

THE ARC OF BENTON COUNTY
 ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
 1885 NW 9TH STREET
 CORVALLIS, OREGON 97330
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 WEBSITE:
 WWW.ARCBENTON.ORG

The Arc Advocate

June 2006

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 ADVOCATING FOR AND
 PROVIDING SERVICES, AS
 NEEDED, TO INDIVIDUALS
 WITH DEVELOPMENTAL
 DISABILITIES AND THEIR
 FAMILIES.

The Arc Board 7:30 PM
 1st Thursday

Membership Committee 9:00 AM
 Louise Teater's Home
 1st Tuesday

Resale Committee 10:00 AM
 Arc Office
 3rd Monday

Equitopia Committee 6:00 PM
 Arc Office
 1st Thursday

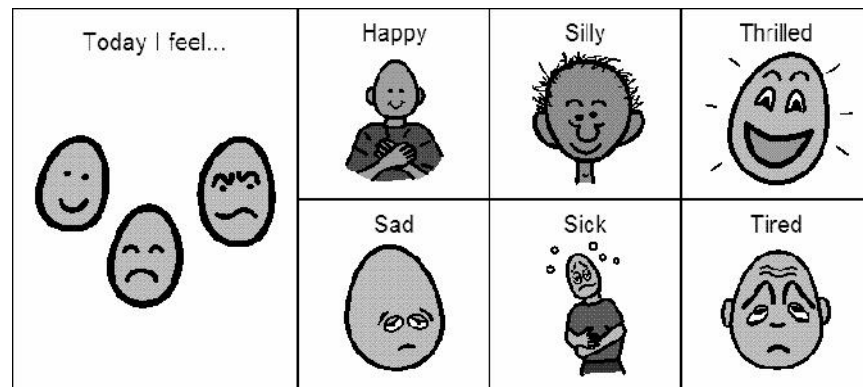
Bingo Committee 11:30 AM
 Springfield
 4th Monday

Public Policy 8:30 AM
 Arc Office
 3rd Thursday

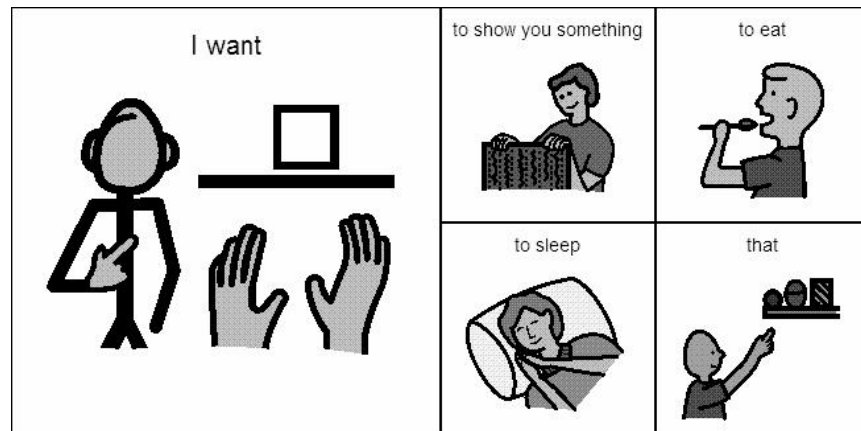
Finance Comm. 6:00 PM
 Arc Office
 Wednesday before
 The Arc Board meets.

BOARDMAKER

Boardmaker is a software program that contains over 3,000 Picture Communication Symbols in both color and black and white. Aside from the symbol selection the program also offers multiple languages which can be used for bilingual cards.



Boardmaker allows you to make professional looking communication displays or educational materials in minutes, and it is available at The Arc.



Come in and try out this communication resource purchased through a grant for the Family Support Network from the Benton DD program.

E D U C A T I O N



What is DanceAbility?

DanceAbility is a contemporary dance technique that allows people of diverse physical and cognitive abilities to dance together.

Who can do DanceAbility?

People age 13+ of all backgrounds and all physical and mental abilities. This class is accessible to everyone. We create a fully diverse community where everyone's abilities and creativity are valued and nurtured and important to the whole. Each person and movement is of equal value.

A free pilot course will be offered to allow you to sample this dance style. The session will culminate in a street parade performance in the opening ceremonies of DaVinci Days.

Where: United Methodist Church, 11th and Monroe, Corvallis

When: 4:00 PM, June 6, 13, 20, 27 and July 11

Street Parade: 12:00 PM, July 15, downtown

For more information, or for children's classes, please contact Lisa Wells at 231-6091, or Wendy Peterman at 758-8215

11th Annual Family Conference On Cerebral Palsy and related disabilities

Neil & Denise Jacobson are this year's keynote presenters. Neil is a Sr. VP with Wells Fargo in SF, and Denise is a writer and the author of a book about their experiences as parents with CP adopting a baby with special needs.

October 27 & 28, 2006
Holiday Inn, Wilsonville, OR
 (503) 777-4166 or (800) 473-4581
 sblanchard@ucpaorwa.org
 Visit: www.ucpaorwa.org

Notable Individuals

The Arc of Benton County honors the following people for outstanding service that fosters more typical lives for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. For your personal commitment to excellence, The Arc says thank you to Bryan Guerena, Kids First; Highland Bowl, The Arc Ambassador; Denise Gorthy, Educator of the Year; Paula Novak, First Citizen; Chad Fell, Direct Service Provider; Jack Mykrantz, Barbara Mykrantz, and Andrea Mykrantz, Honor Roll; and Susie Peters, The Arc Distinguished Service Award.

Also in the limelight is Rosemary Ayres, Speech Pathologist. Rosemary was recognized by The Arc of Oregon for excellence in innovative teaching at her Speech Camp in Philomath.

Congratulation to all The Arc award winners of Benton County!

A FEAST OF SPONSORS AT THE ARC BANQUET

The Arc of Benton County thanks the following sponsors for helping us celebrate excellence in the work being done to support people living with developmental disabilities in our community. Sponsors of The Arc's 2006 Awards Banquet include Meg Dooley, Bud & Dot Fredericks, Jerry & Mary Kay Gleicher, Roger & Helen King, Mike & Tari Morse, Jack & Barbara Mykrantz, Pace Heating & Air, Barbara Sackett, Searing Electric & Plumbing, Cliff & JoAnne Trow, Tony Van Vliet, and Bill & Judy Winkler.

The Arc of Benton County announces the Officers and Directors for 2006-2007:

Jack Mykrantz, President; Kimberly Cleveland, Vice President; Mike Hoffman, Treasurer; Candi Cooke, Secretary; Peter Ball, Immediate Past President; Harold Harris, Director; Julie Sanchez, Director; Jeff McCubbin, Director; Verlene Melero, Director; Dr. Norman Castillo, Director; and Barbara Sackett, Director.

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An Invitation from the Membership Committee

The Arc of Benton County extends an invitation to our members to contribute to a special membership program with the sole purpose of aiding families, with children who are developmentally disabled, to become members of The Arc. With the cost of raising children with disabilities increasing, there are numerous families unable to support the advocacy work of The Arc through a membership.

There are a number of avenues financial may take:

1. Contribute a family membership of \$35.00.
2. Pay in full a membership of \$20.00, naming the person for whom it applies.
3. Contribute a portion of a membership to be deposited in The Arc's designated Membership Assistance Fund.

Please note any such contribution is tax deductible. The Officers, Directors, and Membership Committee feel strongly that our members are the heart of our organization's strength. The number of members do keep us in beat with our advocacy efforts and legislative influence. We do not want families to miss the opportunity to share in the support of our advocacy due to the lack of funds. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Membership Committee

Membership Assistance Fund

I/We wish to contribute...

_____ \$20.00 membership

_____ \$35.00 family membership

_____ \$_____ to Membership Assistance Fund

_____ The amount shown is membership for: _____

(please print name and address) _____

Make checks payable to: The Arc of Benton County

For tax deductible receipt, please print your name and address:

CAMP RESOURCE GUIDE

Adventures without Limits,
Forest Grove, Oregon.
Children of all abilities, age 9-18.
Year round activities include four-day summer camp. Serves, but is not limited to, the Portland Metropolitan Area.
Call 503-359-2568 or go to www.aloutdoors.com

Camp Attitude,
Foster, Oregon.
One week summer camp.
All facilities are wheelchair accessible.
Call 541-367-3420 or go to www.campattitude.com

Camp Easter Seals,
Corbett.
Serves children with disabilities age 6 and up. Five day residential camp. Call 503-228-5108 or go to easter-seals.org

KindTree Summer Autism Camp/Retreat,
Eugene, Oregon.
Held one weekend each summer for families/caregivers and their children with autism.
Call 541-521-7208 or go to kindtree.org

Kiwanis Camp,
Mt. Hood, Oregon.
Serves people age 9-35 years of age. Several five days sessions from June through August.
Call 503-452-7416 or go to mthoodkiwaniscamp.org

Meadow Wood Springs Speech and Hearing Camp,
Blue Mountains of Eastern Oregon.
Two separate 10 day camps in July immersing children in speech therapy through fun activities 24 hours/day.
Call 541-276-2752 or go to meadowwoodsprings.org

Rosemary Ayres Speech Camp,
Philomath, Oregon.
Saturdays year round and summer day camp for children ages 13 and up. Call 541-929-4568

Upward Bound Camp,
Stayton, Oregon.
Serves people age 12 and over. Summer, fall, winter, holiday and spring camps. Individual respite opportunities also are available.
Call 503-897-2447 or go to upwardboundcamp.org

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I want you to know how important Afternoon Activities Program is to our son Jeremy. He looks forward to coming everyday, Monday through Thursday. Staff and friends greet him by saying "Hi Jeremy!" as he enters the meeting room so he feels welcome. He likes having somewhere different to go in our community each day of the week. He especially likes bowling and swimming days because he gets to ride The Arc Bus.

Jeremy looks forward to the Calendar that comes out each month so he can see the schedule and know "What's next?" He likes getting snacks at different places. I think what he enjoys most is being with his peers and hanging out around town doing things with friends and not his parents. His parents like knowing he is safe in the community and having fun.

We hope this program continues. We would like it to stay flexible so people can come for a few or as many days as they want. We would like to see one day a week that has a different activity scheduled each week. This program provides socialization opportunities for Jeremy that he cannot get any other way now that he is out of school and we hope that it continues.

Sincerely,
Susan Mentzer,

Our daughter Bonnie Wald has been a participant in the Arc Socialization Program for the past 15 years. Early on, we recognized how important socialization would be—Steve Scheetz, former director of Benton County Mental Health, shared with us how critical it was to structure socialization needs of individuals with disabilities. Up until age 15, we have relied on child care support after school such as Fran Holcomb and others to supervise Bonnie after school. This more or less met Bonnie's basic needs but we began to recognize that she needed more peer interaction and would benefit by increased involvement in the community.

Pam was then a member of the education committee of The Arc and began working with Katie Cissel with the idea of forming a socialization group for clients. OSU agreed to make use of a room on the 3rd floor of the Education Bldg. for this purpose and so began the start of the first The Arc program. This program has been housed at several locations over the past years—St. Mary's Church, The Arc office, the Boys & Girls Club, the Corvallis Public Library, and presently, at the First United Methodist Church.

The Arc program has been a life saver for us and Bonnie. The Arc has done an outstanding job in operating this program including the hiring of very sensitive and nurturing staff who, to this day, Bonnie recalls the names of and recalls with positive memories. When the program does not meet during school holidays and summer vacations, Bonnie experiences a loss and we have to fill the emotional void that it leaves.

We attended a planning meeting at The Arc recently that Karin Frederick held to discuss plans for the continuation of this program and to come up with ideas that might help to keep this program sustainable. This program serves clients with all different levels of functioning and it would be very sad if The Arc could not continue to fund the program in the years ahead. Pam and I urge you to cooperate in the survey that The Arc is conducting and to contribute your ideas in a thoughtful manner.

*Thank you,
Ben and Pam Wald*

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Family Support Network

The Benton County Developmental Disabilities program has asked The Arc to conduct a confidential survey to find out what you, the families, would like to see in your family support network. If you are interested in participating, please fill out the survey below:

Participation in the Family Support Network

1. Do you know about the Family Support Network sponsored by The Arc of Benton County and the Benton County Developmental Disabilities office?
 Yes No
2. Have you attended family support network activities in the past such as the Personal Ponies picnic, party at the aquatic center, free spa day or advisory meetings?
 Yes No
3. Are there any activities you would like to see offered again? Yes No

List activities:

4. What type of educational, recreational or networking activities would you be interested in attending?

List activities:

Making Activities and Meetings More Convenient

1. What days and times are better for you to meet?
 Days Evenings Weekends
2. Ideally, how often would you like to meet?
 Once a Week Once a Month Every other Month Quarterly
3. Where would you like to have meetings?
 South Corvallis Downtown Area North Corvallis Philomath

Structures and Supports of Activities

1. Would you like to have activities for:
 Just Children Just Parents Both

2. If the activities are without children, would you need to have childcare provided?
 Yes No

3. Would you prefer to have childcare provided at the same location as the parent meeting?
 Yes No

4. Of the following list of activities, which one(s) would you be more likely to participate in?

An advisory group to assess and plan activities and services? Yes No

A scheduled drop in group respite time? Yes No

A special one time event such as a fun day, pool party etc? Yes No

An on-going parent support group? Yes No

A limited session parent support group or class? Yes No

A group for siblings of children with a disability? Yes No

5. Are there other supports or activities that would be helpful to you?

List:

6. Do you think there needs to be more peer support for families with a child that has a disability? Yes No

Demographic Information

1. Age of child with a disability:

2. Nature of disability:

3. Other children in the family:

If yes, do they have a disability?

Age of child?

Thank you for taking the time to give us your input on what you would like to see in your family support network. If you have any other further questions, requests or comments please contact Susan Mentzer at Benton County Developmental Disabilities Program: (541) 766-6895 or write below!

Comments:

Please mail the survey to The Arc of Benton County.

The
Arc

of Benton County

Advocating for People with
Developmental Disabilities
Since 1958

1885 NW 9th Street
Corvallis, OR 97330

The
Arc

Resale Center

936 Main St.
Philomath

MIRACLE
SHOPS



The
Arc

Resale Corner

10th & Beca
Corvallis

WE TURN YOUR USED GOODS INTO LOCAL SOCIAL SERVICES