

I want a job!

Four individuals from our community are currently part of The Arc's Project SEARCH program in partnership with Iowa State University and Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation.



Project SEARCH is a very successful employment training and placement model. The goal of Project SEARCH is to have each participant exit the program with a job in a business in the community.

With the extremely high placement rates of those from Project SEARCH, individuals with disabilities are achieving their dreams of competitive employment. The Arc shares in the belief that all individuals can work in integrated settings in the community when provided the appropriate training and supports. The Arc looks forward to sharing more about the four students and their accomplishments in the coming year.

Fan Mail

The following letter was an email we received at The Arc office from a parent of one of our participants.

“I would like to continue volunteering for The Arc activities. Especially if it is an activity Chloe is participating in. I can help with other activities too if needed. Let me know where I can be most useful in support of your mission. I have really come to appreciate the wonderful impact The Arc makes on its clients and how important The Arc is to the Ames community. It has been a wonderful experience for Chloe in developing a network of new friends and supportive adults that will help her integrate successfully in the Ames community after she graduates from high school.



Chloe and Allan Schmidt

Achieve with us.

Do you know someone with an intellectual or developmental disability? Maybe you know someone who does. They may be your friend, neighbor, schoolmate, co-worker or someone else who is an important part of your life. Perhaps you've wondered what you can do to help them lead lives of full participation and inclusion in the community. If you have an interest in getting involved, The Arc can help you. The Arc is an advocate for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, preserving and protecting fundamental rights through advocacy and action in support of legislation for civil rights, employment, housing, and numerous supports. We connect people with disabilities, their families, professionals, and others (like you?) to create hope, growth, and change. This is your chance to join us as an advocate, not only for the person you know, but for millions of people living with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We'll work with you to make a difference with a clear, strong, collective voice.



Letter From the Director

The Arc Board of Directors recently completed the task of completing the strategic plan for the next year. What is a strategic plan? It's a process of envisioning a desired future and translating that vision into broadly defined goals and a sequence of steps on how to achieve them. The Arc's strategic plan is intended to be a management tool for The Arc. This plan recognizes the ever-changing environment of the services we provide to the families and participants living in Story County.



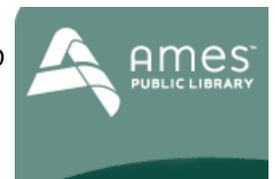
Being part of the tentative funding world that we live in, The Arc Board has developed a separate fundraising committee, whose main purpose will be to establish a fundraising plan, take the lead in outreach efforts and hold all board members responsible to their part in fundraising for The Arc of Story County.

The Arc would like to welcome David Orth, who joined our Board of Directors in June. David has been involved in relationship building, event planning, and fundraising with the Iowa State University Alumni Association, the United Way of Story County, Special Olympics Iowa, and Collegiate United Methodist Church. We couldn't be more happy to have David join The Arc Board.

*Tricia Crain
Executive Director*

September Events

Candidate Forum: Tuesday, September 20th, 6:30-8:45 @
Ames Public Library



A Candidates Forum focusing on disability issues will take place in the auditorium of the Ames Public Library. Candidates who are running for office representing Story County residents have been invited to respond to questions concerning disability issues raised by The Arc of Story County and NAMI-CI.



Fall Barbecue: Tuesday, September 27th, 5:00-6:30 @
Brookside Park in Ames

The Arc's Annual Fall Barbeque will officially kick-off another fun year of activities and athletics! The ISU Griller's Club will again grill hotdogs and hamburgers, with side dishes provided by Hy-Vee. Bring the whole family and enjoy a night at the park!

A Parent's Perspective

The following letter was sent to a church group by a parent of one of our participants.

“As member of CCC and parents of an adult son serviced by The Arc, we wanted to reach out to you and briefly summarize how this organization directly impacts our own lives. Our 28 year old son Stephen participates in a range of their program offerings, especially sports competitions, social events and outings.



Stephen and Henry Grayum

This allows him to build friendships, enjoy common life experiences, achieve results he can be proud of, gives him a sense of purpose and truly feel part of a community. For us, we get the pleasure that any parent feels knowing their child, regardless of age, is feeling good about themselves and their life. And although this is somewhat selfish on our part, having Stephen involved in various activities also provides us with some brief respite from the responsibilities of caring for an adult child with developmental disabilities. So bottom line for our family is that The Arc of Story County directly impacts our lives each and every week. “

A New Face!

Jaylee Pierce is joining The Arc family as a program coordinator. She is very excited for this new opportunity! Jaylee has lived in Ames since 2004, had has previously been involved with The Arc. She is very excited to meet everyone and cannot wait for fall sports to start! Jaylee is a student at Iowa State studying elementary education. With one year left until graduation, Jaylee is looking forward to her future as an elementary school teacher. She knows that she can learn a great deal from everyone she is going to meet at The Arc. Be sure to say “Hi!” to Jaylee the next time you see her! She loves making new friends.



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Story County

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*Service and support for people with
intellectual and developmental disabilities*

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Keep up to date
on all of The Arc happenings!



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