

JANUARY 2026

THE ARC OF VOLUSIA

ACHIEVING WITH US

NEWSLETTER

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Message from Our CEO



As we begin a new year, I am filled with excitement and gratitude for what lies ahead at The Arc of Volusia.

This is a season of growth: growth in our programs, our services, and our ability to better support the individuals and families who rely on us each day.

Thanks to the generosity of so many donors, including those who supported our ornament fundraiser, we are expanding opportunities across our campus. Just look at the January outings & activities calendar in this newsletter! There are constant activities that open doors for greater independence, engagement, and connection for the people we serve.

Equally important, we continue to invest in the resources that make participation possible. Improved transportation means more individuals can take part in activities and experience their community in meaningful ways.

We are also looking forward to welcoming the community onto our campus through new events designed to showcase what The Arc is all about. This organization serves an incredible purpose for residents of Volusia and Flagler counties, and we are excited to open our doors and share our mission more broadly.

Thank you for believing in The Arc and for helping us move into a year full of possibility.

- Laurie Davis

The Arc Hosts Inaugural Holiday Ball

The Arc of Volusia rolled out the red carpet for its very first Holiday Ball, and it was nothing short of magical! Approximately 80 clients came together for an afternoon full of music, laughter, confidence, and of course, plenty of dancing.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, clients were able to pick out donated dresses, setting the stage for a celebration where everyone felt special. Volunteer Betsy Morrison added an extra touch of sparkle by donating her time and talent to do makeup, helping clients feel ready for their big moment.

Before the dance floor officially opened, the fun kicked off with a fashion show, where everyone proudly showed off their holiday looks and cheered each other on. From there, the dance party began!

Behind the scenes, The Arc's staff brought this event to life. From inception to execution, so many staff members went above and beyond to plan every detail, transform the space, and make sure each client felt celebrated. Their dedication turned an idea into an unforgettable experience.

The Holiday Ball wasn't just a party, it was a celebration of the season and our community, and we can't wait to make it a new tradition!





New Year, New Word, New Focus

Instead of resolutions that can feel overwhelming, many people choose one word to guide their year. A single word like *growth, patience, purpose, or connection* can serve as a steady reminder of what matters most.

As we enter the New Year, we invite everyone in The Arc community to choose one meaningful word to carry with them throughout the year; one that supports personal growth and reflects how they want to show up each day.

How to choose your word:

• Reflect on what you need most

Consider the year ahead and the areas where you want more peace, joy, rest, or balance.

• Think about your daily challenges

• What quality would help you respond better in stressful or uncertain moments?

• Choose a word that feels supportive

• Your word should guide you, not pressure you. Simple and meaningful is best.

• Return to it often

Use your word as a reminder in

- decisions, conversations, and everyday actions.

Let your word shape the way you serve, connect, and support our shared mission at The Arc.

Staff Spotlight Mechelle Dockery

Your Role, In Your Own Words:
I am the Program Coordinator at both campuses.

Before The Arc, what type of work did you do?

Before The Arc, I worked for a company that had group homes. Over my 11-12 years there, I ran 7 of them. That is where my love of this job started.

What do you like to do for fun?

I like to read my kindle (I read 3-5 books weekly). I love exploring Florida with my "fave" (aka: my husband). My absolute favorite thing is spending time with my 7 grandkids!



What advice or encouragement would you give to a brand-new client of The Arc on their first day with us?

I say this to anyone that comes to tour the facility; The Arc is a wonderful place to be. We have some amazing people here. It's a great place to make friends. My office is always open!

What do you like most about your role?

I love everything about my job! I know it was God's will for me to be here. Funny story, I applied here and did an interview but I wouldn't accept the position because I saw all the woods around the Daytona campus so I thought I would see snakes every day! I AM AFRAID OF ALL CRITTERS! To date, I have seen zero snakes!

I also ⁴ love seeing all of the individuals that we serve. No matter how I'm feeling, they always put a smile on my face and in my heart. I also love touring the campus with new families so that I can talk about The Arc!

How has your life/perspective changed working with The Arc?

I don't think my perspective has changed since working here, but I do think that it has given me purpose. I retired eight months before moving here and I felt like I didn't have purpose in retirement. I love waking up every day knowing that I get to see all of my friends.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Julia Marino 1/1

Keiosha Odom 1/1

Michelle Billings 1/2

Kim Jones 1/3

Jessica Doe 1/15

Christopher Greiner 1/17

Zach Alkorek 1/26

Staff Birthdays

Schemetta Davis 1/10



**ANNUAL INTAKE PACKETS
WILL BE GOING HOME
JAN. 5.**

**COMPLETE AND RETURN BY
JANUARY 12.**

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and strong community partnerships, The Arc of Volusia is pleased to announce the addition of a new transportation route: We are now serving individuals from Edgewater and New Smyrna.

As we continue to grow, openings are available at both our Daytona and DeLand campuses. Please stay tuned for future updates as we continue to expand our services.

JANUARY 2026

Daytona Beach Campus Menu & Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Daytona Beach Outings & Activities
			 01		Wednesday 1/7 Bowling \$10
05	06	07	08	02	Friday 1/9 Chick-fil-A \$15
Tuna Sandwich, Chips, Drink & Dessert	Pizza with Salad Drink & Dessert	Steak Tacos, refried beans, Chicken, Yellow Rice, Drink & Dessert	Chicken, Yellow Rice, Drink & Dessert	Hamburger, potato wedges Drink & Dessert	Monday 1/12 Cooking with Matt
12	13	14	15	09	Wednesday 1/14 Library Craft
Corn dog, Fries, Drink & Dessert,	Pizza with Salad Drink & Dessert	Fish, Hushpuppies, Coleslaw, 2/ Drink & Dessert	Sloppy Joe, Fries, Drink & Dessert	Hamburger w/ Potato Wedges Drink & Dessert	Wednesday 1/21 Bowling \$10
19	20	21	22	16	Friday 1/23 Cooking with Matt
Ham/Turkey Sub, Chips, Drink & Dessert	Pizza with Salad Drink & Dessert	Nuggets & Fries, Drink, & Dessert	Spaghetti, Salad, Drink & dessert	Mushroom Swiss Burger, Potato Wedges, Drink & Dessert	Tuesday 1/27 Giuseppe's Pizza \$20
26	27	28	29	23	
Beanie Weanie, Garlic Bread, Drink & dessert.	Pizza with Salad Drink & Dessert	Turkey Pot Pie, Bread, Drink, & Dessert	Fried Burrito, Drink, & Dessert	Bacon Cheeseburger, potato wedges, Drink, Dessert	
		31		30	

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

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

Monday 1/5
Zaxby's \$10

All Wednesdays:
Chuck Lennon Park

Thursday 1/8
Reptile Discovery Ctr.

Tuesday 1/13
Snakes

Thursday 1/15
Cracker Barrel, \$13

Monday 1/19
Wendy's, \$7

Tuesday 1/20
Blue Springs

Thursday 1/22
Library

Friday 1/30
Daytona Mall Lunch, \$10

DeLand Campus Menu & Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			 01	02
05	06	07		
Fish & Chips Drink & Dessert	Pizza with Salad Drink & Dessert	Meatloaf w/ Mixed Veggies Drink, & Dessert	Ham/Turkey Sub, Chips, Drink & Dessert	Hamburger w/ Potato Wedges Drink & Dessert
12	13	14	15	16
Tuna Sandwich, Chips, Drink & Dessert	Pizza with Salad Drink & Dessert	Steak Tacos, Refried Beans, Drink & Dessert	Chicken, Yellow Rice, Drink & Dessert	Hamburger w/ Potato Wedges Drink & Dessert
19	20	21	22	23
Corn dog, Fries, Drink & Dessert,	Pizza with Salad Drink & Dessert	Fish, Hushpuppies, Coleslaw, 2/ Drink & Dessert	Sloppy Joe, Fries, Drink & Dessert	Mushroom Swiss Burger, Potato Wedges, Drink & Dessert
26	27	28	29	30
Ham/Turkey Sub, Chips, Drink & Dessert	Pizza with Salad Drink & Dessert	Nuggets & Fries, Drink, & Dessert	Spaghetti, Salad, Drink & dessert	Bacon Cheeseburger, potato wedges, Drink, Dessert