



Summer 2011

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Thank you for taking the time to read ARC Marion and The Hope Foundation's newsletter "The Point!" Our publication is also available in an online format. If you would like to receive the e-newsletter, please let us know by emailing [Allison@HeartofFloridaHope.org](mailto:Allison@HeartofFloridaHope.org) or calling 352.351.2479. We hope you find the content helpful. As always, we welcome your feedback... Enjoy!

## Another Successful Hog for Hope™

### Congratulations Carol Bailey!

The 10th Anniversary of Hog for Hope™ culminated on June 3 when Carol Bailey's, a longtime supporter and parent of ARC Marion client, LouAnn Fox, lucky ticket was drawn for the custom-painted, brand new Harley-Davidson Street Glide. Carol was out of town for the BBQ, marking the first time she's missed in the last decade. She was ecstatic when Troy Strawder, CEO of ARC Marion, called her from the stage with the good news. "I couldn't believe it," said Carol. "I've never won anything in my life. I can't say that anymore!"



Carol chose to gift the bike to her daughter and son-in-law in Idaho, who are also longtime Hog for Hope™ supporters.

"We truly appreciate the support of the Marion County community for all things Hog for Hope™," said Allison Campbell, Executive Director of The Hope Foundation benefiting ARC Marion. "With another great year, we are proud to say that since its inception, this event has brought in over a half million dollars for the developmentally and intellectually disabled. And I'm happy to say planning for next year is already under way!"

## Calendar of Events

- Jul 29 – Allstate Mortgage Golf Scramble
- Oct 21 – Reds, Whites & Blues: An Evening of Wine and Jazz
- Ongoing – ARC Marion Tours

## ARC Marion Programs

- Adult Day Training
- Early Intervention
- Residential
- Supported Employment
- Supported Independent Living

## United Way Funding to ARC Marion Drops in 2011-2012

When the United Way of Marion County (UW) adopted the new focus of "Education, Income and Health," we knew we were in for a challenge to make our services fit into those service areas. While ARC Marion does provide adult job skills education in the Adult Day Training (ADT) Opportunity Center, the UW Education Allocations Committee could not see the benefit for the small number of people served. Annually, ARC Marion has used UW funding to assist those developmentally disabled individuals who don't qualify for state funding assistance. "It was a tough call to make to those 18 families telling them their children, who have been receiving our services for 10 or 20 years, no longer had funding to attend ADT," said Troy Strawder, CEO of ARC Marion. In the recent past, ARC Marion's funding from UW has gone from over \$100,000 three years ago to the \$49,000 we are receiving this year. "While we are grateful to be a partner with United Way, next year we plan to work even harder to make them see the value of what we do and who we serve. We hope to bring back all 18 people next year!"



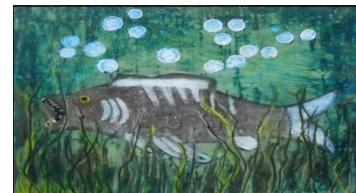
Josh McGirt

## Client Spotlight

### Adult Day Training Opportunities Workshop Creates More Opportunities

Over the past few months, Josh has discovered his talent in the art room. Josh paints, draws and makes collages on the days he attends art. The culmination of his work was selling his painting “Ferocious Fish” during the silent auction at the 2011 Hog for Hope™ BBQ!

Working in art has helped to bring Josh out of his shell and improved his social interactions with peers and staff. Just ask Josh about his painting and his smile gets wider and he is off with stories of how he comes up with his ideas. When not creating masterpieces, Josh can be found on the lawn crew or cleaning crew or working on one of the many contracts at Adult Day Training.



While Josh’s artwork brightens the days at ADT, Josh himself is the true bright spot.

## Look At Me Now

### Early Intervention is Key



Kaden

Kaden started the Early Intervention Program (EIP) eight months ago. At that time, he did not have any means of sitting up or strengthening his legs. He moved around by rolling. At EIP, he began receiving physical, occupational, and language therapy. Now with the help of his mobile stander, Kaden is able to be upright. He even pulls himself over to the stander so he can get in it. Kaden also used a gait trainer to strengthen his lower body and is making stepping movements allowing him to move the equipment. Kaden can now sit briefly, supporting himself with his hands. When Kaden began the program, he ate pureed food and has now started eating table food. His parents, Kyle and Leah, said, “We couldn’t be any more pleased with Kaden’s progress since he started the EIP program. We see a huge leap in his progress and are very excited to see what’s to come. We are very blessed to have been accepted into this program.”

## Client Artwork on Display This Fall

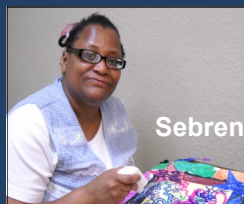
The clients who participate in the ARC Marion art program are once again excited to have their art displayed at the Appleton Museum of Art Aug 21-Sep 18 during the “Healing Heart” exhibit. The program, put on by The Centers, asks attendees to “Witness the Healing Power of Art.” ARC Marion clients have been working on their projects for several months and can’t wait to see them hung in the museum. This is the second year ARC Marion clients are participating in the Healing Heart event. For more info, visit [www.TheCenters.us](http://www.TheCenters.us).

For the fourth year running, ARC Marion clients will also have art displayed at the Fine Arts for Ocala fall arts festival October 22-23, but this year plan to have our own booth in the artists’ section, where we will have client artwork for sale.

Alan Best



Sebrena Arnold



## 8th Annual Golf Scramble Coming July 29

It's hot outside and rains most afternoons, so it must mean the 8th Annual Allstate Mortgage Golf Scramble is coming soon. Annually, this event goes to support much needed scholarship dollars for those developmentally disabled clients living in ARC Marion's care 24/7. Known as one of the most entertaining scrambles around, it will take place on Friday, July 29 at the Ocala Golf Club with lunch, t-shirts, goody bags and more all for \$75 per player. Sponsors are also welcome. Visit [www.heartoffloridahope.org/events/golf](http://www.heartoffloridahope.org/events/golf) or call 352.351.2479 for more info. We hope to see you on the course!



## Reds, Whites & Blues: An Evening of Wine and Jazz

Mark your calendars now for Friday evening, October 21 when we will gather under the stars, poolside at Golden Ocala. This new event for our community is replacing the four year run of the Elegant Evening of Thanks. Please join us for an evening of fine wine tasting from multiple distributors, delectable bites and smooth jazz. Cost will be \$125 per person. This is truly a night you won't want to miss. Visit [www.RedsWhitesBlues.com](http://www.RedsWhitesBlues.com) for more info.



## Bathroom Remodel Complete

This spring, when we needed renovation work in the Moore Building - onsite job training enclave for Adult Day Training, CEO Troy Strawder started making calls to contractors to bid the job. While other contractors were coming up with a price, Ajax Construction stepped up and donated the renovation project! Ajax owner and president, J. Marshall Hunter, said it best: "Despite the difficult economic times, I refuse to allow that to interfere with our long history of supporting ARC Marion. Therefore, we would like to help with your current needs and donate our services, material, labor and equipment."

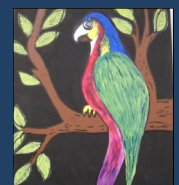
Ajax Construction, along with longtime ARC Marion partners Am/Pm Plumbing and Lester Painting, turned two horrible looking and worse functioning restrooms into two beautiful, fully accessible restrooms that anyone would be proud to have in their homes, and ARC Marion clients couldn't be happier!



**Bobby Dixon and Paul Fluhr  
of Ajax Construction**

## Christmas in July

Birthered by popular demand, the ARC Marion original client artwork turned greeting cards known as "ARctistic Expressions" will now include Thanksgiving and Christmas/Holiday cards. Before you order cards for your business or personal use, please check out our selection and pricing. Each card features on the back the client's name and a brief explanation of ARC Marion. For large corporate orders, we may be able to customize them especially for you. What better way to show your friends, business associates and loved ones that you support a great cause than to send "ARctistic Expressions" this upcoming holiday season? Call 352.387.2210 or visit [www.mcarc.com/online\\_store](http://www.mcarc.com/online_store) for more info. Thanks for your support!



*"ARctistic Expressions"*







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## CEO's Corner

**From the Desk of Troy Strawder, ARC Marion's Chief Executive Officer**

In 1959, a group of Ocala parents formed the New Hope School for Children that is now ARC Marion, so their developmentally disabled sons and daughters would have a chance at learning and socialization. As their advocacy grew, so did the support from the government, to the point that it's now over 90% of the funding we receive to provide our services. While this is an amazing accomplishment by those who came before us, it is also a huge detriment to the continuation of services as the cost to provide services far exceeds the rate we receive per individual receiving those services.



We have fine-tuned processes, reduced our expenses and streamlined operations. However, with continued funding cuts from the Florida Legislature as well as other sources of revenue lost, the financial picture for ARC Marion is pretty bleak. ARC Marion has been here for the past 52 years, and we plan on being here for another half century or more. We simply can't do it without your help. So, I simply ask, what are you willing and able to do to help?

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## Executive Direction

**From the Desk of Allison Campbell, Heart of Florida Hope Foundation's Executive Director**



I first want to say a huge THANK YOU to all who participated in Hog for Hope™ 2011! It was a great success for yet another year, and we couldn't have done it without you!

Over 100 people have taken advantage of our new one-hour tour featuring all ARC Marion has to offer for the developmentally and intellectually disabled in our community. Comments from recent attendees include: "It's amazing what you do for Marion County." "The facilities are outstanding." "I had no idea of everything that you do." And "On a scale of one to 10, I would give the tour a 10!"

I would like to personally welcome you to join us for an upcoming Point Tour starting back up in late August. We offer them most Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30am to 10:30am. Contact my office at 352.351.2479 or email us at [Dawn@HeartofFloridaHope.org](mailto:Dawn@HeartofFloridaHope.org) to schedule your tour. We hope to see you soon!

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