



SPRING 2018

ARC Marion's mission 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. We have been helping people develop their abilities since 1959!

A message from Frank Sofia, CEO of ARC Marion

These past twelve months have been very rewarding, yet challenging at the same time. The rewarding part comes from our staff providing continuous, world-class service to the citizens within our community with intellectual and developmental disabilities, as well as our corporate and individual supporters who continue to show their support at the very highest level! I would personally like to thank everyone for their time, hard work and dedication to our mission. One of the challenges that we face is that the funding which we receive from various government sources, fall short every year of what is actually needed. Through all the highs and lows, I feel truly lucky to be a small part of this remarkable organization.

As we prepare for our Fifth Annual Ocala Bike Fest **at our new venue, War Horse Harley-Davidson**, I am reminded of how individual and corporate donors in our community become more important to our mission of putting our clients first. The Florida legislature continues to underfund the services that we provide to the citizens of Marion County with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The proceeds from the Bike Fest and other fundraisers ensure that we will continue to provide housing, training, and teach life skills at the highest level to all of our clients.

That is why I am respectfully requesting everyone's support. Please come out and join the fun and help support the fifth annual Ocala Bike Fest so that we can continue to provide life enhancing services to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities in our community.

See you at the Bike Fest!



NEW LOCATION FOR OCALA BIKE FEST 2018!!

War Horse Harley Davidson

WIN A HARLEY!

\$100 DONATION

Only 500 Tickets will be sold

APRIL 20, 21 & 22

5331 N US 441

Ocala, FL 34475

OcalaBikeFest.com



PICK THE STYLE & THE COLOR!

2018 Harley Davidson
Street Glide
Or
Road Glide



A Day of Caring with Lockheed Martin



Lockheed Martin employees, their families, and friends once again chose ARC Marion for their annual Day of Caring project. This is the 21st year Lockheed Martin has partnered with ARC Marion on this special day.

They tackled painting jobs, mulched the picnic area, cleared overgrown brush, pressure cleaned our Early Intervention Building and constructed a 10' x 10' greenhouse for our Adult Day Training program.

As United Way's saying goes "What a difference a day makes!" We couldn't agree more. Thank you to the 250+ volunteers from that participated in this year's Day of Caring. Year after year, your efforts overwhelm us!



The 2018 King of the Wing winners are:

King of the Wing 2018 – Sonny's BBQ

2nd Place – Beef O'Bradys

3rd Place – Blue Highway

Wing Master Amateur – FL. Twirling Academy

2nd Place – Professional Fire Fighters of Ocala

3rd Place – Interior Concepts and Vote Townsend 2020

THANK YOU to all of our participants and supporters!



Early Intervention Program Success Stories

Z. started in our program in April 2017 at the age of nineteen months. Z. always has a smile and is ready for whatever comes his way. He says 'no', 'that', 'all done', 'toodles', 'wee' and 'bye'. Z. knows eight body parts and many clothing items. He loves circle time and knows the hand motions to all the songs. Z. is very social and loves playing and learning with his friends. Physical therapy activities focused on core strengthening, upright postural control, standing balance and providing opportunities to take independent steps. Z. is able to walk 20-25 feet and change direction by himself. Z. is very proud of himself and we are too!!!



I. is a happy and determined little girl who started our program in June 2017. I. is beginning to use some words such as 'mom', 'dad', 'ball', 'bumblebee', 'eat', 'papa', 'baby' and 'hi'. Her fine motor skills are great resulting in better coordination and visual scanning. I. is now able to sit by herself using only arm support. She can pull herself up to stand from a bench with assistance. She is also able to stand in a gait trainer and is beginning to take steps. I. continues to impress us all with the progress she has made so far this year. I. and her mom recently helped out with our presentation to the United Way.

What We Do

ARC Marion offers a variety of programs for clients with intellectual and developmental disabilities, ranging in age from 0-3 years in our Early Intervention Program to our Adult Day Training Program which serves individuals from age 25 and up. To highlight just one of the many programs offered here, clients in the ADT program are provided with vocational training through actual work experience. Companies in our community contract with us to do piece rate work with our clients. This allows them to grow skills at their own pace. We also travel to many of the contract companies where clients, accompanied by staff, do similar work out in the community. Community Employers benefit from contracting with us by reducing operating expenses, less management responsibilities and liabilities, having highly motivated workers and knowing they are making a difference for adults with disabilities.

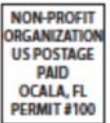
What We Can Do For You

Our clients excel in Assembly, Manufacturing, Packaging and Small Parts Sorting and Bagging. For more information or to arrange a tour of our Adult Day Training Facility contact:

Leah Craig/ Senior Program Director at 352-387-2210 Ext 241 or email at lcraig@mcarc.com



2800 SE Maricamp Road
Ocala, FL 34471



Inside this issue of *The Point!*

- Updates on ARC Events and Happenings
- Clients in the Community

How You Can Help

Your help is vital and there are many ways that you can show your support for ARC Marion.

We have several employment opportunities available for experienced individuals who want to work with a purpose.

We ask our Community Leaders who feel that their talents, experience and heart would be well served on the ARC Marion's Board of Directors to please contact us. And as always, we would greatly appreciate any monetary donations which could include sponsoring our fundraising events throughout the year, or any in-kind donations that you may be able to provide.

This year our clients will be growing a Spring-time Garden, so if you or someone you know would like to provide materials such as seeds, plants, pots or soil for this program, or would like to offer any other means of support to any of our programs, please contact us at 352-387-2210 or visit www.mcarc.com

You could truly change the life of someone so very deserving!

To conserve resources we chose to print this newsletter in black and white. Please visit www.mcarc.com to sign up for the electronic version and/or view the full color edition.

Save the Date!

April 20th, 21st and 22nd



Check out our website for complete details on each event!

www.mcarc.com



100% of the material and production costs for this newsletter is offset by in-kind donations from local companies. The design, layout, and production are done by our board members, employees, and other volunteers. We only pay for postage. This keeps expenses down and focus on what's important— serving our clients!