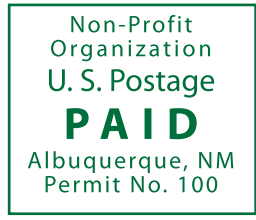




ARCA's mission is working together to open doors for individuals with intellectual, developmental and cognitive disabilities to be valued members of the community.

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Tel: (505) 332-6700 | Fax: (505) 332-6800  
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Opening Doors for individuals with intellectual, developmental and cognitive disabilities since 1957. | [ARCAOpeningDoors.org](http://ARCAOpeningDoors.org)  
“When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed.” -Maya Angelou

I came to ARCA in 1982, and for many years celebrated its leadership in developing nationally recognized models of community based services for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Over the last decade we have experienced massive challenges, making successful outcomes possible only because of hard working, resourceful staff from every part of our agency working alongside our community partners. And then came COVID.

We have been on moratorium for 18 months, the longest in our agency's history. Ongoing staffing challenges make it impossible to welcome new people into service. By selling older houses and reorganizing to four people living in each home, we are able to provide adequate staffing per person served. Staff have rallied to ensure transitions go smoothly and we continue to work with the State and our Legislature to secure reimbursement rates that will provide a living wage for our compassionate and always essential direct support professionals.



Meanwhile, our community partners make it possible to acknowledge staff's dedicated service in meaningful ways. Over 600 individuals, staff and families enjoyed ARCA Day at the Zoo. For the first Thanksgiving since 2019, staff, individuals and families gathered together in gratitude for one another. We caught up with hundreds of friends and neighbors at our poinsettia sale and celebration. Tess Polasek, VP Branch Manager for Charles Schwab, is hosting a holiday party at the Albuquerque Country Club for individuals without family. They, along with our friends at Intel and Beth Adland and her associates at Anesthesia Associates of New Mexico, purchased holiday gifts for adults in ARCA's care. It's sure to be an extra festive gathering – even Santa himself is planning to be there!

This holiday season, I celebrate you for the countless and varied blessings you bring ARCA each and every day. Thank you for lifting us during times of unprecedented challenge and walking beside us on this journey toward regained sustainability. Thank you for maintaining your belief in the people we serve and the work we do to create meaningful opportunities throughout our community. This holiday season, and always, we are grateful.

(505) 332-6825 • [EKaul@ARCASpirit.org](mailto:EKaul@ARCASpirit.org)

## Steve Receives National Recognition



501(c) Services is a national organization helping over 1,500 nonprofits manage unemployment since 1982. This year, Steve's “holiday horse” artwork was selected to adorn the front of their annual holiday card!

Steve is a talented artist who has been part of ARCA's family for decades. He's also an avid movie fan and explained his painting depicts how he imagines the famed horses in old westerns would appear if cast in a holiday movie – powerful from light and joy. Steve says creating his “holiday horse” made him happy, a holiday sentiment he shares with everyone who sees it.

FOLLOW US!

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Please consider adding the ARCA Foundation to your will or estate plan.

Contact Nadine Mary at (505) 332-6805



## Annual Meeting

ARCA held it's 66th Annual meeting in November. Ed Kaul, President/CEO, reported ARCA is the oldest provider of IDD services in New Mexico and still creating legacies with ARCA Neuro, our State's first community based neuro rehab resource. ARCA has been developing new routines and slowly integrating back into the community, with individuals medical and therapy appointments returning to in-person and long cherished activities like ARCA's Health Fair, Trunk or Treat and the annual Thanksgiving celebration returning.



ARCA worked to raise starting wages by \$2.00 per hour and secured a benefits package with no increase in cost for staff. ARCA's Workforce Improvement Team spearheaded ARCA's Back to School Drive, Giving Tree and Health Fair, while ARCA's Nutrition Department facilitated another successful ARCA on the Move.

Matt Maes, outgoing ARCA Board member, was recognized for his years of service and dedication and the 9th annual Award of Distinction was presented to Joan and John Campbell.

Jim Culpepper presented the Nominating Committee's recommended Board Slate. Pat Kominiak and Jennifer Lehman were presented for their third, three-year term, Ron O'Dowd and Rudy Miera were presented for their second, three-year term and Andrea Kinsley, David Mork, and Bernadette Miera were presented for their first three-year term.

There were no nominations from the floor and the members approved the nominating slate.





## Celebrating Staff and Family

The only way to successfully face challenges together is by making time to celebrate together, too! Whether it's strolling through the Zoo, hosting a Trunk or Treat for staff and families, coordinating a Health Fair or sharing a Thanksgiving meal, we value the gifts we each bring to ARCA and enjoy the times we are able to share one another's smiles.



## Award of Distinction

In 2014, ARCA's Board and Membership Committee began formally recognizing distinguished leaders who embody key attributes inherent in ARCA's organizational culture, including wisdom, intuitiveness and a demonstrated ability to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles in realizing progress for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

At ARCA's 2022 Annual Meeting, Joan and John Campbell were recognized with the Award of Distinction for exemplifying these characteristics during their decades long relationship with ARCA.



Joan and John have impacted countless lives. The outcome of their lifelong work is perhaps most easily recognized in their son Johnny. John and Joan have spent decades lovingly providing Johnny with opportunities to thrive by focusing on both his responsibilities and on the things he loves in order to ensure he remains active, engaged and always welcomed in his community. The Campbells give their son, and countless other New Mexicans, the opportunity to live a life of value. They bring this same strategic vision to ARCA. They have each served multiple terms on the ARCA Board, where Joan previously served as Board Chair, as well as multiple committees and councils through good times and very difficult stretches, always sharing sage advice and providing welcomed counsel. Plus, they're an awful lot of fun.

## Annual Poinsettia Celebration



Our Annual Poinsettia Celebration is our favorite way to say "thank you."





*Thank You*





Every donor is important in the lives of children and adults with intellectual, developmental and cognitive disabilities served by ARCA. Thank you for making dreams come true.






*Thank You*







Every donor is important in the lives of children and adults with intellectual, developmental and cognitive disabilities served by ARCA. Thank you for making dreams come true.






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*Every effort has been made to compile a complete and accurate list of donors from 11/15/2021 - 11/15/2022. If your name has been inadvertently omitted or misspelled, please accept our deepest apologies.*



# Lowe's 100 Hometowns

"We should certainly count our blessings, but we should also make our blessings count." - Neal A. Maxwell

In 2022, Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse completed improvement projects in 100 hometowns across the country, including one very special project with ARCA!

Having a safe, functional home, shared with others transitioning after a brain injury, is important to the health and safety of the survivor. Living in a beautiful environment where staff can maximize person-centered opportunities for growth and welcome a participant's family and friends into the rehabilitation process, is equally important. When Lowe's heard one of ARCA Neuro's homes needed a makeover inside and out, they made it happen!

Very special thanks to Johnny Rodriguez, Project Captain and Manager of the Lowe's on Juan Tabo, and his entire team for making magic happen.



## Circle of Promise

'Tis the season of giving! Holiday shopping advertisements have been in full swing for weeks and "Black Friday" deals are now week long specials starting the day after Halloween.

As anxiety producing as all this can be, giving and receiving a thoughtful, meaningful, gift from the heart, makes us feel special, loved and appreciated.

A Legacy Gift, a planned future donation designated through some or all of one's estate, is a perfect gift. Legacy gifts enable donors to create a powerful, philanthropic legacy by making a direct impact on the cause(s) important to them and reflecting their values and desires.

ARCA's Circle of Promise members, recognized in this issue with our 🌱 symbol, have all pledged generous gifts from their hearts. Their gifts acknowledge the meaningful work ARCA does each and every day and ensures our ability to continue providing lifelong services for people with intellectual, developmental and cognitive disabilities for as long as there is a need.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank ARCA's legacy donors for including ARCA in their will or estate plan with gifts of life insurance, IRAs, property, remainder trusts and other opportunities. Each one is perfect and valued especially for the joyful spirit in which it was given. Your passion for ARCA's mission is priceless.

I invite anyone who is thinking about leaving a legacy gift to ARCA to contact me for more information. If you have already included ARCA in your estate plan, please let me know so I can welcome you into our Circle of Promise.

Wishing you health and happiness in 2023!

*Nadine Mary*

Nadine Mary • ARCA Endowment & Pooled Trust Coordinator  
(505) 313-3514 • NMary@ARCASpirit.org



Thank you, Anne!

Anne Knutzen has been a cherished member of the ARCA Foundation Board of Directors since 2018, opening countless doors for children and adults served by ARCA and serving as Board President since 2021. Anne recently moved out of state and Noel Behne presented her with a farewell gift in honor of her dedicated service and leadership.



## ARCA's Angels

While we still aren't able to welcome volunteers into our programs, Intel and Nusenda employees came out to the farm to take care of some major repairs. Everything looks beautiful and we had a blast!



Thank you, Walmart,  
for including ARCA in  
the Grand Re-Opening  
of your Carlisle Store!

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