



Volume 5, Issue 1

Spring 2009

THE VISION

Our First Newsletter After Going Green!

The chances that you are reading this online vs. in print are more likely now than ever. In 2009, we took the initiative to start printing fewer copies while making it more easily available online through both ARC and the Hope Foundation's websites. I hope this new change is helpful for you. We owe a special thank you to Sorrels Printing & Graphics! They help us in many ways throughout the year, but especially as we go through this transition, thanks Scott and Jacob!

If you are reading a print copy and would like to be included in our email list instead, please let us know at arc@marc.com. As always comments and suggestions are welcome!

Save the Date:

ARC/Interfaith Food Drive:

March 18-April 8, 2009

Hog for Hope Poker Run:

April 18, 2009

Wing House Golf Scramble:

May 7, 2009

Hog for Hope Chamber:

May 28, 2009

Hog for Hope Bikes, Blues & BBQ:

June 5, 2009

Allstate Mortgage/Brady Ackerman Golf Scramble:

August 7, 2009

ARC Celebrates 50 Years in 2009!

In 1959, a group of Ocala parents of children with developmental disabilities embarked on a journey that we proudly carry forward today by forming the New Hope School for Children. Though our name has changed over the years, our goals and missions have not. Our name is Advocacy Resource Center (ARC), because that's what we do; advocate for our clients with developmental disabilities including: mental retardation, cerebral palsy, autism, and other genetic and chromosomal disorders.

We are so proud to have served clients in Marion County for 50 years and can't wait for the next 50. Thank you to all of our community partners and friends for helping us help our most vulnerable of citizens!

8th Hog for Hope Offers Flashback to 1959!



You may notice a slight change in Hog for Hope this year. First of all, we'll be promoted in more locations than ever before including some national websites. But the look and feel of Hog for Hope will be a bit different. In recognition of ARC's 50th Anniversary, we are going back to 1959 and the days of Greasers and Pink Ladies. From Ice Cream floats at the Poker Run to 50s blues at Bikes, Blues & BBQ you won't want to miss anything during Hog for Hope 2009!



The April 18 Poker Run will have two starting locations this year—one at Harley-Davidson of Ocala and the other at Iron Horse in Lecanto. First bike out at 10 am and last in at ARC Marion at 3 pm.

Chance drawing tickets for the one-of-a kind Harley-Davidson are on sale now. Special thanks to Viking Cycle Art and NYC Choppers! HogforHope.com is your resource for all things Hog for Hope. And we're also on Facebook. Become a fan and follow us!

New Financial Opportunities at United Way

The United Way of Marion County has two financial opportunities for the local area. They are offering free income tax preparation for individuals (no businesses), and they are offering area businesses and organizations the opportunity to host free personal budgeting workshops for employees, clients and members. For more information about either of these FREE programs call the United Way at (352) 732-9696. Be sure to mention you read it here!

ARC Programs

Adult Day Training

Early Intervention

Residential

Senior Program

Supported Employment

Supported Living

Transitional Skills

A publication of ARC Marion, Inc. and the Heart of Florida Hope Foundation, Inc.

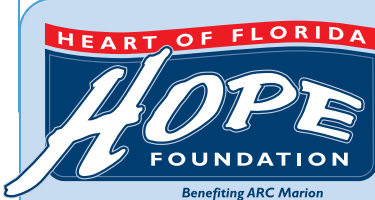


Richae outside by the Playground

Look at Me Now

Richae began our Early Intervention Program in spring 2008. In the beginning, he missed school frequently due to ongoing health problems. At the start Richae was able to roll from his tummy to his back. He would prop on his arms while on his tummy and maintain some weight on his legs in a supported standing position. He is now almost two –years-old and has improved health. Richae now pulls up on everything, taking 3-4 steps independently and is able to go from sitting on the floor to a standing position. He is always happy and puts a smile on our faces each day. He is beginning to repeat words and spontaneously says “bye bye” and “mama.” Although not feeding himself independently yet, he will try all foods and will help with hand over hand feeding. Richae receives occupational, physical and language therapy. One of his goals was to drink from a straw, and he is now able to hold his own milk carton and drink from it. He is a joy to have in EIP!

Evening of Thanks Is a Wonderful Success!



www.heartoffloridahope.org

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Wendie Maxwell, Kelley Jenkins, Terry Roberts & Bree Maxwell

On November 21, over 140 guests at Golden Ocala enjoyed an evening of great food, fun and awards while raising money for a great cause. USA Scientific won the award for ARC Community Support of the Year while Signature Brands took home Corporate Support of the Year. Camoia Knight, manager of Group Home 1 was also honored as Employee of the Year. Jim Schneider of Signature Brands/Hero Foods served as the emcee. The event raised **\$25,000** with more than \$15,000 in cash and pledges for Scholarships for Hope!



Bob Declerk of USA Scientific



Jim Schneider



Camoia Knight



Celebrating 50 years

ARC Receives Florida Feast Monies

Once again, the Marion County Roadbuilders Association has come through for the clients of ARC Marion, recently presenting a check to us for over \$5,400. Our clients not only enjoy serving the food at the Florida Feast year after year, but these monies are very valuable to the clients we serve. Thanks to all who participated this year!

Scholarships for Hope

Scholarships for Hope, is well on its way to helping clients of ARC who don't have the funds to afford services. [Online Donations](http://www.heartoffloridahope.org) are accepted at www.heartoffloridahope.org

Real Annual Costs for ARC and Hope to Administer Services Per Client:

Group Home— \$42,000	Adult Day Training (ADT) —\$8,700
Supported Independent Living Coach—\$11,300	Transportation to/ from ADT—\$6,200
Supported Employment Coach—\$10,000	Non-Residential Support Coach—\$18,200

Spotlight on Consumers

Recently one of the staff members of Group Home 4 heard that the Hope Foundation's Scholarships for Hope program would go to help clients that have lost some of their funding from the state. She took the idea back to the ladies in the group home and shared it with the other staff and the clients there. The ladies were so excited that they decided they wanted to do something to help, too. They started their own collection of change. Everyday every time they would have leftover change from \$1, they would donate it to the fund, and the staff started donating their change too. The amount grew to over \$150 dollars which is the equivalent to the Medicaid Waiver rate for a client to attend the Adult Day Training program for one week! "As the saying goes, every little bit helps," said Allison Campbell, Executive Director of the Hope Foundation. "These ladies took it upon themselves to make a difference, and what a difference they have made. I hope others will take on this challenge and see what they can do. A little goes a long way!"



The Ladies of Group Home 4 give money to Lauren DeIorio, Hope Board President

ARC's Group Home to Get Facelift

We're moving dirt again, but it's not to build a new building. Our oldest group home, and one of only two homes on our main campus, is finally getting a well deserved facelift. All nine bathrooms will be remodeled with roll-in showers and total accessibility for all. Each bedroom and all common areas will be brought back to life as well. We'll have all new mechanical systems, Icynene insulation and insulated windows will provide modern efficiencies. The exterior will be totally made over, so the exterior of the house will look more like any other home in Ocala. Our goal is to create an environment that "feels" like home to the people who live there. Demo and reconstruction should start mid-March and be completed by the end of June. Watch us as we grow!

Golf Scrambles to Benefit Scholarships for Hope

Calling all golfers who like to have laid back fun. Two community golf scrambles will be benefiting the Scholarships for Hope fund this year. On May 7, The Wing House of Ocala will host the 1st Annual Wing House Golf Scramble at Candler Hills, and The Allstate Mortgage/ Brady Ackerman Golf Scramble is coming on August 7 at the Ocala Golf Club. For more information about either of these events call Allison Campbell at (352) 351-2479. All proceeds benefit the Scholarships for Hope program of ARC!

Daniels Wins Smart Car

Mike Daniels, of Ocala, was the winner of the 2009 Smart Car during the Hope Foundation's Drive for Hope in December 2008. ARC client, Terry Rushing, drew the winning ticket. Mike was not in attendance, but was very pleased with his new prize. Congratulations, Mike Daniels!



The Daniels' with the 09 Smart Car

Welcome New Board Members

In recent months ARC and the Hope Foundation have welcomed new members of the Board of Directors. For the ARC Board, Doug Day, of Day & Day CPA joined us, and for the Hope Foundation, Linda Bagal of Strategic Marketing Enterprises and Shane Forrester of Munroe Regional Medical Center were welcomed on board.

All of the board members listed on page two and three of this newsletter give so much of their valuable time to our organizations on a strictly volunteer basis. As National Volunteer Month approaches in April, we'd like to say THANK YOU to our awesome boards!

If you'd like more information about joining one of our boards, please call 387-2210.



Helping People Develop Their Abilities Since 1959

www.mcarc.com

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Chief Executive Officer

Troy Strawder

Message from ARC's CEO

Below is an article about the food drive our clients spearheaded last fall. I can't tell you how proud I am of their accomplishments, and the support our board members and the community gave them to help their success. As promised, we are planning another one of these for Interfaith. Mark your calendars for March 18-April 8 and gather your can goods and non-perishables for this great cause! Let's make this one even better than the last.

I will see you all at the Poker run on April 18th and at Bikes, Blues & BBQ on June 5th!


Troy Strawder



* Would you like to become Member of ARC? The annual dues for membership are \$15 for a single person and \$25 for a family. Please contact Jeri Langford at (352) 387-2210 for more information.



ARC clients with the boxes



Loading the truck.



Gary Linn presents plaque to clients in ADT while Chad Clem applauds and Sara Bloomer smiles in approval

ARC Clients & Friends Feed 66 Families through Interfaith

In early November ARC Marion clients, staff, family and friends began collecting non-perishable food items for Interfaith Emergency Services pantry in Ocala at a time when Interfaith's Executive Director, Gary Linn, said food was going out faster than it was coming in. But on December 1, the Interfaith van drove away from ARC with \$1,500 cash and 42 large boxes filled with food. Interfaith had already received 39 turkeys from ARC Marion's food drive just before Thanksgiving. "Before these boxes arrived, our pantry was totally empty," said Linn. Interfaith "We are very, very pleased with the response. The food from ARC Marion fed 66 families in Marion County!" Troy Strawder, CEO of ARC Marion, noted how the food drive's success was a group effort. "Our clients really got excited and involved, and our board members chipped in as well." Lockheed Martin donated the turkeys for the food drive, and Signature Brands/Hero Foods donated a semi truck load of baby food as part of the ARC drive. Strawder continued, "This won't be the last time we do this to help Interfaith. When times are tough, it's really about the community helping the community, and that's what our clients at ARC want to do!" Linn concurred. "We hope our new relationship with ARC will only grow in the future!"



2800 SE Maricamp Rd
Ocala, FL 34471