



THE VISION

Helping People Develop Their Abilities Since 1959

Volume 4, Issue 3

Fall/Winter 2008

Save the Date:

10th Annual Evening of Thanks/ Kick-off to 50th Anniversary Celebrations:

November 21, 2008

The Smart Car Drive for Hope giveaway:

December 13, 2008

ARC Marion Annual Mtg:

February 19, 2009

Hog for Hope Poker Run:

April 18, 2009

Hog for Hope Bikes, Blues & BBQ:

June 5, 2009

ARC

Programs

Adult Day Training

Early Intervention

Residential

Senior Program

Supported Employment

Supported Living

Transitional Skills

We're going GREEN, and you can help!

For the past several years ARC Marion has been distributing over 2,000 newsletters four times a year. That's 75 lbs. of paper each time we print! In an effort to help the environment, we are going to start limiting the printing of our newsletters and in turn use email to send out an Adobe .pdf formatted version. We have over 500 emails on file, but if we don't already have yours, we need it! Please send an email to: arc@marionarc.com, and we'll be sure you are included in our first email distribution in the spring! Thanks for your help and helping us **GO GREEN!**

We are the Advocacy Resource Center!

Did you know in 2007 the acronym for ARC changed? We know that the word "retarded" is a medical diagnosis for some but not all of the clients we serve. In February 2007, our Board of Directors changed ARC to be "Advocacy Resource Center." That's what we do. Advocate for the clients we serve everyday!

And speaking of the "r" word mentioned above, isn't it time that we start considering that word as derogatory as it truly is? School children and adults alike speak it as casually as they would the word "geek," but they never truly understand just how offensive it can be. Help us make a change in our community by not using the word "retarded" in casual conversation. Removal of it from everyday vernacular hasn't caught on, because the people to which it refers aren't able to speak up for themselves. Through our new campaign to eliminate the word "retarded" from people's vocabularies it will be yet another way we can advocate for our clients! Thank you for your help and participation!

ARC to Receive Florida Feast Monies



ARC clients and staff helped serve food for the Marion County Roadbuilders Association's Florida Feast, held on Oct. 30. Hundreds of people attended for the eighth year, and though the final tally isn't in, MCRA's event is sure to bring us another big check! Thank you MCRA! You'll never know how much your valuable support means to us and the clients we serve!

United Way Campaign Underway

The United Way of Marion County's annual fundraising campaign is forging ahead with a goal to raise \$2.5 million, and we hope you are able to take part! Annually, ARC Marion receives upwards of \$90,000-\$100,000 a year from the United Way through designated funds and general funds alike. Through your participation in the United Way campaign, you will not only be helping some of the most disadvantaged and less fortunate living in our community, but you'll also be catching the new United Way vision: to Live United! Help us by helping United Way today. For more information about the United Way's Annual campaign, please call (352) 732-9696 or visit www.uwmc.org, and be sure to tell them you read about it in ARC's newsletter The Vision!

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



Sean outside by the Playground

Look at Me Now

Sean started our program in February of 2008. He slept most of the day in the beginning and was difficult to motivate. He began receiving occupational, physical and language therapy. He now actively propels his mobile stander using both hands on the wheels. He stands with one hand held for more than 15 minutes while popping bubbles with his free hand. Sean pulls to stand using furniture, and the therapists are working on increasing his endurance for standing. He is attentive to everything going on around him. Sean is tolerating more textures during mealtime and is beginning to finger feed himself cereal at breakfast. He uses the sign for “more” during meals and says “bye” and waves his hand. Sean now actively explores the room and purposely plays with toys. He seems to enjoy interacting with the other children in the classroom. Sean has a head full of wonderful brown curls which he loves to rub. Sean has made great improvements in the past eight months, and we are very proud of his accomplishments!

Fundraising by Hope Foundation in High Gear

In 2009, ARC Marion will celebrate its 50th Year in Ocala. While this next year will be a time of celebration, it also marks one of the toughest year’s financially that ARC has had to face in recent times. Thus the Heart of Florida Hope Foundation has taken on the challenge, and they are determined to raise more monies this year than ever before! Beginning with the 10th Annual Evening of Thanks on November 21 and ending with Evening of Thanks next year, this is sure to be a year for the record books for ARC and the Hope Foundation!



Be sure to mark your calendars for the various events listed on page one, and visit our websites to find out more. From a Smart Car drawing on Dec. 13 to our annual Hog for Hope Harley-Davidson drawing and festivities and many more exciting events, we want you to jump on board with us to help us continue developing people’s abilities everyday. You can make the difference!

Golf Tourney Raises Monies

A special thank you to all 22 teams of golfers who participated in the August Allstate Mortgage/ Brady Ackerman Golf Scramble held at the Ocala Golf Club. This annual event helped bring in over \$7,000 to the Hope Foundation. We truly appreciate your support. Be sure to participate next year. You won’t want to miss it!



Tim Neu, Randall Alvord, Tom Patten and Bill Jasewicz

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 are accepted at 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



www.heartoffloridahope.org

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Spotlight on Consumers

Karen Woody has recently been working in the Moore computer lab, and one of her goals was to use the computer to write friends and family. However, Karen uses the computer for much more than that. She has begun to write stories and poems and never asks for ideas or assistance with spelling. She is one of the many creative and talented clients at ARC and has really started amazing staff with her ability to “write.”

Karen is deaf, nonverbal and uses a walker to get around campus. She loves to be in computer class and is usually the first one in the room and the last to leave. She is creative and diligent in her writing and is an inspiration to her fellow peers as they all want to use the WordPad program to write. Her favorite computer is the one with the printer, so she can have copies of her work. She recently wrote a story about Halloween that included details about carnival rides and children’s costumes. “We always knew she was in there,” said Jennifer Danford, Director of Adult Day Training Services. “Because she’s nonverbal, we didn’t know how vivid her imagination was until now. Computer class has opened her up to a whole new world!” We are very proud of Karen and the accomplishments she’s making in ADT!



Karen in the computer lab

Client Art Displayed @ FAFO

For the first time, ARC Marion clients participated in the Fine Arts for Ocala Fall Arts Festival. October 25-26. In all, 30 original pieces of art were displayed in the Children’s Workshop area throughout the weekend. This is sure to be a partnership that will last for years to come!



Helping People Develop Their Abilities Since 1959

www.marc.com

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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.

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

THANKS!!!

Message from ARC's CEO

As you may have picked up on earlier in this newsletter, we are beginning the celebration of 50 years of service to Ocala and Marion County! In 1959, a group of parents got together and started the New Hope School for Children to serve disabled kids who, prior to that time, had no opportunity to learn and grow. We have progressed through the years and have become a premier agency recognized around the state as a leader in our industry. To kick off the celebration we started at our October in-service training by thanking our staff with an awesome meal prepared by Huckleberry's BBQ and paid for by Signature Brands. Two giant 50th anniversary cakes were donated by Publix at Heather Island Plaza, and so the party has officially started!!! We have many events planned for the entire year so stay tuned for your opportunity to get involved!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Troy".

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.



www.MCARC.com Is Fresh and New

Have you seen it yet? Have you visited ARC Marion's new and improved website? We now offer easy to use tools like the regularly updated ADT Calendar and ARC in Print that features newsletters, press releases and brochures. You have the ability to flow seamlessly to the Hope Foundation's website for online donations, and we are featuring client spotlights on a regular basis. Need to contact ARC staff members? Click on their names and send them email. Need to find out more about various services offered? You can check that page out, too.

We are very pleased to have a clean new look to our website the boldly proclaims Clients First! And if you would like to see something more on our website, just shoot us an email through the Contact Us page. Enjoy!



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