

# WHAT IS ARC?

Advocacy Resource Center Marion, Inc. is a private, non-profit 501(c)3 corporation that has been helping people develop their abilities since 1959. Advocacy Resource Center Marion, Inc. is a multi-service agency that provides a full range of support programs to hundreds of persons with developmental and intellectual disabilities throughout Marion County, Florida.

The following are services that the Advocacy Resource Center Marion, Inc. provides.

**Life Skills Development/Adult Day Training:** Our ADT program provides a meaningful day program including employment through contracted work with manufacturers in the community, training in the activities of daily living, adaptive skills and social skills. All activities stress independence and self-advocacy in settings that are age and culturally appropriate.

**Residential Habilitation/Group Homes:** Group homes provide supervision and specific training activities that assist the recipient to acquire, maintain, or improve skills related to activities of daily living. The service focuses on personal hygiene skills, homemaking skills, and social and adaptive skills that enable the recipient to reside in the community.

**Early Intervention Program:** The EIP offers play-based pre-school curriculum, physical, speech and occupational therapies and other support for youngsters' birth to three years of age who have been identified as developmentally delayed. The goal is prepare these toddlers to be mainstreamed into public school classrooms.

# THE FOUR LETTERS OF SUCCESS

By Anna V.

Matthew is a blue eyed charmer. He can light up any room with his dashing smile. He loves to socialize with staff and his peers. Matthew has many friends here at ADT. Matthew has a small vocabulary that consists of: mama, marry me, Matt, yep and "A".

One day I was running Matthew's program to go for a daily walk. I asked him "Matt are you ready to go for a walk?". He looked at me with those big blue eyes, and threw his right arm in the air and yelled "Walk!!!" several times. Matthew only has one volume and it's usually pretty loud, especially when he is excited. We were so excited that he said "walk". All of the staff in the room clapped and told him what a great job he did. He beamed ear to ear with that dashing smile of his. He was so proud and really enjoyed the extra praise.



#### **SAVE THE DATE**

1<sup>st</sup> Annual Corn Hole Competition

October 13th, 2018

Florida Feast

October 18th, 2018

**Corks & Canvas** 

January 24th, 2019

**Marion Motor Fest** 

February 9th, 2019



Matthew



Bob and Betsy DeClerk

# ADVOCACY RESOURCE CENTER MARION Helping People Develop Their Ablitices Since 1959

# WHY I SUPPORT ARC

By Bob DeClerk Board Member since 2012

When I was in high school, I was the assistant manager of the student store. During lunch hour we were open selling snacks and school supplies. We had two cash registers and my job was to manage the 4 intellectually disabled high school students who ran the registers and served the customers. It was really enjoyable to help the students manage the rush of customers and watch them interact with the other students. It was also so satisfying to see the student's proud face when at the end of the day their register would balance. The students became my friends and I was always so happy when they would see me and run over to say hello. I have always said this was by far the most fulfilling thing I ever did in high school.

When I moved to Florida, USA Scientific, was utilizing ARC Marion for a project they had with one of our customers. Over time, we became more involved and the ARC Marion clients would actually do the job at the USA Scientific facility. It really reminded me of my experience in high school. A few years later I was asked to join the board of ARC and I jumped at the chance to work with such a great group of people, and to have a positive impact.

"I have always said this was by far the most fulfilling thing I ever did in high school" - Bob DeClerk

#### OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Doug Day- **President** Day & Day, CPA

Tom Files— **First VP** Feaster Co Construction

Charles Trout- **Second VP** Publix Supermarket, GM

Alex Nowosiadlo- **Treasurer** Hotel Development & Management Group

> Art Shultz- **Secretary** REMAX Realty

> > Tom Falanga Lockheed Martin

Bob DeClerk USA Scientific

Jabriel Riley USA Scientific

Michelle Valadez Beeline Services

John Cervellera TD Bank

Cathy Ackerman Fifth Circuit Public Guardian

> Shane Matthews FastTrack Staffing

Tammy Preece Preece Land Surveying

# CLIENT AND STAFF BOWLING NIGHT

By L.C.

What a fun night with much laughter; our first night of ARC Staff and Client Bowling Night! Clients and Staff came out to AMF Lanes on Maricamp Rd. to show off their bowling skills and to have a great night of comradery. While the staff could definitely use a few pointers, the scores spoke for themselves, our clients (who many play on leagues) really showed us up! We had such a great time and are excited for the next!











Mrs. Lurie and her son Josh, who is enjoying the new computers

### COMPUTER CONSUMER

Josh is one of our many clients here at ARC Marion that enjoys utilizing the computer lab in our ADT program here on campus. Over the past several years, clients like Josh, have successfully used the computer lab to open up worlds far beyond their own imaginations. Some of our nonverbal clients have discovered ways to get their words out on paper by



Lori using the computers

being able to type and print out their thoughts. This provides them with such a feeling of accomplishment and fulfillment! In order for our clients to keep up with the demanding world of technology, Mrs. Lurie graciously gifted the computer lab with 5 brand new, additional computers along with new printers and software!!! We can't thank you enough, our clients can continue to grow and let their abilities flourish in the technological realm!

#### Robert explores new opportunities



# **HEALING HEART**

By Yvonne Z

On July 6, 2018 ARC clients attended a gallery opening as part of the Healing Heart exhibit. Sebrena A., Kevin L., Roberto V. and Rhonda B. created paintings that were displayed at the Brick City Center for the Arts. This exhibit is an annual event that highlights art from organizations that have a therapeutic art program in the Ocala area. Each painting had a short explanation from the artist that described their painting or how art positively impacted their lives. At the gallery opening celebration, artists had snacks and "mock tails" while interacting with fellow artists and art patrons.

Special thanks to Ms. Lois Letourneau, ARC art teacher, for encouraging and supporting the artists.



Kevin explains to an art collector what his art means to him.



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# ARC MARION MISSION & VISION STATEMENT

Our mission and vision is to create opportunities for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live, work and play to the fullest of their capabilities in Marion County, as well as to foster Marion County, as a model community, to embrace persons with disabilities and to help them support their dreams.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

ARC currently has 28 Residential clients, 165 Clients who attend our ADT and 25 little ones that attend our EIP program.

# **WAYS TO GIVE**

We have several opportunities for you to show your support of ARC Marion, Inc.; Memorial bricks or Leaves engraved with a loved one's name, in-kind donations and general contributions are just a few yet very meaningful ways for you to share your generosity with ARC. A charitable bequest through a will is another way to establish a legacy gift.

# LEAVE A LEGACY

Legacy giving to ARC Marion, Inc. is a way you can ensure ARC Marion's long-term sustainability. This support comes in the form of gifts that require thought and planning. Consider remembering ARC Marion, Inc. through a bequest in your will or living trust to ensure your assets are used for meeting the needs of the intellectually and developmentally disabled citizens of Marion County.

For more information on any of our programs or ways that you could help, please contact 352-387-2210 or visit <a href="www.mcarc.com">www.mcarc.com</a>