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ARI of Connecticut, Inc.
Annual Report | June 30, 2021

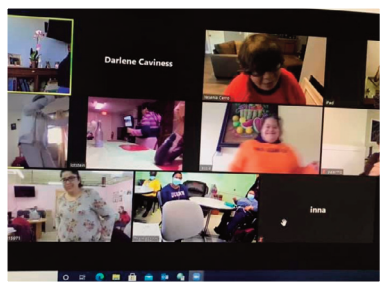
TRENDS & CHALLENGES

- The greatest challenge over the past year has been the constant need for PPE and cleaning supplies to keep individuals safe, and managing the increased expenses associated with the pandemic including supplies, testing, staffing, quarantining, and more.
- Increased focus on community based, independent employment and independent living yet lack of adequate resources and supports to ensure the success of each individual.
- Staffing crisis that started prior to the pandemic and is now significantly worse.
- Growing need for services for an aging population on one end and a younger and more challenging population on the other end.
- Extremely limited mental health providers and services that accept Medicaid/Medicare
- Reduced earned and unearned income for those who live independently, causing a strain on providers to cover individual expenses

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

DAY & VOCATIONAL SERVICES & SUPPORTS

- Supported nearly 100 individuals in a variety of day program options including non-work/skill development programs, pre-vocational training, and employment services programs.
- Managed a shutdown of our Adult Day Program building from March-July by developing remote programming on Zoom and via conference call, and developing remote day program sites in our group homes.
- Successfully re-opened our day program in July and, through aggressive cleaning and disinfecting protocols, kept the program open daily through December, though number of individuals is fewer and groups are smaller.
- Maintained eight community based cleaning contracts for the Group Supported Employment Cleaning Crew.
- Supported 9 individuals to continue their individual jobs in community-based employment sites.
- Completed work assessments and career plans for four individuals in preparation for competitive employment in the coming year.



RESIDENTIAL SERVICES & SUPPORTS

- Supported 25 individuals in four group homes in Stamford. All homes received two-year licenses (maximum allowable) from the State of Connecticut.
- Supported 21 individuals to live in their own apartments throughout Stamford.
- Provided enhanced medical services for individuals in the IHS program to help ensure the highest level of health & safety services, even while funding for these services is unavailable to us at this time. This was especially critical this year during the pandemic.
- Adjusted services and supports based on the needs of each individual.

RECREATIONAL & SOCIAL SERVICES & SUPPORTS

- Hosted a variety of monthly on-line events to enhance recreational, and social activities for participants while they remained safe at home. In the fall we transitioned back to in-person social and recreational events.
- Over 50 individuals attended the virtual events which included Art Class, Bingo, Social Hour, and Dance Parties.
- Hosted several events focused on exploring and learning about different cultures in order to enhance cultural awareness among individuals served and staff.

DEVELOPMENT

- Planned and executed three successful events including the 15th Annual Walk for Independence, 26th Annual Lotstein/Martin Golf Tournament, and Annual Fall Ball. A total of over 425 people attended these events raising over \$195,000.
- Approved for a grant from the City of Stamford for \$89,557 to repave the driveways and parking areas at two group homes and to replace the roof on our administration building.
- Approved for a grant from the Connecticut DOT for \$56,650 to purchase a handicap accessible mini-van.
- Received an anonymous gift of \$100,000.
- Received a grant from Friends of ARI for \$150,000 to complete the renovation of one bathroom in each group home to remove barriers and ensure full accessibility and improved safety for all residents and to replace the siding on our administration building.
- Received other grants totaling over \$50,000 for programs and \$50,000 in other general donations.