WELCOME!

We're happy to announce the premiere issue of our "Making Things Better Newsletter!" Here's where you'll learn about all of the great things that are going on with The Arc of Buncombe County. Despite the challenges of Covid-19 we have been keeping pretty busy, serving our intellectual and developmental disability community – and there are some cool things that are coming to Asheville to support our clients, too. So, please ENJOY and if there's an item that may be of interest for future issues of our newsletter, please contact Linda McDaniel with your stories.

Bloom Fitness Comes to Asheville

With the support of an inspirational team of local service providers, including invaluable leadership from The Arc of Buncombe County, a fitness program that focuses on improving the health of people with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities is opening in the Asheville area. Bloom Fitness is a community built around a fitness program that offers people with IDD an opportunity to acquire a sense of pride, belonging and being loved. Bloom has 7 locations in Houston, Texas. Now, through partnerships with A-B Tech and separately with Irene Wortham Center, Bloom is bringing their program to WNC. Quote from Bloom Fitness founder John Watson: “I am excited about the diversity of both of these credible organizations. They will help Bloom expand the practice of healthy living to more people with IDD and continue Bloom’s development of new ways to improve the lives of the people we serve.”

To learn more about the program, go to www.bloomfitness.org, or contact John at john@bloomfitness.org. To learn more about the collaboration between Bloom Fitness and A-B Tech, visit: https://tinyurl.com/y5alkajf You are also encouraged to watch this video that provides a vision of how this program is different from any other: https://youtu.be/hmo_BhdvESY
FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Valentine’s Day Raffle

The drawing was held on February 10th to select the winner of our Valentine’s Day Raffle. Josiah Simpson was happy to announce Carol Goins as the lucky lady! She received a gift basket containing everything you need for a perfect Valentine’s Day celebration including an exquisite earrings and ring set, of Afghani Lapis Lazuli set in 14K gold generously donated by
Grant Laughter Jewelry.

Thanks go out to all of the vendors that donated items for the raffle and to everyone who bought tickets. We are so incredibly grateful for your support of the Arc of Buncombe County during these challenging times.

❤️ HAPPY VALENTINES DAY! ❤️

Spring Online Auction

Covid-19 has allowed us to try new things this year and get creative with fundraising. The Arc of Buncombe County will be having an online auction in late Spring. Auction items will include art, jewelry, gift cards, hotel stays, outdoor activities, and more! We hope that we can count on your continued support in our fundraising endeavors. As you can imagine, due to the pandemic, our fundraising capabilities are extremely limited. Any donation is welcomed and we thank you in advance for your support. And please stay tuned for information about our Spring Online Auction coming to a computer near you!

Please Support The Arc of Buncombe County Crisis Intervention Program

CHECK OUT OUR NEW VIDEO
Produced by Chris Cassetts

(Click the image to view)
WITH GRATITUDE

Our First Online Auction
"In it to Bid It" Raises $7,000!
This past September we held our first online auction. We were pleasantly surprised by how much support we got for our “In it to Bid it!” auction. We raised close to $7,000 thanks to our supportive donors and bidders. Money raised helped fund several of our services that we offer including our health and wellness and crisis intervention programs. Our first online auction taught us a lot and we look forward to hosting our second one in the later Spring.

Operation Santa
a Great Success!

We would like to thank everyone who donated to our Operation Santa program in December. We were able to provide 258 individuals and families with either gift cards or presents for the holidays. A huge shout-out goes to Debbie Pressley who spearheads the program annually and recruits a large majority of our helpers to shop for gifts from families’ wish lists. CLICK HERE to learn more about this wonderful program.

We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the following businesses and individuals that helped us make it through Covid this past year:

• Ed and Donna Broadwell
• Antonio and Isabel Fraga
• Grant Laughter
• JEWELRY
• Brian and Gina Hoge
• Dr. JD & Lynne Matheson
• John and Patsy Morrison
• Helen A. Powers Fund
• Christopher & Mari Peterson

Walmart
OUR CONDOLENCES
James M. Cuellar
April 16, 1967 ~ November 22, 2020

James Martin Cuellar, 53, of Arden died Sunday, November 22, 2020 at Mission Hospital following a prolonged illness. He was blessed to have his wife and mother at his side. James was an advocate for our community for many years and we were sad to hear of his passing. His caring and compassion for those we serve will be sorely missed. Our hearts go out to his family and friends.

Volunteer Testimonial
I have been volunteering for The Arc of Buncombe County for a couple of years now. It astounds me how my involvement becomes more rewarding with every passing day. It's the best thing knowing that my work goes toward helping so many individuals and families in need of the services that we provide. I invite you to join me in this rewarding endeavor.

~ Lori Ordway

“The harder you work for something, the greater you'll feel when you achieve it.”

~ Author Unknown

Click to Donate to the Arc of Buncombe County!

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