



Helping People Develop Their Abilities Since 1959

Volume 4, Issue 2

Summer 2008

Save the Date:

Allstate Mortgage/Brady Ackerman Golf Tourney:
August 15, 2008

10th Annual Evening of Thanks/ Kick-off to 50th Anniversary Celebrations:
November 21, 2008

Flashback to the Rat Pack Casino Night:
January 10, 2009

ARC Marion Annual Mtg:
February 19, 2009

Hog for Hope Poker Run:
April 18, 2009

ARC Programs

- Adult Day Training
- Early Intervention
- Residential
- Senior Program
- Supported Employment
- Supported Living
- Transitional Skills

THE VISION

Hog for Hope Events HUGE Successes AGAIN

From the Poker Run on April 19 to the closing ceremonies on June 6, the 7th Annual Hog for Hope will go down as one for the record books. We definitely made a greater impact in the community this year and plan to make the 8th Annual event even bigger and better!

“Our partnerships with Ocala.com and Ocala Magazine really helped spread the word this year,” said Allison Campbell, Executive Director of the Heart of Florida Hope Foundation. “We had numerous phone calls, new website visitors and a lot of new participants who had never heard about what we do. It was a win-win for ARC and Hope as well as the Ocala community.”

Of the 600 bike tickets sold, over one third of them were purchased by newcomers to the event. Over 150 bikes participated in the Poker Run. The stunt bikers were fabulous, and Longhorn and Ride Now helped with food. The Chamber Business After Hours brought more than 300 business leaders to the ARC campus with food by Huckleberry’s. Finally, on June 6, over 450 dined on food from Outback Steakhouse while enjoying blues tunes and fellowship. A wonderful silent auction had many items of interest, and Robyn Locker won the custom-painted 2008 Harley-Davidson Street Glide.

“Planning has already begun for the 8th Annual Hog for Hope in 2009,” said Campbell. “People can visit our website, www.HogforHope.com, to see photos from this year’s event, all important dates and sponsorship opportunities. Because it will be ARC’s 50th Anniversary, expect all of our festivities to be unique and considered the can’t-miss events of the year.”

Thank you to all of our sponsors and everyone who participated in the Hog for Hope events of 2008. We can’t wait to do it again next year!



A poker hand



Poker Run riders



Tom Falanga & Pam Michell



The Outback crew

United Way Monies to ARC Decreasing

As we’ve been reporting over the past year, the United Way of Marion County again surpassed the \$2.5 million mark in dollars raised during the 2008 campaign. However, with a struggling economy, their requests for funds also increased dramatically. We regret to say that of the \$200,000 ARC Marion requested for client services, ARC will only be receiving \$93,203 from United Way in 2009, a 35% reduction over the previous year. The programs hit the hardest are the Adult Day Training program and Support Services. ARC uses United Way money to fund clients who either can’t afford to private pay or don’t qualify for Medicaid Waiver. “It’s a tough time for all of Ocala’s charities including United Way,” said Troy Strawder, CEO of ARC. “It just goes to show you that the needs are greater than the funds available and literally EVERYONE in Marion County should give! Don’t forget the Hope Foundation’s Scholarship program can use monies, too! ” For more information about the United Way, call (352) 732-9696. Scholarships for Hope info is on page 2 of this newsletter

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

Spotlight on Consumers

Heather was discovered by ARC staff one day sitting in the back of a dimly lit restaurant where she spent her days folding napkins, watching what was going on or sleeping. Heather is now attending the Adult Day Training Program thanks to funding available to us by the United Way. Heather's mom, Jane, says we are her angels. "I don't know what I would have done without ARC," she said. Heather received a donated electric wheelchair this year which has given her more independence, so she can now participate on the cleaning crew and move around on her own.



Heather (background) and Jane, her mother

Golf Tournament to Raise Money for ARC/Hope

For the 5th year, golfers from around the community are asked to participate in the Allstate Mortgage/Brady Ackerman one-day golf scramble to benefit ARC Marion and the Hope Foundation. This year's event will be held at Ocala Golf Club (Muni) on April 15. The cost is \$85 per person/\$340 per team of four. Sponsorships are available including: hole sponsorships for \$100 each, or corporate sponsorships for \$600 which includes a team of four as well. For more information including registration forms, visit www.HeartofFloridaHope.org or call 387-2210. We hope to see you at the links!

ARC Says Goodbye to Doucette & Hello to Sofia

In April, Leo Doucette, Chief Financial Officer of ARC Marion for eight years, accepted a position with Meridian Behavioral Healthcare in Gainesville. His last day at ARC was April 16. "Leo was a wonderful asset to ARC and the Hope Foundation assisting with Hog for Hope since its inception," said Troy Strawder, CEO of ARC. "He is truly missed, but we have found a wonderful replacement in Frank Sofia."

On April 28, ARC welcomed Frank to the staff. Frank is most recently from Miami where he served as Finance Director of the Daily Bread Food Bank. He has also worked with Clear Channel Outdoor and AK Media and resides in Anthony. "Frank is a wonderful addition to our family and fits right in," said Strawder. "We are blessed to have him."



Helping People Develop Their Abilities Since 1959

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Chief Executive Officer

Troy Strawder

YOU Can Help Us Improve Our Newsletter...

By completing the below questionnaire and returning it to ARC Marion either by mail or fax (351-0577) you can help us better serve you. *Thanks for taking the time!!!*

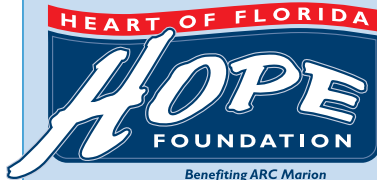
Circle or underline all that apply.

1. Do you find the information in the ARC Marion newsletter informative?
 Yes Somewhat From time to time No
2. Which sections of the newsletter do you enjoy the most?
 Event Pictures Spotlight on Consumers Look at me Now Hope News CEO letter
 Other _____
3. How often would you like to receive the newsletter?
 Once a year Once a quarter Once a month via Email Never
4. Have you attended events or donated to the Hope Foundation because of reading about it in the newsletter? Yes No
5. If Yes, in what way?
 Mailed a donation Hog for Hope bike ticket Bikes, Blues & BBQ
 Golf Tournament Evening of Thanks Other _____

THANKS!!!!



Zaria playing on the playground



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THE VISION

Look at Me Now

Zaria began attending the Early Intervention Program in August of 2007. She was 28-months-old; a quiet child with a beautiful smile and a much larger determination than her small frame indicated. Zaria was unable to sit without assistance and showed little interest in the toys or classmates that surrounded her. Zaria qualified for language, occupational and physical therapies.

After working with Zaria for only seven weeks, the team and Zaria's mother began to see small but great strides. "Since attending ARC, Zaria is a completely different child physically and mentally," said Zaria's mother, Shaunelia Kiner.

Zaria now sits unassisted. She not only reaches for objects but will hold one in each hand. She successfully stands in a mobile stander for long periods. "Zaria is rolling over, expressing her emotions, and is observant and attentive," said Mrs. Kiner.

Zaria jabbars cheerfully and 'dances' when music is playing. We are all amazed at what she has achieved, and everyone is anxiously awaiting her first word!

Tenth Annual Evening of Thanks Coming Soon!

Mark your calendars now for the 10th Annual Evening of Thanks coming Friday, November 21, 2008 at Golden Ocala Golf & Equestrian Club. During this wonderful event we'll be honoring community partners and sponsors as well as the ARC Employee of the Year. The cost will be \$75 per person or \$1,000 for a corporate table of 10. Sponsorships are also available. This event will serve as the kick-off to ARC's 50th Anniversary for 2009. Contact ARC for more information. Check the "Save the Date" section of this newsletter on page 1 for more dates to save for your 2009 calendars. We hope to see you at the Evening of Thanks and anniversary events all year long!!

Robyn Locker Wins the Custom Harley!



With only 600 tickets sold at \$100 each, the odds of winning this custom-painted one-of-a-kind 2008 Harley-Davidson street glide are pretty good. And now that Robyn Locker has the keys, she's feeling even better about the four tickets she purchased this year, her first time to participate in the event. "I thought it was a joke when I got the call," said Robyn who was not in attendance at the Bikes, Blues & BBQ event on June 6. "I've never won anything in my life!" She can't say that any more! Also going home winners were Constance Larsen who won the \$1,000 2nd place prize, and Raymond Wong was awarded \$500 for third place.

"We were so pleased with the outcome from these events," said Allison Campbell, Executive Director of the Hope Foundation. Though our final numbers aren't tallied yet, it looks to be one of the best Hog for Hopes to date!"

Campbell said, "Thank you to everyone who helped make this another great year, and congratulations Robyn! Next year, the winner could be YOU!"

Scholarships for Hope

Fundraising has begun for Scholarships for Hope, a new initiative of the Heart of Florida Hope Foundation to fund clients of ARC who aren't able to afford services. For more information on donating, call (352) 351-2479 or visit www.HeartofFloridaHope.org.

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

Message from ARC's CEO

As I alluded to in our last newsletter our worst fears have come true, the Florida legislature decided to cut millions of dollars in funding for the developmentally disabled. We are facing a huge budget deficit at ARC Marion and will need your support now more than any other time in our almost 50 year history. With your help we will continue to serve the people we love and care for regardless of the obstacles that this strained economy can throw at us, because it's what we've been chosen to do.

I have heard from many of you regarding this year's Hog for Hope, and it's unanimous. It was the best ever! Thanks to the tireless efforts of Allison, Lauren and the hard working Hope Foundation board it just gets better every year. Congratulations to Robyn Locker on winning the custom Harley and to all of our sponsors who truly made it happen. You are simply the best! We can't wait until next year!



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.



Reggie, Barbara Cainion and Danny



Bluzbusters



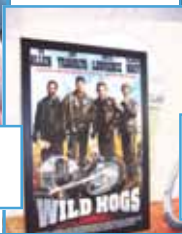
ARC client, Dorothy Newell, draws the winning ticket



Tony Delorio, Eric Gifford & Dyer Michell



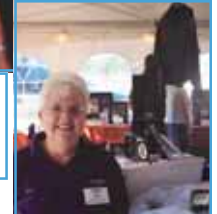
Charles & Leslie Simpson



Popular Silent Auction item: John Travolta autographed poster



Debbie Tremblay, Lauren Delorio & Troy Strawder



Jeri Langford at the Silent Auction



Brent Ordway and his team working the Allstate tent



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