

500 North Park Avenue | Fond du Lac, WI | 54935

*The Arc fosters respect and access for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families, giving them the power to achieve a full and satisfying life.*

*Achieve with us.*

Visit us at [www.arcfdl.org](http://www.arcfdl.org) | Contact us at 920-923-3810 | [info@arcfdl.org](mailto:info@arcfdl.org)

## Join our Mission Join Our Mission

The Arc Fond du Lac was first established in 1963 to address the growing need in the community to serve families who have loved ones with disabilities. As part of a national network of organizations dedicated to providing support and services for people with I/DD, The Arc Fond du Lac has grown to be the largest Arc chapter in Wisconsin. Presently, The Arc serves over 750 individuals with disabilities annually. The Arc has primarily received its operating revenue from Medicaid funding of individual clients of The Arc. This revenue source has proven to be inconsistent, with service rates fluctuating from year to year. Through this, The Arc has remained dedicated to providing high-quality services for all individuals who require assistance. Because of this dedication, we ask for the community to join us to provide this support. There are many ways to support the clients and families of The Arc. If you are interested, please contact our Development Department.



### DATES TO REMEMBER

January 31  
St. Peters Lions Club  
Sub Sale  
FDL Pick & Save and Festival  
Foods

February 13  
National Exchange Bank  
Bake Sale

February 21  
Polar Plunge  
Oshkosh Menomonie Park

February 26  
Awards & Recognition Dinner  
Knights of Columbus Hall

*A word from your  
Friends at The Arc*

## Youth at the Arc Youth at the Arc

### Mission Statement

The Arc Fond du Lac is a human service organization that empowers people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to become independent and integrated into the community through advocacy, education, training and support

For the past eight years, The Arc Fond du Lac has been running an impactful Youth Enrichment Program for children with disabilities. The program consists of after-school, Saturday, and summer respite. Individualized activities are provided for each youth attending, including educational and health and wellness programming. Our foundational approach of the program is to teach our youth respectful and appropriate methods of communication and interaction. Youth whom attend this program have the opportunity to develop independent skills, gain a greater sense of self-awareness and confidence. Families have recognized this program as a true benefit, allowing parents to also live an enriched life.

A special treat for the participants is when groups or individuals volunteer for the program. In December, a local school group volunteered to come in and help our children make some special snacks. In all, dozens of cookies were decorated by the group, but much more importantly, friendships were developed. If one were to ask the children involved, another important point is that the cookies were delicious!

Volunteers at The Arc Fond du Lac come in with a variety of talents and interests to share with our clients. Often groups come from organizations, companies, or schools. The Arc is also fortunate to have many individuals who donate their time with our programs. Volunteer activities could include one-on-one time with a client, teaching a skill to a group of people, helping our residential homes with maintenance needs, or clerical work. The Arc is always looking for great individuals or groups to partner with. If you are interested in volunteering with The Arc, please contact our Human Resource Department.

### What's Inside?

Youth at the Arc

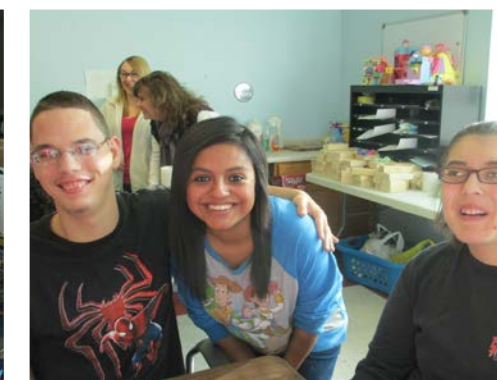
Opportunities Aboard

Community Enrichment

The Arc's Transportation

Home Sweet Home

Community Support



*Hope, growth, change...*

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Newsletter. More features, client activities and pictures are but a few of the changes, all in a more readable format. Let us know what you think. Again, I hope you all have a prosperous fun filled New Year. Thanks for supporting The Arc! -David A. Boelter

# A Note from the Executive Director

Happy New Year! The Arc Fond du Lac looks forward to 2015 with much promise and anticipation of continued expansion of our client services. 2014 saw us renovate our Day Services Center and build two state of the art group homes. In 2015, we will construct two more homes and renovate one other to bring on full time respite services to the Fond du Lac area. All this was made possible due to the tremendous success of our Capital Campaign. All of us at The Arc thank you, our dedicated supporters, for making this happen. As we expand our infrastructure and renovate our properties, the better able we are to serve our people with special needs.

Finally, this publication ushers in a new format for our Quarterly

## The Arc Spotlight *Paul*

Although relatively new to The Arc, Paul is thriving in both our Opportunities Center and Community Enrichment Programs. Paul also has a part-time job cleaning an office. His smile and enthusiasm for life are contagious. Staff at The Arc note that Paul is exceptionally helpful and considerate of others. He shines on the basketball court, as he is a vital member of The Arc Basketball Team and competes throughout the state. Paul is also an avid bowler and can often be found in the lanes during CEP bowling. His positive and upbeat manner leave quite the impression on all that interact with him. Paul has a love that is second to none of two things in life: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and Walker, Texas Ranger.



## Opportunities Abound

The Opportunities Center by The Arc is a day service program for the area community. The OC is a stand-out program known for the staff's determination to provide the highest quality care for our clients. One of the many highlights of the program are the numerous trips that we take around the state and beyond. Our clients have a variety of interests that allow our trips schedule to be filled with many exciting adventures. Jessica Kimball, Director of Day Services, understands the benefits of engaging our clients with the local community. "Not only are our many trips a positive experience for our clients, but they become unofficial ambassadors for The Arc. They all know that and love to share their excitement with community members." Recent outings have included the Shedd Aquarium, Mulberry Farms, Lambeau Field, Pottery Plus, and The Little Farmer to name a few. The staff also make an effort to bring in educational and entertaining programming. Often therapy dogs, music therapists, as well as the occasional magician can be found working in the OC.

# Community Enrichment



The Arc's Community Enrichment Program provides adults with disabilities many opportunities for safe, fun and supportive experiences in public environments. Whether it's learning about reading nutritional food labels while grocery shopping, attending local concerts, or going out for a leisurely fishing trip the CEP participants are a common entity in the community. One of the larger roles that the CEP performs is the coordination of our competitive sporting teams. The Arc has several Basketball, Bocce Ball, Swimming, and Bowling teams. Our teams compete throughout the state, with many awards and state-wide place holdings credited to the athletes at The Arc. Recently, The Arc wrapped up our competitive bowling season with much success. This year, 82 bowlers participated in competition. Five of our teams and one person competing in the individual division advanced to the

state competition. One of our teams took away a bronze, two teams took silver, and our individual bowler took home the gold medal. When asked about this state wide sweep, an Arc athlete said "I like to bowl, I'm pretty good at it and we practice a lot. But I really like being with my friends, and my coach is fun to be around."

## Home Sweet Home



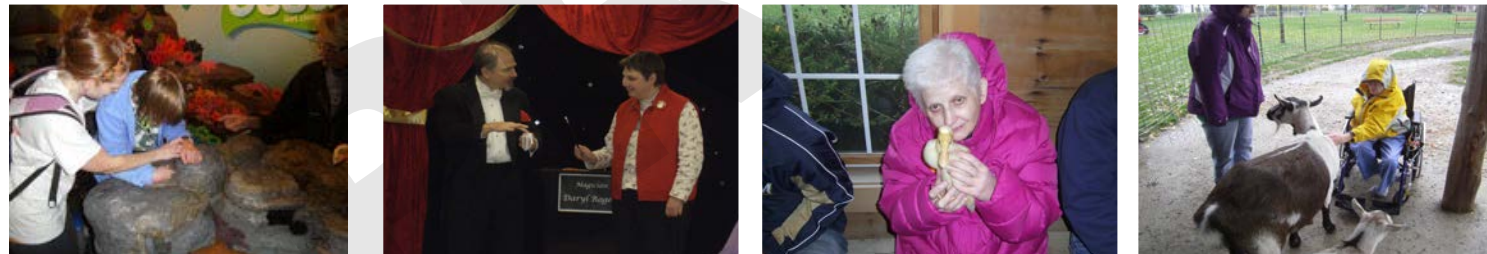
The Arc Fond du Lac's Residential Services is growing leaps and bounds. Six of our Arc residents have moved into two new adult family homes in December. These houses were built specifically to address the needs of individuals with disabilities while providing a well-built and beautiful home. An Arc property that was formerly an adult family home is in the process of being completely remodeled, turning it into the only respite home in the Fond du Lac area. This home will be used to provide parents and caregivers a safe and well-run home for their loved ones to stay for a short while. Opening in May, our respite home will be staffed by Arc employees who are some of the best-trained residential staff in the state. In addition to this growth, The Arc will be constructing two additional adult family homes to be occupied by early fall of 2015.

# The Arc Transportation

The Arc Fond du Lac houses a transportation department unique to our area. Our fleet of 26 vehicles is not only available to our various programs to provide our clients transportation, but twelve other area organizations utilize our mini-busses, vans, and cars. In 2014, Arc Transportation provided 23,260 rides for individuals. Our vehicles traversed 249,989 miles this year. Our vehicles are available for use by other organizations and individuals. If you are interested in a vehicle rental, please contact our transportation department.



# Photos from The Arc



Embracing

Opportunity