region, and our talented in-house artists (our many participants).

Throughout the past year program rooms and office spaces have been painted and received furniture upgrades. This work was undertaken in conjunction with the installation of new wall hangings, murals and signage installed throughout the facility.



Former Executive Director Jay Lynch enjoys his Drive-By Parade Celebration



All Aboard The Arc \$10,000 drawing winner Suzanne Brown gives back from her winnings – presenting Jay Lynch and Dean Rizzo with a \$3,000 check.

The organization developed a Parking, Circulation, Drainage and Landscaping Plan to create safer pedestrian and vehicle circulation patterns, as well as improve the overall aesthetic qualities of the property. The improvements are designed to connect all of the parking areas, expand parking capacity, improve underground drainage systems, enhance the Redemption Center access, install new weather protection canopies over the entrances, rebuild the handicap ramp at the Day Hab entrance, and provide better directional signage throughout the property. Thanks to a \$100,000 Facilities Improvement Grant from the City of Brockton Redevelopment Authority, work will begin in the Spring of 2022.

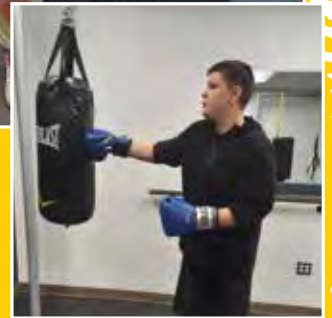
Our exterior recreation space received a facelift with the addition of a newly installed grass green space, new outside furniture, a small expansion to provide a dedicated basketball court, and an anticipated new garden shed in the Spring of 2022.



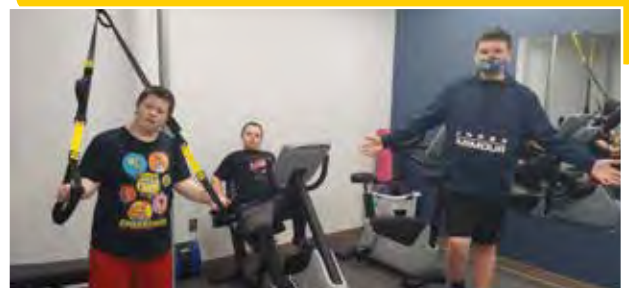
New colors are added to the exterior of the Pearl Street side of the facility.



Having fun using the new equipment in the new Fit Zone Exercise Rooms.



Executive Director Dean Rizzo and Dwight M. lift sod to prepare for planting in the renovated recreation area.



▲ Operating Safely and Effectively Through the Covid-19 Pandemic

Through the dedicated efforts of the staff and Board of Directors the organization maintained successful in-person and remote services throughout the Covid-19 Pandemic. The organization only had one Covid-19 related closure (one week) during the past 14 months since reopening in August of 2020. We are pleased that through the collective efforts of staff, participants, and families, the organization continues to maintain a safe Covid-19 free environment.

Today, we are pleased to announce that we are back to full in-person capacity in all program areas. We are excited to welcome new participants every month as we continue to grow and expand our services and resource offerings.

▲ New Family Support Contract with the State Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

In early 2021, The Arc of Greater Brockton was awarded a new multi-year contract with the State Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to maintain its Family Support Center in the region. The Family Support Center provides planning assistance, information, education, and referral services to assist parents in managing the challenges of raising a child with intellectual and developmental disabilities and autism spectrum disorders. These services also extend to the people who love and support them: parents, siblings, grandparents, educators, and others. Members of the Family Support Center Team include Coordinators that are fluent in Portuguese, Cape Verdean Creole, French, Spanish and Haitian Creole.

The newly awarded contract also included an expansion of services. A new staff position was created to provide services and resources for Adults with an Autism Spectrum Disorder, and their families. In addition the Family Support Center added a new Intensive Flexible Family Support unit to assist families experiencing significant challenges, and/or families that have more than one individual with a disability.

In addition to the Family Support Center, The Arc of Greater Brockton has a multi-year contract with DDS in support of our Community Based Day Supports and Employment Services Departments. We greatly appreciate our long-standing partnership with DDS as we continuously strive to provide the best programs, resources and experiences in support of individuals and families throughout the region.

▲ Accreditations of Quality, Assurance and Licensing Renewed for Another Year!

In September 2021 the organization received two accreditation renewals in support of the Community Based Days Supports, Employment Services and Day Habilitation operations.

Our Day Habilitation program is accredited by CARF International through the completion of an Annual Conformance to Quality Report. The approved accreditation acknowledges that The Arc of Greater Brockton demonstrated conformance, to a variety of standards including the physical environment, integrated planning, promoting input from stakeholders, maintaining effective policies and procedures, striving for quality performance and demonstrating a proactive approach in the implementation of the programs and services provided to participants.

Our Community Based Day Supports and Employment Services Departments are licensed and certified to operate under the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services (DDS). In September the DDS Office of Quality Enhancement completed a review of the operations and scored the agency on a variety of operational, administrative and program indicators. DDS was very complimentary of our operations and provided us a score of 89% for Certification and 96% for Licensing. Although we are very pleased with these high scores we will continue to work with our partners at DDS to make the necessary adjustments in areas that need improvement, and will always strive to achieve a score of 100% in future reviews.

New Rear Drop Off and Pick Up Entrance for Day Hab

A newly enhanced rear entrance to the Day Hab facility now provides a safe and convenient drop off and pick up area for transportation services. The new entrance was created as part of a small expansion of the recreation space to accommodate a new basketball court. This expansion was made possible through the generosity of Ben Albanese, owner of the adjacent commercial property and Tutto Bene Restaurant, who allowed The Arc to use a portion of his parking area for the expansion.



Changing our name to The Arc of Greater Brockton is the cornerstone of new branding initiative.

Continued from Branding Initiative on Cover.

Our corporate/legal name will remain for now "The Brockton Area Arc, Inc." however our "Doing Business As" name will now be "The Arc of Greater Brockton". Beginning our name with "The Arc" conforms with national branding standards, and improves our name recognition and alignment with fellow Arc Chapters in Southeastern MA such as The Arc of the South Shore, The Arc of Plymouth and Upper Cape Cod, and The Arc of Bristol County.

Individual logos were developed for each of our various Departments and Programs, which are all slightly unique as they maintain alignment with the primary organization logo.



Supporting Families and Individuals with Varying Abilities in Southeastern MA



The primary elements of the organization logo has not changed (orange arch) in order to maintain conformity with The Arc National branding standards. However, we feel our new name (The Arc of Greater Brockton) and new tag line better identifies with the greater region and the participants we serve. In addition, the incorporation of national branding colors for the individual departments provides colorful and distinct identifiers.

New Website

We are eager to launch a dynamic new website before the end of the year. The new website will consist of a comprehensive overview of the many programs and services, detailed resource listings, and easy to navigate controls for all ability levels.

Our new URL to match our new name will be www.arcofgreaterbrockton.org





Employment Services



Participants celebrate another successful work day at the Brockton Rox over the summer.

The Employment Services Program has been up and running strong since the Covid-19 Pandemic began. We were able to reopen our Redemption Center in July of 2020 with a slightly different look. We moved all customer operations outside into the parking area, where we continue to help customers today. Our job development program, which helps individuals find employment in the community, has been actively operating as well, including helping those that are ready to return to work.

Here are some examples of what our employment programs have been doing:

- We welcomed new participants Mahalia F., Michael M., Christopher L., Mathew S., Natasha M., Malachi C., and Jovarie P. to the Employment Program.
- We were able to return to our partnership with the Brockton Rox for the 2021 season, after 2020 was played without fans or employees. This year we were able to have 18 individuals hired by the Rox so congratulations to Carl A, Cathy A, David P, David B, Elvis S, Chris L, Michael M, Malachi C, Natasha M, James C, Nichole D, Elenor T, Darlene F, Danny R, Joanni P, Dennis D, Kiabely G, and Jomo J on a great season. We also want to give a big thank you to The Chateau in Stoughton for hosting our end of the season celebration for the Rox.
- We had several individuals get new jobs during this time. Congratulations to Adam F for accepting a full time position with Home Depot as a lot attendant. Congratulations to Christian C for accepting a new position at Bridgewater State University in the cafeteria. Congratulations to Jeffrey J for accepting his new position at Shaws as a stocker.
- Our contract with USESI, a local electric wholesale warehouse in Stoughton, was able to get started up again after the pandemic. We started by completing a large labeling job for them before returning to our usual job tasks and work crew schedule of bringing 2-3 participants with a staff member to their facility every day.
- We were able to start a small coffee and soda shop within the program that allows many individuals to try selling coffee and soda as a work opportunity.



Nicole D., Darlene F., and Dawn G. working as photographers for the Enchanted Village at Jordan's Furniture in Stoughton.

- As a response to the pandemic we offered remote services through zoom which sparked a new group; The Career Club. Participants met over zoom twice a week from March - May 2021. The Career Club was a great opportunity for participants learn new job skills and we are looking forward to resuming it in the near future. When Career Club activities are scheduled you can find them on our website calendar and join if you like.

PROGRAM UPDATES

- Our Employment Services has been developing a way to offer services to those not receiving services from the State Department of Developmental Services (DDS). As a response we are now offering employment services to individuals for a fee that can be paid by the family or through funding received elsewhere. This new program began in October in the hopes of expanding the number of people we can reach with our employment services. Please contact Adam Belmore, Director of Employment Services, if you wish to find out more about these services.
- We expanded our employment services staff by adding Mark Auger as our new Assistant Director, and Ana Contreras as our new Group Supported Employment Specialist – joining David Rego and Ray McMullen as part of the Group Supported Team. We also welcomed Jean Snow, former Redemption Center Manager, as a new Employment Specialist along with Patrick McDonald and Cindy Gray in the Job Development Team.



Dennis D. applies shrink wrap around a pallet of bottles before they are loaded on the truck.

October Northeaster did not keep the Employment Services Team inside.

The recent October Northeaster certainly caused a lot of power outages and tree damage in our region, which kept The Arc of Greater Brockton closed for the day – but not for everyone. A few of the staff that arrived for work that morning quickly learned that the wind blew down the fencing that contained an outside storage area of cans for the Redemption Center. This caused a significant mess in the parking areas of our neighboring businesses. Within 30 minutes, the entire Employment Services Team arrived and spent the majority of the morning cleaning up and re-securing the outside storage area. Although it was a windy and rainy morning, you can see from the group picture they maintained a good attitude and sense of humor to the bitter end. And a delivery of some sweets from Whites Bakery to our business neighbors as our apology for the mess brought a smile to them as well.





Family Support Center



Members of the Young Men's Group enjoy some camaraderie during a recent outside activity.

The Family Support Center Team has been very active throughout the Covid-19 Pandemic – helping families cope with the isolation and financial constraints in a variety of ways throughout the region.

As the winter season approaches we would like to remind individuals and families that our Essentials Room is open and stocked with non-perishable food items, as well as personal hygiene items. A newly installed freezer has a variety of frozen items to complete any meal. Personal Protection Equipment packets are also available which include a face shield, masks, hand sanitizer, alcohol wipes and gloves. Families can come into the facility at anytime during regular business hours to select any items you may need.

The Family Support Center was awarded a new contract from the State Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to not only keep providing quality support services in the region but to also diversify and expand services. A new staff position was created to provide services and resources for Adults with an Autism Spectrum Disorder, and their families. In addition, the Family Support Center added a new Intensive Flexible Family Supports unit to assist families experiencing significant challenges and/or families with more than one individual with a disability.

The Fall and Winter seasons are upon us and with that brings a variety of Family Support Center offerings.

PROGRAMS FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS:

Parent Support Groups are held on the 1st Thursday of the month at The Arc of Greater Brockton from 9–11 a.m.

Virtual Caregiver groups meet on the 1st Friday of the month, 7-8:30 p.m.

Transition Series Group meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month from 6:30 – 8 p.m. Each meeting will highlight a different transitional planning topic including financial planning, housing, guardianship, etc.

The Empowering Families Workshop series is offered in Portuguese Sundays at 5 p.m. Topics include; Basic Rights in Special Education, IEP for my Child, Effective Communication, Intro to Transition, IEP Clinic and Strategies for an IEP meeting.

Date Nights are back. This is a once a month offering giving parents and caregivers some time alone while providing a safe and fun environment for their children. Ages 6-16 are welcome. Packed with fun engaging activities that all can enjoy. There is a small fee for each family and dinner is provided.

The Haitian Family Support Group will be starting soon with dates and times to be determined.

Thank you to all the families that attended our Meet and Greet sessions that were held at Marathon Park in Bridgewater. Thank you as well to the families that attended the Agency with Choice Meet and Greet that was held at The Arc of Greater Brockton. It was a pleasure to connect and share information with families. There will be more opportunities to meet Family Supports Team members with upcoming Meet and Greet sessions to be announced.

PROGRAM UPDATES

PROGRAMS FOR KIDS AND YOUNG ADULTS:

Social and Recreational programs have begun in earnest with Young Men and Young Women groups back up and running.

The ASD social and recreational program has offered different activities from pizza night, gaming clubs, a luau dance and social skills groups. We look forward to offering additional activities going forward.

The Nintendo Switch Club will run Thursday afternoons for ages 12 to 15.

Sibshops started back in the spring and are fun action-packed workshops for kids ages 7-13 years that have a brother or sister with developmental disabilities. This opportunity allows participants to connect and bond with others that share a common experience. They run every Friday in a hybrid model with some outside field trips.

The Young Women's Crew meets every other Thursday from 5:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m. for both in-house activities at The Arc and community inclusive activities. We promote confidence, acceptance, and most importantly lasting friendships for young women ages 14-30.

The Young Men's Crew is a group that is fun and active. We emphasize building friendships while doing things together like making music, and cooking. There are also community adventures such as movies, bowling and mini golf to name a few. They meet every other Wednesday evening from 5:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. either in-house or out in the community creating bonds with others ages 15-30.

Please check out the monthly calendar on our website for additional information regarding programs and groups such as **ZUMBA, Drums Alive, Boxing, and The Out and About Crew.**

For more information on any of the programs contact Nelson Cordiero, Program Director at 508-583-8030 x241.



A summer day trip to the Southwick Zoo was organized by the Family Support Recreation Team

Essentials Room for Food and Household Items

As the winter season approaches our Essentials Room is open and stocked with non-perishable food items, as well as personal hygiene items. A newly installed freezer has a variety of frozen items to complete any meal. Personal Protection Equipment packets are also available which include a face shield, masks, hand sanitizer, alcohol wipes and gloves. Families can come into the facility at any time during regular business hours to select items you may need.



Day Habilitation



The Day Hab team enjoy a little Halloween festivities the Friday before Halloween.

The Arc of Greater Brockton Day Habilitation Program is pleased to once again offer a variety of community inclusive outings. With the many changes in individuals' routines and access to activities as a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic it is a welcome change to be able to connect with the community once again. Participants were able to enjoy DW Field Park and have frequented local businesses and establishments since state and federal restrictions were eased.

A mobile petting zoo visited The Arc of Greater Brockton, and participants were given the opportunity to interact with a variety of baby animals. Participants were able to pet and hold animals - making a connection with them emphasizing a positive and therapeutic effect. Thank you to The Barn Babies for providing a wonderful experience for all involved.

The Day Hab has established a new monthly Day of Recognition of Individuality. These occasions highlight individuals' birthdays, milestones and accomplishments, and have proven to be a huge success. The Day Hab is proud to collectively emphasize all of our participants' accomplishments and celebrate their individuality.

Through the creation of a new Fit Zone within Day Hab participation in fitness initiatives has now become part of everyone's daily routine. This has been another big success in our efforts to expand the program experience for our participants. Exercise routines and programs are developed and modified to fit the interest and abilities of each individual. Participation level in the Fit Zone programs is high, and all enjoy engaging in some level of physical fitness activities every day.



Greg M. and Warding J. enjoy the baby animals as part of the Barn Babies visit to The Arc.

Arts and Crafts lessons have also begun in earnest. All members have access to arts and crafts programs that are run by two of our dedicated staff. These classes encourage creativity and personal expression through different mediums. In collaboration with Community Based Day Supports, art classes are also held with the support of Brockton Arts and local painting instructor Myrlene Legendre Desir (Mimi). This is a new initiative referred to as the Art Zone, and as new art work is completed it is hung in our new Art Gallery space for all to see and enjoy. These classes have been very well received and will be offered in the future.



Dwight M., Billy M. and Stephen O. show off their artwork and favorite teams.



Community Based Day Supports



Dawn G. and Nicole D. show off their art work.

The Community Based Day Supports (CBDS) Program is running at full capacity, with a majority of our participants attending the program full-time. Keeping our participants safe as they engage in different activities has been our priority as well ensuring participants are able to enjoy a variety of in-house activities and community outings.

Our talented participants have been painting with Myrlene Legendre Desir (Mimi) from Brockton Arts the past few months. Brockton Arts is a non-profit art organization and we are excited to establish a new collaboration to promote art in the community. Our participants are enhancing their painting techniques, and the finished work are displayed in our new Art Gallery space within our CBDS areas.

Mahalia had a story on her mind, and from there, she created her masterpiece. She has a creative mind and enjoys painting.

It was great to welcome back The Barn Babies this past September as they brought in bunnies, kitties, puppies, a baby goat, a piglet, and many more little critters. It was an extraordinary therapy session, and all staff and participants enjoyed spending some quality time with the baby animals.



Mahalia F. painting her masterpiece.



Sandy M. and Mat S. enjoy The Barn Babies.

What's Cooking in CBDS?

Our Cooking Club has been a big hit for the past eight months, as participants learn about kitchen safety, food safety, and more while cooking some delicious meals.

They are also learning to make different cultural recipes, with a recent focus on Spanish, Cape Verdean, Haitian and Irish foods. The Cooking Club is open to all of our participants who want to learn kitchen skills as part of their ISP goals.

We had a busy summer and we are looking forward to a productive fall season with a lot of new adventures.



Joanni P. learning new skills and recipes at The Cooking Club.

New Program to Celebrate our Business & Family Contributors, and Grant Providers

We are pleased to announce a new Corporate, Individual and Family Sponsorship Program – providing a variety of investment opportunities to support the organization. Annual sponsorship levels have been established ranging from \$100 to \$10,000, as well as many new creative giving opportunities.

Generous investments in The Arc of Greater Brockton support the development and implementation of meaningful, dynamic and impactful programs, as well as the resources and services to support our participants and their families.

Individuals and Families are encouraged to become **members of The Arc of Greater Brockton for \$25** a year, providing access to a variety of resources and services through The Arc (National) and The Arc of Massachusetts.

Additional ways in which you can support the organization include our Vehicle Donation Program, Amazon Smiles Donation Program, Tributes and Memorial Gifts, Friends of The Arc Helping Hand Fund and sponsorship of one of our Activity Zones and/or Conference Rooms. The Arc of Greater Brockton is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization, and your memberships and sponsorship investments are tax deductible as charitable contributions.

The organization is grateful for the support and involvement of so many throughout the year.

Please join us in thanking the following for their generous financial and in-kind contributions this past year.

CORPORATE:

Titanium - \$10,000+

Snow & Jones

Gold - \$2,500 - \$4,999

Tennant Company

Ockers Company

Tutto Bene Restaurant

Silver - \$1,000 - \$2,499

JK Holgrem Engineering

Pando Architects

Prestige Car Wash & Gas

Sign Design

Office Gallery International

Copper - \$500 - \$999

South Shore Plumbing & Gas

Inspectors

Nickel - \$100 - \$249

Dan Urbano Photography

Zeolla Plumbing & Remodeling

INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES:

Platinum - \$5,000 - \$9,999

Richard Connolly Family

Gold - \$2,500 - \$4,999

Jonathan Gardner and Friends

Stephen and Suzanne Brown

Silver - \$1,000 - \$2,499

Edward and Barbara Carchidi

Raymond and Joanne Bergeron

Mark Christensen

Helen and Marc Zade

Copper - \$500 - \$999

Joan and James Radziewicz

The Ellertson Family

Nickel - \$100 - \$249

Tom Taranto & Diane McCormack

GRANTS AND ORGANIZATION CONTRIBUTIONS

The City of Brockton

Redevelopment Authority \$164,000

United Way of Greater Plymouth County \$10,402

The Goddard Foundation \$2,500

Easton Lions Club \$5,000



Ryan Demar from Tennant (second from right) with members of The Arc of Greater Brockton Employment Services Team review the new floor cleaning machine they donated to the organization.



Nicole Kelley from Ockers Company presents Dean Rizzo with a \$3,000 check donation.

Boy Scouts Eagle Project Provides More Space in Redemption Center

The Redemption Center has a newly built off the ground storage space thanks to the work of Mason Anglin-Rizzo and fellow Boy Scouts from Troop 9 in Plymouth. Mason (son of Executive Director Dean Rizzo) was seeking a community project for his Eagle Scout Award, the highest rank one can achieve in Boy Scouts. Mason approached The Arc of Greater Brockton to see if there was anything that he could do to support the organization for his project. The team at The Arc quickly identified the challenge of properly storing cans and bottles prior to sorting at the facility – noting the large pile of cans located in one portion of the redemption space. The Arc team then worked with Mason to design a solution, which was the construction of an upper level storage area in a portion of the Redemption Center space.

The final design was the construction of a 12-foot x 32-foot platform 9-feet off the ground – providing space for bags of cans on the platform and the safe storage of pallets with glass bottles under the platform. The project was approved by the Boy Scout Leadership Council, and Mason quickly went to work raising \$1,550 of the \$2,300 project cost through private donations. The Arc of Greater Brockton picked up the remaining \$800 cost.



Before



During

Over two days in October, Mason and several fellow Boy Scouts worked with adult leaders to construct the platform. The finished product has proven to be even a greater benefit to the Redemption Center than originally anticipated. “The new platform really created a lot more storage area than we thought, allowing us the opportunity to take advantage of our high ceilings to store the cans above, creating more floor area below for clearer walking areas and the safer storage of the pallets of glass”, commented Adam Belmore, Director of Employment Services.



After

The Arc of Massachusetts and The Arc National Provides a Wealth of Resources.

The Arc of Greater Brockton is a local non-profit Chapter of The Arc of the United States, and The Arc of Massachusetts. We are one of eighteen Arc Chapters located in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Working collectively on local, state and federal levels the various organizations advocate on a daily basis to foster social inclusion, self-determination, and equity across all aspects of society. We encourage you to follow updated information on The Arc National website (www.thearc.org) and The Arc of Massachusetts website (www.thearcofmass.org). **You can become a member of The Arc of Greater Brockton for \$25 a year and you will receive updates and information from these organizations throughout the year.**

Welcome New Staff and Congratulations to Recent Advancements & Milestones in the past Year

Welcome New Members of The Arc In-house Team



Aria Araujo
CBDS Coordinator
Community Based Day Supports



Mark Auger
Assistant Director
Employment Services



Aisha Boykin
Spanish Outreach Coordinator
Family Support Center



Ana Contreras
Group Employment Specialist
Employment Services



Nelson Cordiero
Director of the Family Support Center
Director of the Day Habilitation Program



Tracey Glynn
Activities and Recreation Coordinator
Family Support Center



Chrissy Rivers
Intensive Flexible Family Supports Coordinator
Family Support Center



Ashely Santos
Outreach Coordinator
Family Support Center



Joseph Smith
CBDS Coordinator
Community Based Day Supports

Staff Milestones

Thank you for being part of our Team!



Laura White – 35 Year Anniversary
CBDS Coordinator
Community Based Day Supports



Elizabeth Sebastiao – 20 Year Anniversary
CBDS Coordinator
Community Based Day Supports



Eleonor Jean- Pierre – 15 Year Anniversary
Family Support Coordinator
Family Support Center



Patrick McDonald – 5 Year Anniversary
Employment Specialist
Employment Services

Congratulations to these Team Members on Recent Promotions and Position Changes



Joana Brandao
Assistant Director and Case Manager
Community Based Day Supports



Medgine Dufrene
Case Manager
Community Based Day Supports



Cathy Hickey
Assistant Director and DESE Coordinator
Family Support Center



Vanessa Hunter
Assistant Director and Case Manager
Day Habilitation



Patrick McDonald
Employment Specialist
Employment Services



Kelly McDonald
Support Specialist
Day Habilitation



Leila Miranda
ASD Coordinator
Family Support Center



Ernie Ortega
AWC Coordinator
Family Support Center



Tina Patricelli
Case Manager and Support Specialist
Day Habilitation



Jean Snow-Haskell
Employment Specialist
Employment Services



Stephanie Solana
RN Healthcare Support
Day Habilitation and Community Based Day Supports



Adam Belmore – 5 Year Anniversary
Director of Employment Services



Eileen Solano – 10 Year Anniversary
RN Healthcare Support
Day Habilitation



Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
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PERMIT No. 223

The Arc of Greater Brockton
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Phone: 508-583-8030

Web: arcofgreaterbrockton.org



**PROUDLY SERVING THE
FOLLOWING COMMUNITIES:**

- Abington • Avon • Bridgewater
- Brockton • East Bridgewater • Easton
- Holbrook • Rockland • Stoughton
- West Bridgewater • Whitman

All Aboard the Arc

NEWSLETTER | WINTER 2021



Annual Golf Tournament Planned for June 6th at Thorny Lea in Brockton

After a two year hiatus due to the Covid-19 Pandemic we are pleased to announce that The Arc of Greater Brockton Annual Golf Tournament will take place on June 6th, 2022 at Thorny Lea Golf Club in Brockton. This will be the first time having the tournament in Brockton, and we are excited to have the event at such a beautiful facility in our home town. Registration information and sponsorship opportunities will be sent out after the first of the year, but please mark your calendars now for June 6th – we have also booked a sunny 70 degree day!

Friends of The Arc Helping Hand Charitable Fund

Our Charitable Fund is available to help individuals and families that need a helping hand to cover the cost of an unexpected bill, utilities expense, health care fee, housing expense, or transportation fee. The fund is also available to help pay for registration fees associated with the participation in recreation activities, camperships and skill development programs and services. For additional information and to receive an application contact your Case Manager or Family Support Coordinator.

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