

always reaching for independence

ARI of Connecticut, Inc. Annual Report 2014

jobs • home • services

ARI President & CEO



While the past year was full of challenges and hurdles, many good things were accomplished. Because of inadequate funding, and the new way it is delivered, we continue to look for alternate ways to provide our services. The mantra of "people and families first " continues to be stressed by our state partners. We must

continue to focus our efforts on meeting the unique needs of each person we serve.

Our Day Service Options programs expanded and our Group Employment has seen significant growth. It is clear that having a job is a key component in the life a person with a disability. Sadly, our contract with our local school systems has drastically decreased, so it will be re-evaluated for the future. Referrals to our sheltered employment program have been halted by our partners, DDS since funding for the program will not be available going forward.

Our fundraising efforts have and will continue to have a positive impact on our precarious financial situation, due to shrinking State resources. Our myriad events continue to promote our mission while providing the resources required to continue the level of support and care out clients deserve.

We continue to be supported by our local partners, such as I.B.M., General Electric, Purdue Pharma, First County Bank, Fairfield County Community Foundation, Knights of Columbus, Stamford Police Association, to name a few. We are grateful to these organizations and companies that donate dollars and/or time to ARI and those we proudly serve.

There are many people that we wish to thank for their continued support and encouragement. Their constant involvement and unwavering support gives our "guys" the support needed to strive for independence and fulfillment. I would like to close in acknowledging the commitment of our staff, board of directors, donors and benefactors. With friends like you, I know that we are up for the challenge.

Matthew P. Reyher, President & CEO



ARI 2013 – 2014

RECREATION

1. The Stamford Police Association continued their support of the annual Holiday Party by purchasing presents for each ARI client.

2. Thomson Reuters continued their support by sponsoring the lunch at the annual Holiday Party and sponsoring three bowling parties, each for 25 clients.

3.Over 90 clients attended parties hosted by the Knights of Columbus and Michael Powers, celebrating Halloween, the Winter Holidays, St. Valentine's Day, and St. Patrick's Day.

4. Twenty-two clients participated in Special Olympics, competing in Bowling, Figure Skating, Speed Skating, Snow Shoeing, Cross Country Skiing, Bicycling, Swimming, Track & Field, and Tennis.

5.Over 100 clients from ARI attended recreation activities including art, aqua-aerobics, parties, baseball games, hockey games, symphony concerts, bingo, social nights, golf, men's and women's nights out, bowling, and much more.

6. Fifteen clients attended Stamford Symphony concerts.

DAY SERVICE OPTIONS

1. Sixty-five clients receive day service option supports.

2. Fifteen individuals volunteer in the community learning employment, social and other skills that will allow them to become job-ready. Current volunteer sites include the New Covenant House Food Kitchen, the Stamford Animal Shelter, Stamford Hospital, Person to Person, Salvation Army and The Food Bank of Fairfield County.

3. Five individuals were served through the ARI High School Transition Program

4. The Day Service Options program continues to thrive by offering person-driven services. Over twenty clients continue to participate in the recycling program at High Ridge Park learning employment and community skills.

5. The Self Advocacy group continues to meet. This year the group, with staff assistance, facilitated bake sales, ice cream socials, a car wash and other small fundraisers to raise funds for program supplies. The group also works hard to recognize and advocate for positive changes in

order to better their community.

6. An individual in the DSO program currently serves on the ARI Board of Directors.



EMPLOYMENT

1. Eighteen individuals work in the group supported employment program, on either the housekeeping or landscaping crews. These services currently maintain contracts for all the ARI facilities along with several within the community. This year, we gained two new housekeeping contracts. Three clients were added to the program this year, two of whom graduated from the Sheltered Employment program. Five individuals completed career plans. One client from this program currently serves on the ARI Board of Directors

2. Fifteen individuals work in the community in a competitive employment setting. Placements include Stop & Shop, First County Bank, Target, Sterling Farms Golf Course, General Electric and the Bartlett Arboretum. Clients continue to work on skills and their resumes to gain employment in the community.

3. Two individuals receiving Bureau of Rehabilitation Services are employed in the community and four others are being served through assessments.

4. The Sheltered Employment program continues to perform mailing services for both outside companies and ARI mailings. The program employs twelve individuals and gained a new job packing bags that are given out in the Hamptons. Individuals in this program also participate in nutrition classes and learn pre-vocational skills.

RESIDENTIAL

1. The I.H.S. program continues to allow clients to live in their own apartment with limited staff supports. These clients continue to learn new skills to become less reliant on staff supports. Many of them continue utilizing the Tully Center to learn about proper nutrition.

2. Thirty-one individuals live at five ARI group homes.

3. Twenty-three individuals live in an apartment setting within the Individualized Home Supports Program. These individuals receive support services to assist with budgeting, maintaining their apartment, cooking, social interactions and much more

4. Clients receiving residential services continue to achieve goals and strive to gain a higher level of independence. Some of the accomplishments of the past year include:



- One client serves on the Comedy Night Fundraising Committee.
- One client is a member of a volunteer fire department.
- Several clients continue to act in SHPERE movies.
- Clients take community jewelry, ballet and art classes.
- Clients learn how to do eat healthy, do their own laundry, socialize, and develop money skills
- Clients continue to advocate for their needs and voice concerns.

VOLUNTEERS

1. Over thirty Volunteers from Ernst & Young did yard work and painted at the Palermo House in July and September.

2. Over twenty volunteers from Pepsi did yard work and painted at the Ridgefield Sunrise Cottage in October.

3. Fifteen volunteers from Fairfield County Bank painted bedrooms and did yard work at the Ridgefield Sunrise Cottage in June.

4. Over 400 people volunteered at an ARI sponsored activity donating over 2,500 hours of their time. Volunteer groups include buildOn, Thomson Reuters, the Stamford Kiwanis Club, The Volunteer Center, and many individual volunteers. Volunteers assisted with programs and fundraising events including Aqua Aerobics, Art Class, Bingo, Social Nights, the 18th Annual Lotstein/Martin Golf Tournament, the 5th Annual Comedy Night, the 8th Annual Walk for Independence and much more.

FUNDRAISING

1. The First County Bank Foundation continued their support to the I.H.S. program by awarding a \$7,500 grant

2. The Knights of Columbus Council #41 continued their support of ARI by awarding \$10,000 from their annual golf tournament and Tootsie Roll Drive. Council #583 awarded ARI \$500 from their annual Tootsie Roll Drive.

3. The 18th Annual Lotstein/Martin Golf Tournament, the 5th Annual Comedy Night and 8th Annual Walk for Independence were all successful in raising awareness and funds to benefit the agency.

4. The Stamford Town Center continued their support to ARI by donating the fountain change that is used to purchase program supplies.

5. The United Way continued their support of the I.H.S. program.



ARI OF CONNECTICUT, INC BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS

Scott M. Wich, Esq.—*Chairperson* Kamalesh Banerjee, Ph.D.—*Chairperson-Elect* Lauren Nussbaum—*Vice Chairperson* John D. Russo—*Treasurer* Lee Combrinck-Graham, M.D.—*Secretary*

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ARI Staff

5 YEARS OF SERVICE

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10 YEARS OF SERVICE

Carline Archer, Skills Instructor, Day Service Options Maxine Mereigh, Finance Department Marjorie Mair-Riley, Residential Counselor, Palermo Renee Atkins, Skills Instructor, Employment Program Laura Floyd, Skills Instructor, Day Service Options

15 YEARS OF SERVICE

Cynthia Lowe, Skills Instructor, Day Service Options Paulette Wilson, Residential Counselor, Individualized Home Supports

20 YEARS OF SERVICE

Darlene Caviness, Director of Day Programs

- RECOGNITION AWARDS
- Always Reaching for Independence Award: Carline Archer, Skills Instructor, Day Service Options
- Heart of the Agency: Gerard Gasparino, Manager of Development & Recreation
- Rookie of the Year: Patrizia Scialis, Director of Residential Services
- Team Award: Truglia Residence; Jasmin Noel, Residential Manager; Solange Jacques, Residential Counselor; Nanotte Pierre, Residential Counselor; Kirah Goodridge, Residential Counselor; Samuel Ambroise, Residential Counselor
- **Volunteer of the Year**: Valerie Bell, Connecticut Pharmacy
- **Community Advocate Award**: New Covenant House
- **Corporate Partner Award**: Party City
- Client Awards
 - Employment—Ruth Green, Mike Flynn, & Kenny Fahan
 - DSO—Amber Squire & Marlene Serrano
 - Volunteering—Francine McMillian & Laura Gold
 - Residential—Elena Bruno & Stacey Reynolds

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Wendy Aldershof, Christine Alexander, Magdalah Alphonse, Samuel Ambroise, Lisa Anderson, Carline Archer, Renee Atkins, Robin Bacon, Yvette Banks, Clifford Beauleau, Linda Bel-Jean, DeKenya Bell, Philomena Bien Aime, Toneichia Bolden, Max Brisseaux, Theresa Brown, Judith Bruen, Beverly Burke, Deborah Cameron, Darlene Caviness, Daphne Charlow, Christina Clark, Gloria Clark, Willie Clark, Janice Davis, Shekkiah Davis, Jheanell Dhamalie, Robin Dimmock, Ahisha Douglas, Felicia Drungo, Marnie Dupree-Nelson, Valerie Ennis, Natacha Exantus, Veola Flemming-Kelly, Laura Floyd, Tiajuana Fogle, Daniel Franco, Marie Francois, Micheline Gabriel, Regina Garcia, Gerard Gasparino, Kirah Goodridge, Guirlanda Guery , Joy Henry-Oguguo, Regina Holley, Taria Hunter, Gloria Jackson, Tionaya Jackson, Solange Jacques, Carey Jaffee, Sharon Jennings, Herbert Kasedde, Bobbette James-Kelly, Elizabeth King, Kouassi Blah Irenee Kouakou, Debbie Krasner, Santana Letts, Marvin Lewis, Christine Lindeberg, Cynthia Lowe, Mesheka Lowers, Ronell McRae, Marjorie Mair-Riley, Vickie Manuel, Carlton Martin, Jolene Mazzeo, Louise Medoit, Maxine Mereigh, Yolanda Morales, Sheldon Morrison, Jasmin Noel, Jacinth Nugent, Nanotte Pierre, Alonda Powell-Johnson, Aldonna Powell, Kathryn Prete, Alejandro Ramos, Jr., Wayne Reid, Matthew Reyher, Elsa Richardson, Jean Jacques Richeme, James Roan, Suzene Rosier, Roberto Sanchez, Patrizia Scialis, Marie Sistrunk, Nicole Smart-Young, Tysha Smith, Sherland St. John, Sylvia Taylor, Clara Thompson, Melody Thompson, Sara Torchon, Hector Torres, Tammy Upchurch, Myia Walters, Joann Weatherford, Kendra Williams, Mary Lue Williams, Sharon Williams, Paulette Wilson

Unaudited Financials

ARI of Connecticut, Inc. UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT 2013 – 2014

SUPPORT & REVENUE Fees Workshop Contracts Fiscal Intermediary Grants United Way Contributions TOTAL REVENUE	\$6,085,101 36,375 78,882 20,788 13,779 292,382 6,527,307
EXPENSES Administration Day Programs Residential Programs Other	934,660 1,586,571 3,994,034 79,298
TOTAL EXPENSES NET PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE OVER EXPENSES BEFORE DEPRECIATION	6,594,563 (67,256)
Depreciation	184,074
NET PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE OVER EXPENSES AFTER DEPRECIATION	(251,330)
Investment Income	98,536
New Surplus/(Deficit)	(152,794)

This financial report presented is an unaudited financial report.

Donations July 1, 2013– June 30, 2014

Thank you to the following individuals, businesses and organizations for their kind generosity. Please call us at (203) 324-9258, ext. 3023 to find out how you can help by making a donation to ARI or volunteering your time for those we serve. You can also find more information @www.arict.org.

Please note these abbreviations: "Golf Tournament" is the 2013 18th Annual Lotstein/Martin Golf Mrs. Hyacintha Bernard Tournament "Walk" is the 2014 8th Annual Walk for Independence "Comedy Night" is the 2013 5th Annual Comedy Night AAA Southern New England Ms. Ann Abel In Memory of Morton Cohen Accurate Lock and Hardware Co., LLC 2013 Tee Sponsor, Golf Aceto Corporation Mr. Cayo Akiyoshi Ms. Elizabeth R. Alexander Aloha Pool Water 2014 Team Sponsor, Walk Allstate Giving Campaign Nelson and Ruth Alpert In Memory of Beatrice Kaminsky AMC Entertainment Inc. American Express Charitable Fund Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Andrisani Ms. Nancy Anzalone AOC Fine Wines Kathy and Mike Apruzzese Aquarion Water Company 2014 Mileage Sponsor, Walk Architectural Shower Door Designs LLC 2014 Residence Sponsor, Walk Mrs. Jane Arestia 2013 Top Banana Ad, Comedy Night 2014 Mileage Sponsor, Walk Barbara Aronica & Peter Buck 2013 Tee Sponsor, Golf 2014 Team Sponsor, Walk Axel Johnson Inc. In Memory of Laura J. Pascale Mr. Donald M. Axleroad 2014 Mileage Sponsor, Walk Ms. Irene Ayoub and Mr. Dean Pedon Mr. and Mrs. James P. Backiel Mr. Sunil Banerjee Mr. Kamalesh Banerjee In Memory of Santi Lal Banerjee 2014 Corporate Sponsor, Walk Chris Bartek Mrs. Evelyn Bauer Mr. Jeffrey Beadle Mr. Christopher Beadle Mrs. Sharon Beadle Mr. Clifford Beauleau 2014 Residence Sponsor, Walk Mr. Daniel Beauleau Leah D. & James A. Becker In Honor of John Peter Becker Mr. Jeff Becker In Honor of John Peter Becker

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ARI MISSION STATEMENT

Enriching the lives of people with disabilities and their families by enabling them to achieve their fullest potential at home, at work and in the community.

ARI of Connecticut, Inc. 174 Richmond Hill Avenue Stamford, CT 06902 203 324 9258 www.arict.org

