



ARCA's mission is working together to open doors for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to be valued members of the community.

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Outlook

Volume I • 2017
www.ARCASpirit.org

Opening Doors for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1957.

60th Anniversary



Happy 60th Birthday, ARCA!

These past 60 years have seen milestone changes in opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and the communities in which we live. ARCA staff, families and individuals receiving services have been at the forefront of this transformation; our community continues to set the standard for providing the supports necessary for each of us to live a causative life.

In 1957, children and adults with IDD either lived at home or in an institution. When I began my career at ARCA in the early 1980s, legislation had only recently passed supporting basic human rights such as public education and vocational rehabilitation. I remember when we began to rapidly expand community based supports in New Mexico. It was a difficult transition in many states, but our community opened its welcoming arms. It was as though people were saying, "Where have you been?"

So many memories came flooding back as I looked through our photo retrospective in this issue of Outlook. As an organization, ARCA has remained fluid, adjusting to political, regulatory, economic and social changes. Yet, our core principles have remained steadfast from the early days when four families met in the basement of a church to share ideas and create opportunities for their little ones with IDD. Today, we serve nearly 700 children and adults who live joyful, meaningful lives.

While we work compassionately to assure the health, safety and happiness of each person in our care we are also preparing for a strong future. Your ongoing support is essential in supplementing the gaps in Medicaid and other government funding and we know a healthy endowment is crucial in assuring our services remain available. Thanks to your generosity and foresight, we have been informed of nearly \$5,000,000 in planned gifts designated toward our endowment as well as an anonymous gift of six lots in beautiful Diamond Tail Estates.

We continue to work to build our endowment into a significant source of revenue supporting our annual budget. In celebration of our 60th anniversary, we have set a 2017 goal of \$600,000 in new endowment designated gifts.

With help from each of you, I can only imagine the dreams that will be realized in the next 60 years. Dreams not only for people with IDD, but for our families, our neighbors and our community as we find innovative ways to understand and utilize our unique talents in reaching and exceeding our potential.


Edward J. Kaul
(505) 332-6825
Ekaul@arcaspirit.org



The Next 60 Years

Our 60th anniversary has been a special time for reflection. Today, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) have opportunities our founding families could only imagine. It is uplifting to envision what life will be like 60 years from now. We wonder about the memories that will be made by little ones in our care today and hope, as they someday reflect back on their own lives, they will find great joy.

ARCA works diligently to ensure the efficacy of our nationally recognized supports and the investments of time, expertise and funding from our strong community partners are helping ensure they will be available for as long as there is a need. There are many ways for you to be part of this legacy through gifts to our endowment.

ARCA recently received a generous donation of six enchanting lots in Diamond Tail Estates. This 1,800 acre, high desert, master planned, gated community is idyllically located between Albuquerque and Santa Fe in Placitas. Almost 40% of Diamond Tail is dedicated to open space, with underground utilities, paved roads and magnificent views of the Jemez, Ortiz and Sangre de Cristo mountains. It is an ideal destination for building



a family legacy while helping assure a strong future for generations of children and adults with IDD receiving ARCA services. All proceeds from the sale of this precious gift will benefit ARCA's Endowment.

For more information about ARCA's Endowment or our Diamond Tail Estates lots, please contact Michele at Mcody@ARCASpirit.org.

FOLLOW US!



www.instagram.com/arcaopeningdoors



www.facebook.com/arcaopeningdoors

Please consider adding the ARCA Foundation to your will or estate plan.
Contact Elaine Solimon at (505) 480-4321



SAVE THE DATE! DON'T MISS THESE ARCA EVENTS!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19TH • 3 PM-5 PM

Special Needs Planning Seminar
See Page 6 for more information

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 • 9 AM – 11 AM

ARCA's Annual Geranium Celebration
Details at right ▷

THURSDAY, JUNE 1ST • 5 PM-7 PM

ABQ Breakfast Civitans Annual Picnic!
See Page 6 for more information

SATURDAY, JUNE 3 • 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM

ARCA's 9th Annual Bob Scanlon/Steve Mackie Bowl-a-Thon featuring Mayors on Strike
See Page 2 for more information

FRIDAY, JUNE 16TH

Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS): Building a Community of Supports

with Keynote Speaker Linda M. Gourash, MD
See Page 3 for more information

ARCA's Annual Geranium Celebration



Saturday, April 22, 2017
9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
181 E. La Entrada Lane, Corrales



*Every flower is a soul
blossoming in nature.*
~ Gerard De Nerval

Spring is right around the corner and we have gorgeous baskets of geraniums, daisies and other beauties to decorate your home, office and garden. Prices range from \$7.50 - \$14.50. If you haven't visited our greenhouses yet, this is the perfect time. With 12,000 geraniums in bloom it's magical.

Let Michele know your coming at Mcody@ARCASpirit.org. Can't wait to see you!

Meaningful Careers

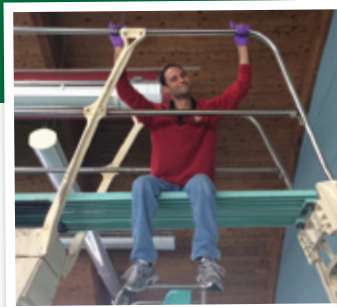
Individuals in ARCA's Community Integrated Employment program work hard throughout our community. At Genesis Healthcare, three individuals help keep dishes sparkling clean, serve food to patients and bus tables in the dining facility. Genesis staff creates a welcoming environment and ARCA's job coaches provide the necessary supports to help individuals maintain and improve workplace skills.

At Highland Pool, an individual works to keep everything spotless. He takes care of the trash, polishes the silver and washes the windows, sinks and mirrors. He even does special projects as needed! Regular swimmers at the pool greet him by name.

Just recently, four individuals began new careers at Vitality Works helping prepare boxes and making sure glassware is squeaky clean. Everyone loves going to work at this beautiful facility and Vitality Works has welcomed their new employees with open arms. "ARCA's job coaches met with key Vitality Works staff to learn the processes our new employees would be undertaking," said Juno Raby, CAO. "Their enthusiasm to do the job well has only added to our culture of excellence."

ARCA's job coaches work with individuals and the workplace to create positive outcomes. Coaches help create task schedules, provide additional training as needed and advocate for additional duties.

Thank you Albuquerque businesses for creating opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to find greater independence through career development!



9th ANNUAL BOB SCANLON/STEVE MACKIE BOWL-A-THON!

Saturday, June 3rd, 2017 • 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM
TenPins and More, 1416 Deborah Rd SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124

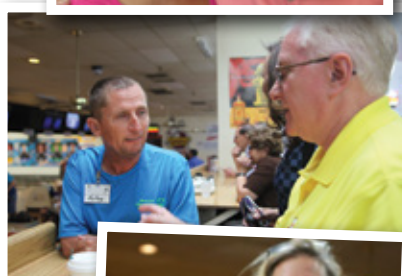
"... when you share a moment with someone who is helped by ARCA, the love is truly unconditional."

On Saturday, June 3, Bob Scanlon and Steve Mackie will host ARCA's 9th Annual Bowl-a-Thon and Rio Rancho Mayor Gregg Hull is warming up his bowling arm for our Mayors on Strike competition. "Carrie and I value the work ARCA does in our community," said Mayor Hull. "This has become one of our favorite events because it truly celebrates the diversity, compassion and spirit of New Mexicans."

"As humans, we seem to always attach terms and conditions to our love," said Bob Scanlon. "But, when you share a moment with someone who is helped by ARCA, the love is truly unconditional. I am proud to be part of this remarkable day and especially pleased to help celebrate ARCA's 60th Anniversary. I look forward every year to the first Saturday in June; I know I will take away priceless memories."

Exciting updates will be announced on our social media pages www.Facebook.com/ARCAOpeningDoors and www.instagram.com/arcaoopeningdoors/, but to reserve your lane now, become a recognized sponsor or if you have items for our Silent Auction, please let Michele know at MCody@ARCASpirit.org. As always, the cost to bowl is \$0; the cost of lunch is \$0; the memories – well, to quote Bob, are priceless.

**Featuring
Mayors on Strike!**



Circle of Promise



It is inspiring when our Circle of Promise members share their personal history, connecting the dots with the legacy of children and adults ARCA has served since 1957. What a joy to picture in my mind's eye the impact these visionary donors will have on future generations by including ARCA in their will or estate plans.

I recently visited with Dr. Javier Aceves, one of our esteemed Circle of Promise members. He recalled his experiences during his Pediatric residency in 1982, with very vulnerable children experiencing long, frequent hospital stays. His concern for their continuity of care, especially after returning home, began his lifelong journey of dedicated service for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. He reflected on his early experiences; families encouraged to institutionalize their fragile newborns and "not get too attached." Today he sees respect for our humanity, joy and hope in our contributions to one another.

Javier serves on the ARCA board and several years ago let me know he included ARCA in his estate plan. "For me, it just makes sense," Javier said. "I have given my children the tools to succeed in life and now am in a position to ensure ARCA's mission will continue; a mission bigger than any single one of us." His words impress on me what a difference one person can make when they live their passion.

As we celebrate ARCA's 60 years of services, I would be honored to have you join us. I would love to hear your story and look forward to answering any questions you might have about including ARCA in your estate plan or establishing a Special Needs Donor Pooled Trust. Our Circle of Promise members craft a bright future, a future we invite you to ensure.

With gratitude,

Elaine Solimon

Elaine Solimon • Community Relations Director
 505-480-4321 • esolimon@arcaspirit.org

ARCA's 2017 Legislative Day

ARCA's 2017 Legislative Day was a wonderful opportunity for individuals receiving services to visit with their legislators. With the help of Smart Travel, ACES and the Advocacy Network, a collaborative workshop was developed to help interested individuals with the writing and verbal skills necessary to communicate both their concerns and appreciation. A variety of bills under consideration during the session were reviewed and individuals participating in the workshop wrote personal letters to their legislators about the ones they found most interesting.



Our Smart Travel group used assistive technology to learn how to take the train to Santa Fe. The Rail Runner trip was relaxing and after a quick shuttle ride, we were at the Round House. Individuals were able to personally deliver their letters to their senators and representatives, sat in on committee meetings and listened to Senate proceedings. Everyone appreciated the beautiful artwork and the unique architecture of the building.

The next day, individuals in ARCA's specialized literacy group shared their experiences. Gabby was passionate about meeting with her legislators on House Bill 87, since some of her family members experience diabetes. Kathy was so impressed with her representative and their conversation about limiting changes to insurance policy drug coverage, she decided she would like to become a representative, too! Inez felt House Bill 112 and House Bill 98 were important to her "...because I take medications and I want to help people who are blind."

It was wonderful to see individuals served by ARCA so enthusiastic to learn about and participate in our legislative process!

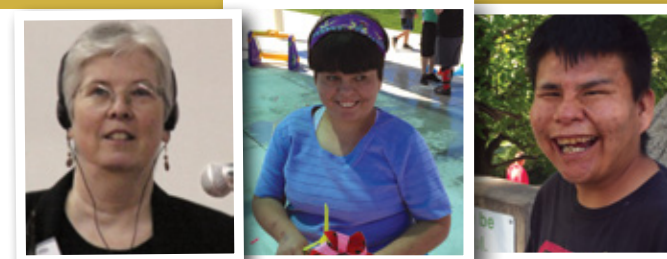
The Prader-Willi Syndrome Project for New Mexico

Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS): Building a Community of Supports

Keynote Speaker Linda M. Gourash, MD • Friday June 16, 2017 at the Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown

ARCA's Prader-Willi Syndrome Project of New Mexico is hosting Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS): Building a Community of Supports. This regional conference is scheduled for **June 16, 2017**, at the Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown and we are honored to welcome **Linda M. Gourash, MD**, a renowned expert in the field of PWS Syndrome as our Keynote Speaker.

We hope you'll join us for this unique opportunity to learn new information about the syndrome and building a community of support through raised awareness and education for both professionals and caregivers. ARCA's statewide Prader-Willi Syndrome Project is the first in the country and currently serves 65 New Mexico children and adults with PWS.



Registration opens March 15th. For more information or to register for the conference, please visit our website at www.arcaoopeningdoors.org/pws-conference/ or contact Penny Chavez at PChavez@ARCASpirit.org.



ARCA

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60th Anniversary

DON'T MISS THE 'BIG ONE'
DON'T HESITATE JOIN US IN '88
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO
THE GATEWAY TO ENCHANTMENT

ALBUQUERQUE ASSOCIATION FOR
RETARDED CHILDREN
DAY CARE CENTERS

ABC
is
Fun

UNITED WAY
OF CENTRAL NEW MEXICO

THANK
YOU

IMPACT
STILL

Eagle Scout Rennovation

The pond at La Entrada was beautifully renovated when Christian Gonzales, Life Scout, accepted the challenge for his Eagle Scout requirement. Christian introduced Troop 126 to ARCA by explaining the person centered supports and services available and shared the importance of the pond as a place for people to reflect and meditate. His leadership left us with a freshly sanded and painted liner and beautiful new flagstone around the pond. The troop adults tackled a new fountain while the younger scouts gave the garden area a good clean-up. Thank you, Christian and Troop 126, for your leadership and support in helping make our pond the centerpiece of our garden!



New Mexico Brain Injury Resource Center

In 2016, the NM Human Services Department awarded ARCA a contract to manage the New Mexico Brain Injury Resource Center (NMBIRC). Since December, ARCA has been opening doors for New Mexicans living with a brain injury by providing information, referrals and outreach services. Working with community partners, NMBIRC has helped people with a brain injury living in homeless conditions find a new home, reconnect with their insurance carriers and educate managed care organizations on how to effectively communicate with a person living with a brain injury. The Center has become a homestead where people living with a brain injury can be themselves in a secure, nurturing environment.



Life changes after a brain injury. It can mean the loss of a career or disruption of an education. It can alter relationships and affect our outlook. After the injury, people often focus on what has been lost; an emotionally overwhelming, confusing and frustrating experience. At NMBIRC, we work side by side with people to overcome the challenges by understanding each person's individual needs and helping them interpret vital information.

While everyone with a brain injury embarks on a unique and personal journey, there are common experiences which can offer inspiration and support. By connecting people and community partners, NMBIRC is building a foundation to support New Mexicans living with brain injury on their quest to recovery.

For more information on ARCA's New Mexico Brain Injury Resource Center, please visit www.nmbirc.org or call us at 1-844-366-2472 (3NM-BIRC).

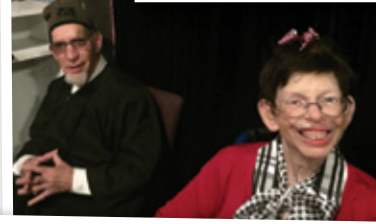
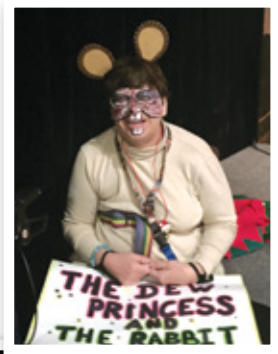
HUNSEL & GRIDDLE

What do you get when you combine a clever brother and sister team, an upside down moon, Little Red Riding Hood, the Wolf and Kermit the Frog? The ARCA Traveling Theater Troupe's original production of "Hunsel and Griddle...the NOT so GRIMM Fairy Tale" of course!

ARCA's Traveling Theater Troupe wowed packed audiences at the Fusion Cell Theater, North Valley Senior Center and Immanuel Presbyterian Church with what critics are calling their best production yet. Produced and directed by Jeff Silverman and Holli Renee Fields, Hunsel and Griddle is the story of a brother and sister in search of the opportunities they need to live a happy life. They traverse through a dark and scary forest filled with challenges to find a beautiful home, loving guidance and really good cookies.

Special shout out to Jeff and Emily for their spectacular duet of Blue Moon.

For information on future productions and how you can join our Troupe, Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/arcaopeningdoors or contact MCody@ARCASpirit.org. We are always looking for actors, directors, playwrights, makeup artists – if you have an interest in live theater come join our troupe! See you soon!



SPECIAL NEEDS PLANNING

2017

THIS SEMINAR WILL FOCUS ON

- Special Needs Trusts
- The ABLE Act
- The Affordable Care Act

Free of charge!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017
3:00PM-5:00PM

New Mexico CPA Society
3400 Menaul Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87107
Across from American Furniture

PLEASE RSVP BY APRIL 15, 2017*
Email: atrujillo@pbwslaw.com
Phone: 505-872-0505
*Limited seating capacity

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ABQ Breakfast Civitans Annual Picnic!

THURSDAY, JUNE 1st • 5pm-7pm
at Expo NM (enter at the San Pedro gate)

Join Us for the Albuquerque Breakfast Civitans Annual Picnic for ARCA!

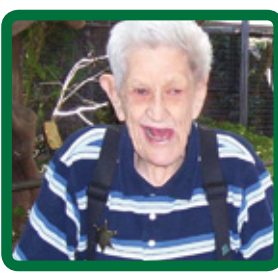


The aroma of grilled burgers. The rhythm of live music. The joy of spending time with friends. All this and more is thanks to the Albuquerque Breakfast Civitans' annual ARCA picnic! For over 25 years, ARCA has enjoyed this stellar seasonal event for individuals in ARCA's care, families, friends and staff. We know how much work goes into the planning and preparation for such a crowd and every year the outcome is picture perfect.

We hope you can join in the fun this year. Just bring a dessert to share and your appetite (we don't know their secret, but ABC Civitans make the best burgers in town!).

For more information, please contact [Faylene Wytewa-Alire at Fwytewa@arcaspirit.org](mailto:Faylene.Wytewa-Alire@arcaspirit.org) or (505) 332-6816.

In Loving Memory



Robert Barnes • Robert "Bobby" Barnes passed away peacefully in his home surrounded by loved ones. Bobby had a great smile, always made people laugh and was an avid watch collector. Bobby had a full and happy life with ARCA. He had just celebrated his 83rd birthday with his favorite pizza and soda and his very favorite people. Bobby had a nickname for everyone he came in contact with and loved being around people. He will be greatly missed.



Nancy Horton • It is with great sadness we share the loss of our beloved Nancy Horton. Nancy lived in ARCA's Copper home for 22 years where she was cherished by her family, housemates and staff. Nancy worked at ARCA's greenhouses and had a playful personality; she loved greeting everyone with a "Boo." Nancy was surrounded by family and friends whom she loved dearly.

ARCA
Opening Doors.

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