

# Outlook

Volume IV 2024

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As the Holidays draw near, and my time as ARCA's CEO draws to a close, I am reminded of the many blessings I have received over my 39 year career. I will always cherish the thousands of people and families who entrusted ARCA to touch their lives and the lives of their loved ones. I am forever grateful for the army of direct support staff and professional colleagues who joined me on the journey of fulfilling ARCA's mission and along the way became my most trusted mentors and friends. I would like to express my deep gratitude for the thousands of volunteers, family members and community partners who donated their time, talents and treasure towards ARCA's legacy of empowerment, caring, compassion and service excellence for people with disabilities.

I am delighted that Michelle Harmon, our current Clinical Director, has been named by the Board of Directors as my replacement. She steps into the role with a keen knowledge of the hundreds of individuals and families served by ARCA, our business and service operations, a passion for quality, compliance and the health, safety and happiness of each of the hundreds of people in our care. I have worked closely with Michelle over the past 15 years and have complete confidence in her ability to uphold the legacy of ARCA for years to come.



## Edward J. Kaul

ARCA President & Chief Executive Officer

As we approach the end of another year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've shared together. Our dedicated employees, stakeholders, and community supporters have played a vital role in delivering successful services that uplift and empower those we serve. Your faithful commitment and tireless efforts have not only made a tangible impact but have also fostered a sense of belonging within our community.

This holiday season, we celebrate the spirit of humility, kindness and empathy that holds us together. It is this genuine understanding and compassion that allow us to connect with those in need, transforming lives through authentic relationships. Your ability to support and care has created a nurturing environment that extends beyond our organization. Together, we have built a community where love thrives, and where every individual is valued.

As we look ahead to the New Year, may the joy of the holidays fill your hearts and homes. Let us carry forward the lessons of kindness and cooperation that have guided us throughout this year, and continue to spread hope and positivity. Thank you for your dedication, your passion, and the love you share so freely. Wishing you and your loved ones a joyous holiday season and a new year filled with purpose, connection, and amazing achievements.



## Michelle Harmon

**Incoming ARCA President & Chief Executive Officer** 

Dear Friends of ARCA,

As we approach this season of giving and reflection, I am filled with excitement and gratitude as I step into the role of Executive Director/Chief Development Officer at the ARCA Foundation. Joining such a dedicated and passionate team at this meaningful time is truly an honor.

Throughout my career, I've had the privilege of working alongside individuals committed to creating positive change in our community. As part of the ARCA family, I am excited to continue this work, advancing our mission to empower and support individuals with intellectual, developmental, and cognitive disabilities. Together, we will continue to focus on creating opportunities, fostering independence, and promoting inclusion for those we serve.

As a mother, military wife, community advocate, and proud New Mexican, I look forward to connecting with all of you in the months to come. This holiday season, I wish you peace, joy, and the warmth of knowing that, together, we are helping to build a more inclusive, supportive community for all.



In Giving,

## Jennifer Maldonado Greenwood

Executive Director and Chief Development Officer, ARCA Foundation

# ARCA's 68th Annual Membership Meeting:

# A Year of Growth, Vision, and Community Impact

On November 6, 2024, ARCA held its 68th Annual Membership Meeting, bringing together members, staff, and supporters to reflect on the past year's successes and set the stage for the exciting future ahead. Board Secretary Pat Kominiak kicked off the event by welcoming attendees, followed by a powerful address from ARCA President/CEO Edward J. Kaul, who shared the organization's impressive achievements.

Edward highlighted several key milestones that marked a transformative year for ARCA. The organization saw extraordinary growth in its core programs, with ARCA NeuRoads, Family Living Services, and Mi Via Family Living programs experiencing an incredible 600% increase. ARCA also made significant strides in digital innovation, transitioning from paper-based records to streamlined electronic systems across its service areas. This digital shift is helping ARCA operate more efficiently and effectively, ensuring it can better serve individuals with disabilities.



A major focus for ARCA this year was enhancing employee satisfaction. Edward outlined efforts to improve compensation, expand benefits, and provide more comprehensive training for staff—critical steps in ensuring that ARCA's team has the support and resources needed to continue providing exceptional care and services. He also celebrated the organization's successful community partnerships, including the Bowl-a-Thon, which raised an impressive \$100,000 to support ARCA's mission.

As the meeting continued, incoming CEO Michelle Harmon shared her inspiring vision for the future of ARCA. Michelle emphasized her commitment to honoring the organization's rich legacy while empowering staff, promoting integrity and transparency, and driving professional development. She spoke passionately about continuing to provide excellence in services for individuals with disabilities, ensuring that ARCA remains a beacon of care and support in the community.

Warren Hayslip, ARCA's CFO, delivered a brief but insightful financial update, reflecting the organization's strong fiscal health and commitment to responsible stewardship. Edward also took a moment to recognize outgoing board member Barbara Lewis for her years of dedicated service to ARCA. In addition, Judy Greenfeld was honored as the 2024 recipient of the ARCA Award of Distinction, celebrating her outstanding contributions to the organization's mission.

The meeting concluded with the approval of the Nominating Committee's slate for new and re-elected board members: Eve Rossignol, Mandy Funchess and Adam Thompson. ARCA is poised for continued growth and success in the coming year with these new additions. The 68th Annual Membership Meeting was a celebration of ARCA's past, present, and future. As the meeting adjourned, there was a shared sense of excitement and anticipation for the continued progress of the organization and its commitment to improving the lives of individuals with disabilities in New Mexico.



# Autumn Adventures

Autumn in Albuquerque is truly special, and we relish every moment! Our Zoo Day was filled with excitement and fun. The Customer Experience Improvement Team at ARCA hosted a thrilling Halloween Boo Bash that had everyone buzzing with joy!





ARCA's Annual Poinsettia Sale was a heartwarming gathering filled with laughter and connection, bringing together old and new friends. We cherished the moments spent with our Circle of Promise members, families, and supporters who contribute so much to the lives of those in our care. It was a joyful occasion to express our gratitude with 7,000 beautifully homegrown poinsettias!

# Thank You

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# A Season of New Friends and New

# Opportunities: ARCA's Point of Entry Events

This fall, ARCA had the privilege of joining supporters at two Point of Entry events that brought together passionate individuals dedicated to creating opportunities for those with intellectual developmental and cognitive disabilities. These intimate gatherings provided valuable insights into ARCA's mission while fostering meaningful community connections.

The first event, hosted by the Honorable Idalia Lechuga-Tena at the beautiful Palace Prime in Santa Fe, was a resounding success. Held in late October, the evening was filled with inspiring conversations, delicious food, and a shared commitment to transforming lives. Attendees learned about ARCA's programs and their tangible impact on the lives of individuals with IDD. It was a heartwarming reminder of how, through the collective efforts of caring people, we can continue to build a brighter, more inclusive future for those in need.

We are deeply grateful to Idalia for her generosity in hosting this event. Her leadership and dedication to ARCA's cause make a lasting impact, and her support is critical to ensuring that ARCA's mission continues to thrive. Without friends like her, we could not carry out our vital work.

In early December, we were thrilled to join Aleli and Brian Colón, Esq., CFE Managing Partner, New Mexico Offices, Singleton Schreiber, for another unforgettable Point of Entry event. Held at their home, this event was especially personal for the hosts. Having lost his father to muscular dystrophy at the young age of 49, Brian understands firsthand the challenges that individuals with physical and intellectual disabilities face. His commitment to supporting ARCA is driven by his passion for helping those who live with disabilities, making the evening all the more meaningful.

The gathering was a chance to meet the ARCA Foundation's new Executive Director, Jennifer Maldonado Greenwood, and an opportunity for the guests to learn more about how ARCA is making a significant difference in the lives of New Mexicans with IDD.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Aleli and Brian for opening their home and their hearts to ARCA. Their generosity and passion for the cause are an inspiration to all of us. Their commitment, along with the support of many others, is what allows ARCA to continue its important work in the community.

As we reflect on these successful events, we are reminded of the incredible network of friends and supporters who are helping ARCA make a real difference. If you are inspired by the work ARCA is doing and want to explore how you can get involved, we encourage you to visit ARCAOpeningDoors.org.

Together, we can continue to open doors to brighter futures for individuals with intellectual, developmental, and cognitive disabilities!







## Circle of **Promise**

## Leave a Lasting Legacy- Planned Gifts to ARCA Foundation

The ARCA Foundation is shaping a strong future for children and adults with developmental disabilities, ensuring that care and support will be available for generations to come. One of the best ways to secure this future



is by making a planned gift to the ARCA Foundation's endowment fund. Whether you choose to designate your gift for a specific program or for the general endowment, your contribution can make a lasting impact.

#### How Can You Give?

There are many ways to support ARCA through planned gifts:

- Bequests: Include ARCA in your will for a set amount or a percentage of your estate.
- Charitable Remainder Trusts (CRT): Establish a trust that provides income to you or a loved one, with the balance benefiting ARCA.
- Charitable Lead Trusts: Transfer assets that provide annual payments to ARCA before passing the remaining balance to your beneficiaries.
- Gifts of Real Property: Donate property, such as your home, while continuing to live there.
- **Life Insurance:** Transfer ownership of a paid life insurance policy to ARCA for tax savings and estate tax relief.

#### Join the Circle of Promise

ARCA's Circle of Promise membership recognizes those who make impactful legacy gifts. Since 2012, members—whether families of individuals served by ARCA, staff, volunteers, or community members—have shared a vision for a brighter future for those with developmental disabilities.

As a member, you'll receive:

- A Circle of Promise lapel pin
- ARCA's Outlook and Annual Report
- Invitations to exclusive ARCA events, including the annual Circle of Promise luncheon!

This year, ARCA's Circle of Promise Annual Luncheon was held on November 23rd at the La Paloma Greenhouse. It was a chance to gather, celebrate, and continue supporting ARCA's mission with a little extra cheer! By including ARCA in your estate plan, you help ensure that Felix and hundreds of others continue to receive the care and opportunities they deserve.



For more information on planned gifts or to include ARCA in your will, please contact Jennifer Maldonado Greenwood or your financial advisor today!

## Jennifer Maldonado Greenwood

Executive Director and Chief Development Officer, ARCA Foundation (505) 607-9574 • JGreenwood@ARCASpirit.org

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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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Contact Nadine Mary at (505) 332-6805

