

JULY 2025

THE ARC OF VOLUSIA

ACHIEVING WITH US

NEWSLETTER

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Message from CEO

While the potential Medicaid and SNAP cuts still linger in the Senate there is still time to let your elected officials know that it is NOT OK to cut \$800 billion from Medicaid and \$300 billion from SNAP.

The current bill has made it's way through the US House, and the Senate is set to take action this week. The Arc of the United States urges the Senate to reject cuts to Medicaid and SNAP that threaten access to health care and essential services. These cuts will impact all people covered by the Medicaid program, including many of our Arc of Volusia participants.

This bill also prescribes new barriers that require people with coverage through Medicaid expansion to renew their eligibility twice a year, instead of once, which will increase the risk that people with disabilities will incorrectly lose coverage.

The Arc urges Congress to reject this proposal and protect Medicaid and SNAP. These programs are not optional. They are how people with disabilities live in their homes, care for their families, and survive each day.

Join us in this effort **today**, by visiting **arcvolusia.org/action** to send a message to your congressional delegation with one click.

Laurie Davis
Chief Executive Officer
The Arc of Volusia



July Is Disability Pride Month

Disability Pride Month is an annual observance in July that **celebrates people with disabilities, commemorates the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and promotes disability culture and visibility.**

Disability Pride Month is a time to recognize the history, achievements, experiences, and struggles of people with disabilities. It affirms that disability is a natural and valuable part of human diversity—not a deficit or condition to be fixed.

More than 1 in 4 adults in the United States—over 70 million people—have a disability. This month calls on everyone to promote inclusion and ensure people with disabilities are accepted exactly as they are, without conditions.

The Arc's National Council of Self-Advocates selected the 2025 Disability Pride Month theme: **We Belong Here, and We're Here to Stay.** It delivers a powerful message—people with disabilities are a vital part of every community. Not someday. Not conditionally. Now. As disability rights face growing threats in education, employment, health care, and public life, this year's theme is a clear call to action. It pushes back against ableism—discrimination and bias against people with disabilities—and exclusion. It reminds us that people with disabilities will not be erased, ignored, or pushed aside.

Observed every July, Disability Pride Month recognizes the importance of the ADA, which was signed into law on July 26, 1990. It highlights disability culture, history, and community pride. This month challenges the harmful idea that people with disabilities need to conform to norms to live meaningful lives. Their lives are just as full, valuable, and worthy of respect—no more, no less. The first Disability Pride celebration was a Disability Pride Day that took place in Boston in 1990. Chicago hosted the first Disability Pride Parade in 2004. Now there are events nationwide empowering people with disabilities to take pride in who they are.

While there are not any organized events scheduled in Florida this year, the observance is still a great reminder of the importance of advocacy year-round. For more resources and ways to get involved, visit arcvolusia.org/action.

Support The Arc of Volusia at ArcVolusia.org/donate



Coming Soon!

The Arc of Volusia is proud to partner with The Arc of the US, Daytona Beach International Airport, and Breeze Airways to bring the "Wings For All" program to our area on Saturday, September 6 at Daytona Beach International Airport.

This program provides an opportunity for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to prepare and practice all steps of air travel and gain skill and confidence in a controlled, real-life environment.

Registration information for Arc of Volusia participants will be sent home in early-July, and registration for other community members will open up later in the month. Spaces are limited and will be offered on a first-come first-served basis. Stay tuned for details, and save the date!

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Jillian Leyshon 7/2
Derrick Jones 7/5
Latrice Johnson 7/8
Daniel Cacchione 7/9
Robert Leyshon 7/10
Billy Howson 7/20
Kandice Smith 7/22
Betsy Ramirez 7/28
Michael Johnson 7/29
Javier Jacome 7/30
Van Ellis 7/30
Michelle Garant 7/31

Staff Birthday

Mike Gussman 7/1

Staff Spotlight

Your Role... In Your Own

Words: I find employment in the community for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities and support them in their job.

What do you like best about your job? Being able to find my people rewarding employment.

What is your best-ever Arc activity our outing? The

Arc of the US National Conference when it came to Florida.

What do you like to do for fun? Tennis. Going to large parks.

Where would you go on your dream vacation?

A rainforest in a nearly untouched part of South America

What's the best advice you ever received?

Half (or most) of the things you worry about never come true.

If you could have dinner with any famous person (past or present), who would it be and why? Jesus (as long as we could understand each other), or Mark Twain.

What advice or encouragement would you give to a brand new Arc of Volusia individual on their first day?

Allow themselves to relax and have fun!

What would YOU like to share with us about yourself? I love to connect with new people and get to understand how they think and relate to the world.



Mike Gussman

Ways YOU Can Help Us Achieve

- **Become a Member of The Arc of Volusia**
 - For as little as \$25, you'll join over 140,000 Arc members and 700 chapters nationally in support of protecting the rights of our individuals. Learn more: arcvolusia.org/donate
- **Support Arc of Volusia Events and Fundraisers**
 - Watch this newsletter, our website, and social media for details of upcoming events. Find us on FB & IG @TheArcVolusia
- **Check out our Amazon Wish List**
 - Help us with supplies that help us fulfill our mission. Find it here: arcvolusia.org/wishlist
- **Connect Us To Causes That Matter to You**
 - Need a guest speaker for **your** organization? Let us share our story! Email us at: AchieveWithUs@ArcVolusia.org

IMPORTANT OUTING INFORMATION!

Thursday, July 3

DeLeon Springs State Park



Chef Matt will be cooking!

Menu includes burgers, hot dogs, macaroni salad, watermelon and drinks.

Please bring a swimsuit and towel if you plan to swim.

\$3.00

Please be at your campus by 8:15 AM to board the vans!

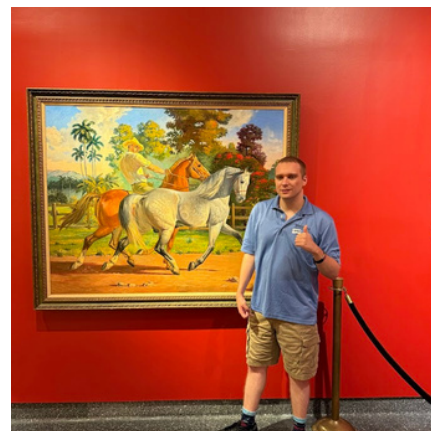
NO LATER



Summer Fun



Ice Cream Social & Dance Party



Museum Outing

Register Your Foursome TODAY!

Not a golfer? We are also seeking in-kind donations (event tickets, gift cards, experiences, etc.) for raffle, silent auction items, and tournament prizes

Contact us if you'd like your company's product or service featured in our tourney!

7th Somewhat-Annual
Arc of Volusia
Charity Golf Tournament



The Arc
Volusia

Serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1962.



Friday
September
19

3AM Registration

Or visit us online at ArcVolusia.org/gol25



The Club at
Venetian Bay
63 N. AIRPORT RD
NEW SMYRNA BEACH FL

Scan to Register



Daytona Beach Campus Menu & Calendar July

Daytona Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
30 Chicken Sandwich Carrot Salad Chips Beverage/Dessert	1 Pizza Salad Beverage/Dessert	2 Steak Roasted Potato Vegetable Beverage/Dessert	3 Hamburgers Mac Salad Beverage/Dessert (cookout at Springs)	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY
7 Ham Mac & Cheese Green Beans Beverage/Dessert	8 Pizza Salad Beverage/Dessert	9 Bag Lunch Sandwich & Chips Beverage/Dessert	10 Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes Mixed Veggies Beverage/Dessert	11 Fr. Chicken Sandwich Potato Salad Beverage/Dessert
14 Egg Salad Sandwich Chips Beverage/Dessert	15 Pizza Salad Beverage/Dessert	16 Hot Dog Baked Beans Fries Beverage/Dessert	17 Chicken & Rice Green Beans Beverage/Dessert	18 Hamburger Fried Potatoes Beverage/Dessert
21 Egg Salad Sandwich Chips Beverage/Dessert	22 Pizza Salad Beverage/Dessert	23 Shepherd's Pie Beverage/Dessert	24 Chili & Rice Beverage/Dessert	25 Chicken Sandwich Mac Salad Beverage/Dessert
28 Luau Lunch!	29 Pizza Salad Beverage/Dessert	30 Chicken & Waffles Beverage/Dessert	31 Spaghetti Salad & Bread Beverage/Dessert	

Alternate Lunch Choices
Available Daily
Chef's Salad
Ham or Turkey Sandwich
w/ Beverage & Dessert

Snacks
Assorted Snacks
(selection varies)
Soda, Juice, Gatorade

Daily Breakfast Choices
Sausage, Egg, & Cheese Sandwich
Ham, Egg & Cheese Sandwich
Oatmeal
Assorted Cereal Cups

Daytona Beach Outings & Activities

Tues 7/1
Museum of Arts
& Sciences

Tues 7/8 & 7/22
Wed 7/16 & 7/30
Movies

2.50 for just movie
\$10 for movie,
popcorn & drink

Thurs 7/3
DeLeon Springs Cookout
\$3.00
(details on page 3)

Every Friday
Swimming \$3.00

Mon 7/28
Luau @Daytona Campus
\$5 for Kona Ice

Interested in purchasing breakfast, lunch, or snacks?

**Cash or check
accepted for the day,
the week, or the month.**



**Breakfast: \$2.00
Lunch: \$7.00
Snacks: \$1.00**

**Reminder: Arc of Volusia Campuses will be CLOSED
on Friday, July 4 in honor of Independence Day**

DeLand Campus Menu & Calendar July

DeLand Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
30 Egg Salad Sandwich Chips Beverage/Dessert	1 Pizza Salad Beverage/Dessert	2 Tacos Rice Beans Beverage/Dessert	3 Hamburgers Mac Salad Beverage/Dessert (cookout at Springs)	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY
7 Chicken Sandwich Carrot Salad Chips Beverage/Dessert	8 Pizza Salad Beverage/Dessert	9 Bag Lunch Sandwich & Chips Beverage/Dessert	10 Tuna Noodle Casserole Green Beans Beverage/Dessert	11 Chicken Nuggets Tater Tots Beverage/Dessert
14 Ham Mac & Cheese Green Beans Beverage/Dessert	15 Pizza Salad Beverage/Dessert	16 Fish & Chips Vegetable Beverage/Dessert	17 Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes Mixed Veggies Beverage/Dessert	18 Fr. Chicken Sandwich Potato Salad Beverage/Dessert
21 Egg Salad Sandwich Chips Beverage/Dessert	22 Pizza Salad Beverage/Dessert	23 Hot Dog Baked Beans Fries Beverage/Dessert	24 Chicken & Rice Green Beans Beverage/Dessert	25 Hamburger Fried Potatoes Beverage/Dessert
28 Luau Lunch	29 Pizza Salad Beverage/Dessert	30 Shepherd's Pie Beverage/Dessert	31 Chili & Rice Beverage/Dessert	

Alternate Lunch Choices
Available Daily
Chef's Salad
Ham or Turkey Sandwich
w/ Beverage & Dessert

Snacks
Assorted Snacks
(selection varies)
Soda, Juice, Gatorade

Daily Breakfast Choices
Sausage, Egg, & Cheese Sandwich
Ham, Egg & Cheese Sandwich
Oatmeal
Assorted Cereal Cups

DeLand Outings & Activities

Thurs 7/3
DeLeon Springs Cookout
\$3.00
(details on page 3)

Every Tuesday
Swimming \$2.00

Wed 7/2, 7/16, 7/30
Movies \$2.00

Mon 7/7
Taco Bell \$7

Thurs 7/10
Chuck Lennon Park

Mon 7/28
Luau @Daytona Campus
\$5 for Kona Ice