

ARI of Connecticut, Inc. Annual Report June 30, 2019

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Residential Services

ARI owns and operates four Community Living Arrangements (CLA's)/group homes in Stamford. A total of twenty-five individuals live in these homes, which have all met the highest level of licensing standards in CT. Nineteen other individuals live in their own apartments and receive supports from ARI to ensure their continued success in living independently in the community.

Staff helped each individual achieve greater levels of independence, enrich their lives, and increase their participation in the community. With assistance, one third of the people we serve were able to plan and enjoy vacations and/or summer camp this year. They engaged in a wide variety of activities, focusing on improving their quality of life through building relationships and participating in enrichment activities at home and in the community. This year we especially focused on expanding awareness and appreciation of other cultures through food, education and crafts. Together we celebrated Hanukkah, Pearl Harbor Day, Thanksgiving, Haitian Day, 4th of July, Kwanza, Halloween, Kompa Day, Easter/Passover, Flag Day, and Cinco De Mayo.







Health Care oversight was provided for all individuals. The Medical Department coordinates all medical appointments and care, and ensures compliance with countless state regulations. They also ensure all staff are certified to administer medication as needed and train them on general health information as well as specific medical concerns experienced by the individuals they work with.







Day Services

Our Day Service Options help individuals to develop essential life skills and to experience and contribute to our local community. Activities included self-advocacy, social skills, shopping, cooking, arts & crafts, music, computer skills, recycling, cultural awareness, volunteering and much more. Fifty-one individuals joined members of the community at the senior center, library, museums, parks and other cultural venues.

Volunteer opportunities enable individuals to learn skills while giving back to their community and enriching their own lives. Twelve individuals volunteered at organizations including Stamford Hospital, Person to Person, Tully Health Center, New Covenant Center, and First Congregational Church Thrift Shop. In addition, fifteen individuals volunteered with Silver Source to purchase and deliver groceries for homebound seniors.







Group Supported Employment provides work opportunities on Landscaping and Cleaning crews. The 22 employees on the crews learn work skills that will help them to be successful in future jobs in the community. The crews were responsible for six outside contracts and lawn maintenance at the ARI facilities.

Individualized Supported Employment assists individuals to obtain and maintain competitive, integrated jobs in the community. Thirteen individuals work at Stop & Shop, Whole Foods Market, Ferguson Library, Zody's 19th Hole, Target, Sterling Farms Golf Course, First County Bank, Odyssey Re, Bobby V's Restaurant and More! A few of these individuals have held the same job for over 20 years!

Individualized Day-Non Vocational services provide educational, social and recreational activities in the community. These intensive 1:1 services are tailored to the specific needs and interests of each individual. ARI enriched the lives of two individuals through these meaningful, community-based activities.

Recreation

Over 100 individuals attended ARI sponsored recreation activities including art, aqua-aerobics, parties, baseball games, hockey games, WWE Events, bingo, social nights, golf, dinner outings, bowling, picnics and much more. Our holiday parties at the Knights of Columbus continued this year as we celebrated Valentine's and St. Patrick's Days and Christmas/Hanukkah. Over 85 individuals, staff, family members and friends enjoyed each of these dance parties with music by DJ Jeffrey Stroffolino.







Once again, over 100 individuals and staff enjoyed The Stamford Police Association's annual Holiday Party, which has been an annual favorite for more than 65 years! The SPA funded the purchase of gifts, DJ and cake for the event. Renee Brown, ARI Board Member, donated the lunch and DJ Jeffrey provided the dance music.

15 individuals participated in Special Olympics, competing in Bocce, Bowling, Figure Skating, Speed Skating, Snow Shoeing, Bicycling, Swimming, Track & Field, Tennis and Weight Lifting.

Fundraising & Grants

The First County Bank Foundation continued their generous support for the individuals in the residential program by awarding a \$5,000 grant to provide financial support and continued independence for individuals.

The Knights of Columbus Council #41 continued their support by awarding \$18,000 from their annual golf tournament.

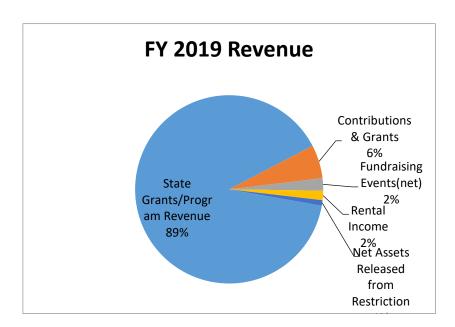
A \$100,000 anonymous donation was received from a generous individual to be used where most needed.

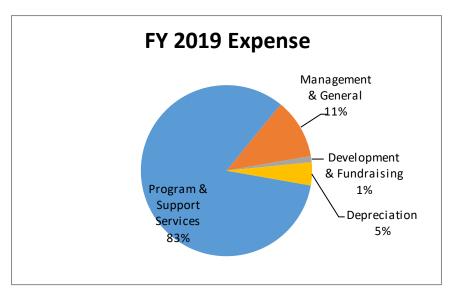
A \$90,000 grant was awarded by Friends of ARI to upgrade the IT infrastructure. The Annual Fall Ball Gala, 24th Annual Lotstein/Martin Golf Tournaments and 13th Annual Walk for Independence were all successful in raising awareness and funds to benefit the agency. The Fall Ball Gala was enjoyed by 200 guests. Over 250 people attended the Walk for Independence and over 120 attended the Lotstein/Martin Golf Tournament.

Volunteers

Over 150 people volunteered at an ARI sponsored activity donating over 2,000 hours of their time. Volunteer groups include Future 5, Ernst & Young, The Richman Group, and many individuals. Volunteers served on our Board of Directors, assisted with programs and fundraising events including Aqua Aerobics, Art Class, the 24th Annual Lotstein/Martin Golf Tournament, the 13th Annual Walk for Independence, the Fall Ball Gala and much more.

Financials





We are so grateful for the generous support we received from over 600 individuals, families, foundations and corporations. Every donation makes a difference and makes it possible for us to continue all of the work that we do. THANK YOU!!!

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