

January 2021

ARC NEWS

The Arc of Volusia Newsletter



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A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Hello Everyone,

For us here at The Arc of Volusia, it's not too early to be planning in earnest for our 4th Annual Charity Golf Tournament. Our organization has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the golf tournament is our largest fund raising event of the year. This year more so than ever, we need to make this tournament a huge success!

This year's tournament will be held once again at LPGA International Golf Course on March 27th. Details and registration directions can be found on our website at

If you are a golfer, the tournament is loads of fun. If you simply have an affinity for our mission and the friends we support – we will gladly accept donations, raffle prizes, gift certificates, and any volunteers who wish to help the day of the tournament. Everyone who has participated in the past three tournaments have said it's one of the best tournaments they have golfed in!

We thank all of our major sponsors who have already signed up – Bouchard Insurance, ABB, CF Manufacturing, Physicians Collaborative, Jeep Beach and Daytona Beach Gary Yeoman's Ford

Your generosity and support is most appreciated! We look forward to seeing you at the tournament.

Stay safe and healthy!

Best,

Mary Jo

Whatever happened over this past year, be *Thankful* for where it brought you. Where you are is where you're *meant to be*.

Mandy Hale

Dawn Willard — OT student at DSC

This month's spotlight is on Dawn Willard, an OT student at Daytona State. She visited with us for 8 weeks during her internship. Dawn is a great joy to have. She was always willing to help the individuals we serve with learning, listening to them, and improving their self-esteem. During her time here, Dawn introduced The Arc Walk program, which was a part of her school project.

The Art Walk project is a series of wooden posts decorated with various artwork the individuals here helped to create.

It gives our friends the chance to spot out their artwork, a peers artwork, in which, in return helps increase socialization, social interaction, and enhanced self-esteem. It also helps to increase cognitive stimulation by searching for various species of animals painted on each post.

Aside from Dawn creating this masterpiece for her school project, she genuinely wanted to encourage the individuals we serve to get excited about the different lessons that can come from this project and hopefully, become more active.



We thank you for your compassion and dedication to our clients, Dawn!
We are lucky you wanted to share your idea with us!

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Employee Anniversaries

Thank you to the following employees for their hard work and dedication to our clients at the Arc of Volusia:

- Nakita Davis, ABE Assistant (5 yrs.)
- Cherie Davenport , DSP (8 yrs.)



Supported Employment Client Spotlight

“Billy”

Billy has been able to maintain work through most of the Covid-19 pandemic. He has stayed healthy by following CDC guidelines, such as wearing a mask properly and maintaining six feet of distance from co-workers and customers.

He currently works at a restaurant in Port Orange, but is looking to change companies because he does not feel appreciated where he is and says “there is no accountability” at his current workplace. I have listened to his concerns and agree that another work environment would be better suited for his needs.

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Billy and I have brainstormed together what work locations near where he lives would be a good fit for him. I helped him update his resume & assisted him with applying on-line for several part-time day positions in his area.

One local company has already looked at his application and wishes to interview him this week. I coached him on what he should say to the manager who will be interviewing him and made suggestions on how he should dress for the interview. Billy is very excited about possibly being hired by a company he once worked for and for which he respects. He is hopeful that he will be able to greet the Spring with a blossoming new career which will provide him with rewarding new challenges and bright new friendships.

Written by: Mike Gussman, Employment Coach

Adult Basic Education (ABE) —Virtual Learning

For the month of January, students have explored the topic of the Four Seasons through classroom sessions and crafting activities. They have learned to identify each season, when they happen, the holidays of the year, and identifying appropriate attire for each season. Students have also learned to identify the months of the year and days of the week.

Provided By: May Beaty, Education Specialist and Na’Kita Davis, Education Specialist Assistant

If you are interested in joining the virtual learning group, please reach out to May at m.beaty@arcvolusia.org or Na’Kita at n.davis@arcvolusia.org. Or, request to join the Arc of Volusia Facebook Virtual Learning Group via our Facebook page and/or website at www.arcvolusia.org.