



# Achieve



**The Arc**  
Bristol County

## The Arc of Bristol County celebrates 54th Anniversary

Awards, dinner and dancing marked The Arc of Bristol County's 54th Anniversary Celebration on June 12 at the Holiday Inn Taunton. Members, families and supporters attended to honor The Arc who provides life-changing services to over 2,000 adults and children with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families throughout Bristol County, Ma and the state of RI.



and enjoys working and helping other people. Nominated by one of her peers for helping others with disabilities feel welcomed and included, Kelly-Jean is the ideal example of self-determination.

**Community Excellence Award:  
Cara Hart - Bryant University  
(Smithfield, RI)**

Bryant University has welcomed Arthur, a gentleman with disabilities to work in the Human Resources office helping with office projects. Arthur also has been assigned to design, post, and update the Human Resources bulletin board which he takes much pride in. Bryant University displayed the ultimate respect, compassion and acceptance in creating an important role for Arthur, and opening opportunities for other people with disabilities within the campus.

*(Continued on page 3)*

**2013-2014  
Board of Directors**

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The Arc warmly thanks outgoing Board Members Michelle Machado and Jeffrey Tannenbaum for their devoted service to our organization.

Paul Camille, Board Chairperson, gave his yearly report along with President and CEO Michael Andrade before presenting The Arc's Annual Awards. Rep. Betty Poirier, Rep. Steven Howitt and Sen. Richard Ross presented citations while assisting with the award presentations honoring those who have supported The Arc and its mission over the years. The 2013 Arc Award Recipients are:

**Self Determination Award:  
Kelly-Jean Robbins (Attleboro, MA)**

Kelly-Jean Robbins is one of the most involved individuals at The Arc of Bristol County. Kelly-Jean was the leading fundraiser for All Aboard The Arc in 2012, as well as active in Project Rec-Connect and The Arc Angels Softball Team. She has been employed at Roche Bros. in Norton,

# Welcome

*"Personnel take the time to get to know the persons served and their families; consistently follow them throughout their experience with*



*the organization; and appear to provide excellent skill development and enhancement, community integration, and program support services....Persons served and parents and external partners uniformly report satisfaction with the services and are complimentary of staff performance and the organization's professionalism and integrity."*

– CARF Accreditation report for  
The Arc of Bristol County

Dear Friends of The Arc,

The Arc of Bristol County once again earned the highest 3 year CARF accreditation attainable, and with it a glowing report from which the quote above was taken. As President and CEO, it brings so

much pride to read these comments from an outside professional, about what outstanding care we are providing to the individuals we serve. From our Board of Directors and me, profound thanks go to our committed staff for your exemplary service to our individuals and families.

On June 12th, The Arc celebrated our 54th anniversary, and once again it was evident that The Arc's success is truly a collaborative effort of individuals, employees, families, volunteers and community partners who believe in our mission. The Arc touches many people with compassion and assistance, and also relies on the generosity and determination of many people to make a difference.

The Arc's 2013 Annual Report also came out on June 12th featuring stories of volunteerism throughout the organization. The Arc has many volunteers helping us for which we are grateful. Surprising to some may be how many of the individuals we serve volunteer in their communities and for The Arc, giving back in a way that fits their abilities. Empowered individuals with disabilities taking pride in service to others, shows how strongly we are impacting our community.

Area companies generously sponsored our agency in an advertising campaign this spring, reminding people that we are here and actively helping our neighbors. You may have seen GATRA buses with a little boy that said, "He laughs, he loves, he deserves to dream." Once again we are grateful for this support and will continue to work within our region to inform the greater community about The Arc, how we may be able to help them, or how they may be able to work with us.

Looking back at the past year, we have faced challenges from all angles including natural disasters, terrorist bombings, budget cuts and health-care uncertainties. Please know that The Arc intends to work with you to navigate the issues that we face today. Together we can be stronger when things get tough, and together we are making a difference.

Thank you for being part of The Arc,



Michael Andrade  
President and CEO

*He laughs. He loves. He deserves to dream.*



**The Arc**<sup>™</sup>  
Bristol County

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# The Arc of Bristol County celebrates 54th Anniversary (Continued from page 1)



*The Arc of Bristol County would like to thank the Holiday Inn Taunton, Photography by Andy Heller and Domenic Cotoia of Music Odyssey Productions for their contribution to the success of this evening.*

## **The Arc Spirit Award: Anytime Fitness (Plainville, MA)**

Anytime Fitness has invited a group of Arc members to work out at their fitness club free of charge. The Arc group works out every other week for about an hour. So far about 10 different individuals have benefitted from this program. Sushil Shah and his manager Nate Brown are fantastic at assisting our individuals and ensuring that they truly enjoy their workout!

## **Family Leadership Choice Award: Sammi and Doug Robertson (North Attleboro, MA)**

Children who have developmental challenges are blessed to have Sammi and Doug Robertson of Bailey's Team for Autism working on their behalf. Sammi is a passionate, intelligent and driven warrior fighting every day to better the lives of children like her son Bailey and the families affected by autism spectrum disorder. The Bailey's Par golf tournament Sammi and Doug Robertson founded is a masterpiece of organization and advocacy for the work of Bailey's Team, helping

families and children with autism. Sammi brings together supporters, friends and community members for fun and fundraising, but never misses an opportunity to remind them why they are there, to help kids like Bailey. Bailey's Team now offers a full calendar of events, fundraisers and educational seminars for their cause, funding over 25 organizations with grants totaling \$600,000. Bailey's Team has given generously to The Arc, presently funding Project Kids Connect and mini-iPads. Their support has been consistent and passionate, and we couldn't ask for more devoted champions of all families served by The Arc.

## **Founder's Award: Karen Fournier (Attleboro, MA)**

Karen Fournier worked for The Arc as an Individual Support provider for 12 years. In that time Karen was known to go above and beyond in her quality care for individuals. Karen also chaired a Relay Team called The Arc Angels, completing 6 relays, and raised well over \$20,000.00 in total. Over the years,

as many as 23 team members and dozens of volunteers have provided food, donations and pledges, equipment, and hours of assistance with transportation, decorating luminary bags, and setting up the campsite. Karen is an inspiration professionally, personally and in her compassion for others despite personal challenges.



# The Arc receives Three-Year CARF Accreditation

*Organization Noted for Outstanding Services*

The Arc proudly shares this encouraging news:

CARF International announced that The Arc of Bristol County has been accredited for a period of three years for its Community Integration programs. The latest accreditation is the second consecutive Three-Year Accreditation that the international accrediting body, CARF, has awarded to The Arc of Bristol County.

CARF Surveyors made the following comments: "The Arc of Bristol County, Inc. has strengths in many areas....Staff members are dedicated and most capable. They are committed to providing person-first and person-centered services. Personnel take the time to get to know the persons served and their families; consistently follow them throughout their experience with the organization; and appear to provide excellent skill development and enhancement, community

integration, and program support services....Persons served and parents and external partners uniformly report satisfaction with the services and are complimentary of staff performance and the organization's professionalism and integrity."

This accreditation decision represents the highest level of accreditation that can be awarded to an organization and shows the organization's substantial conformance to the CARF standards. An organization receiving a Three-Year Accreditation has put itself through a rigorous peer review process. It has demonstrated to a team of surveyors during an on-site visit its commitment to offering programs and services that are measurable, accountable, and of the highest quality.

CARF is an independent, nonprofit accrediting body whose mission is to promote the quality, value, and



optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process and continuous improvement services that center on enhancing the lives of the persons served. Founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, and now known as CARF International, the accrediting body establishes consumer-focused standards to help organizations measure and improve the quality of their programs and services. For more information about the accreditation process, please visit the CARF website at [www.carf.org](http://www.carf.org).

## The Arc of Greater New Bedford celebrates the 30th anniversary of the State Representatives Golf



The Arc of Greater New Bedford has celebrated its 30th anniversary of the State Representatives Golf Tournament on June 10th at the Country Club of New Bedford. The event raised over \$25,000.00 for



Educational Advocacy in greater New Bedford. Thank you to our local State Representatives, players, sponsors and other supporters whose efforts will help children and families served by The Arc.



# Pooled Trust Available from The Arc of Bristol County

Local families who have a loved one with disabilities may now plan for their fiscal future with the knowledge their investment is safe. Pooled Trust Funds allow families to provide money for persons with disabilities without impacting their future federal benefits.

Michael Andrade, President and CEO of The Arc said "The cost to establish and administer an individual trust is high and prohibitive for many families. The Arc is excited to partner with Bristol County Savings to establish a Pooled Trust Fund which is more affordable, yet establishes a security for families knowing they are providing for the future welfare of their loved ones with disabilities. No organization in the region is offering this type of service that hundreds of families can benefit from."

## What is a Pooled Trust?

A Pooled Trust is a self-settled trust, meaning it is funded with an individual's own money. A Pooled Trust is irrevocable, making it a very useful estate planning tool to protect an individual's public benefits and still save significant amounts of money for their future use. By pooling the funds, each individual account in the pooled trust raises more productive dividends for investment purposes in accordance with the value of their account balance.

## Is a Pooled Trust Right for me and my family?

Our Trust Management professionals are available to answer your questions and help you make the best financial decisions for you and your loved ones. Please call (888) 343-3301 extension 3102 for more information.

# The Arc promotes iPad programs with the help of three foundations

The use of technology, and specifically the iPad, has become a valuable tool for individuals with autism and other developmental challenges.

The Arc has recently partnered with three organizations to bring iPads to children, adults and families we serve.

Bailey's Team for Autism made providing mini-iPads to families who couldn't afford them, part of their Fourth Annual Wine & Beer Tasting. Guests were asked to fund the cost of an iPad during the evening, and eleven mini iPads with cases were generously donated after the event. Bailey's Team partnered with The Arc's Family Support Center to help identify families and youth who could benefit from this technology. So far, families have been delighted and grateful to be part of this project.

The Staples Foundation and Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism both awarded grants to bring an iPad program to Day Habilitation Services in Middleboro. By combining funding from two grants, Middleboro has been able to purchase iPads, cases, software, wireless capacity and training to provide an iPad program for participants.

The Arc of Bristol County appreciates the generosity of Bailey's Team, the Staples Foundation and Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism for helping us make this cutting-edge technology available to the individuals and families we serve.



Representatives from Bristol County Savings Bank and the Charitable Foundation presented a \$10,000 grant check to representatives from The Arc of Bristol County to establish the Pooled Trust.

From left to right: Michele Roberts, Executive Vice President & Community Relations Officer, BCSB; Jann Alden, BCSB Assistant Vice President/ Regional Branch Administrator; Chrissy Bruce, Carl Coleman, Roger Desrosiers from The Arc; Paul Oliveira, CPA, The Arc Board Treasurer; Lorraine Desrosiers, The Arc; Patrick J. Murray, Jr., BCSB President and CEO, Paul Lenahan, BCSB Executive Vice President; Michael Andrade, The Arc President and CEO; Ken Rusler and Kim Bennett from The Arc, Paul Camille, BCSB Vice President and The Arc Board Chair; Therese LaPorte, The Arc; Valerie Zagami, The Arc Board Member; and E. Dennis Kelly, Jr., Chairman of BCSB.

## proAbility Luau

On April 13th, a Hawaiian Dinner Luau was held at the Sheraton Airport Hotel in Warwick with proceeds to benefit recreational programs at proAbility. Parent volunteers generously worked to attain over 100 silent auction and 25 live auction items and prizes to meet everyone's tastes and budget. Hawaiian dress was encouraged, leading to a colorful and fun-filled evening for 150 guests. Much thanks to Deb Wood and her team of volunteers who organized a wonderful time and raised over \$9,000 for a meaningful cause. Deb asked

us to remind everyone that next year's Dinner Auction will be on March 22, 2014 at the Crystal Lake Country Club.



## Hip Hop in Fall River

The Arc of Greater Fall River Resource Center has been enjoying Hip Hop dance classes for over a year. The class is growing in popularity and everyone is enjoying learning the moves and getting a fun workout. Hip Hop Dance Class has become highlight of the Resource Center's week!



## And Now the Fun Begins...

Proceeds from the many proAbility events this year have funded numerous recreation activities including a Bowling League, volleyball, fishing tournament, bocce and a trip to Pennsylvania this summer. Thanks again to Deb Wood, many volunteers and the proAbility staff for helping to bring these healthy and fun activities to Rhode Islanders with challenges.



# Middleboro Moves:

*Editor's Note: Participants from Middleboro Day Habilitation Services wanted to write about the new and expanded location for the program. Thanks to all who contributed to celebrating this new location.*



## "The New Arc Building in Middleboro"

The Arc program is moving to a new location in Middleboro. The New Building is located at Five Mill Street right near Route 44 behind Kahians. It is a big building with different rooms for more different activities. The room color is light blue and dark blue and reception area is bright yellow. We have plenty of space. We have the gym in the front and a nice kitchen and two different class rooms. There is a TV there. People will be happy to see this new place. Also there is a basketball hoop outside at the place. We will have new Ipads or computer...not sure yet...lol :)



## Jaelle Bopp

### Employee of the Quarter



The Employee of the Quarter for the 2nd quarter of 2013 is Jaelle Bopp. Jaelle is the Director of the Middleboro

Day Habilitation program. Jaelle was nominated by Lesley Azzinaro, Director of Adult Services, Sandra Fournier, Healthcare Services Coordinator and Jennifer Sweet, Executive Administrative Assistant.

Jaelle is known to be a "go getter", and since joining The Arc of Bristol County in December of 2011 has taken the Day Habilitation program to a whole new level. Her efforts in creating a well-rounded day habilitation program have been recognized by the state survey team and CARF surveyors. Jaelle's ability to identify opportunities that improve and expand services to the individuals supported through the Day Habilitation program

contributed to The Arc receiving top accreditation. She is committed to providing community integration for the day program participants by ensuring meaningful activities are provided for all.

During this past year Jaelle assisted in securing a grant that allowed the Day Program participants to create a quilt which in turn was unveiled to the participants, staff and parents at a memorable event held at the Middleboro Library. This is a perfect example of her "can do" attitude and commitment to a community integrated experience for participants of the Day Habilitation program.

Jaelle's enthusiasm is evident in her daily work whether she is assisting a program participant, having a conversation with a parent/guardian or working on a cooking class with 6 participants. She is able to multi-task when on the program floor and simultaneously keeps an ear listening for if a participant needs assistance. Jaelle does all of this while maintaining an upbeat and positive attitude. Her influence is inspirational. Congratulations Jaelle!

**ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

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Web: www.arcnbc.org

**THE ARC OF GREATER FALL RIVER**

182 North Main Street  
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**DAY HABILITATION SERVICES**

5 Mill Street  
Middleboro, MA 02346  
Tel: (508) 946-2121 • Fax: (508) 946-2195

**THE ADVOCACY RESOURCE CENTER OF GREATER NEW BEDFORD**

412 B County Street  
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**PROABILITY**

333 George Washington Hwy.  
Smithfield, RI 02917  
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**TAUNTON AREA RESOURCE CENTER**

437 Bay Street  
Taunton, MA 02780  
Tel: (508) 884-2971 • Fax: (508) 884-2964



**The Arc**

*Bristol County*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Achieve with us.*

## Upcoming Events

### 2nd Annual Clam Cakes and Chowder Dinner

Friday, September 27, 6pm  
Fall River Elks Lodge  
4500 North Main Street  
Fall River, MA  
Contact the Fall River office at (508) 679-0001 for tickets and info.

### proAbility 1st Annual Golf Tournament

Saturday, September 28  
Crystal Lake Golf Club  
100 Bronco Highway  
Mapleville, RI  
Shotgun start at 8:00am  
Contact the proAbility office at (401) 233-1634 for registration information

### 11th Annual Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, October 26  
PACC  
174 School Street  
Taunton, MA  
Contact TARC (508) 884-2971

### MOMs' Night out

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month  
6-8pm  
Venue changes monthly  
Please contact Amanda Masi (508) 226-1445 ext. 3130 for location and reservations.  
Pizza or appetizers provided.

### DADs' Night out

Every 3rd Monday of the month Sept-June  
6-7:30pm  
141 Park Street  
Attleboro, MA  
Come join us for a night of pizza and conversation. Taking reservations for fall, please contact Amanda Masi (508) 226-1445 ext. 3130

### Brothers' & Sisters' Sibshop

The Arc, Attleboro  
Sibshop Summer Session is going strong. Please contact Amanda Masi (508) 226-1445 ext. 3130 if you would like to register for the summer or fall programs.