




The Arc
 of Buncombe County
MAKING THINGS BETTER
 NEWSLETTER
 SUMMER 2021 EDITION

SUMMER IS HERE!

*Hello everyone! We hope you are doing well, enjoying the warm weather and sunshine, along with seeing the world starting to get back to normal! People are getting vaccinated and our hope is that soon Covid will be in the rear-view mirror. There's a lot of news to catch up on since our last edition and we hope that you'll take a few moments to get caught up. **The big news is that we are going to have our first in-person fundraising event since the pandemic** and we hope that everyone will be able to make it. We've missed you!*



The Arc
 of Buncombe County

Presents

Alive in August for The Arc!

Join us on the Highland Brewing rooftop patio
 for a wonderful evening of delicious food,
 drinks, music, plus live and silent auctions!

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2021
6:00pm - 9:00pm
 ...

Highland Brewing Rooftop Bar
12 Old Charlotte Highway • Asheville, NC 28803

\$75 per Person or an Evening for Two for \$140

Mark Your Calendars for Our First In-Person Event!

We are so excited that life is getting back to normal and we hope that you'll be a part of this lovely evening. Your donation will support children and adults with developmental and/or intellectual disabilities live more meaningful and integrated lives.

[Visit Our Website to Purchase Tickets](#)

A-B Tech and Bloom Fitness Team Up to Offer Health and Wellness Classes

Through a partnership between A-B Tech Community College and Bloom Fitness, the ABE Foundations program in the Transitional Studies department will offer classes to improve the health & wellness of our students. Bloom Fitness at A-B Tech will provide a population, with limited access, a free fitness program and training. Serving the participants with Respect, Integrity and Support for Everyone in the spirit of R.I.S.E aligns with Bloom Fitness' mission: "Lead with the heart, fitness follows." When we support our students' healthy development - they thrive. And as a result this strengthens our community. Bloom Fitness is a community around fitness and wellness that provides athletes with a feeling of belonging. The program offers people with intellectual & developmental disABILITIES an inviting and safe environment to exercise, learn about healthy lifestyle choices, and have social interaction. To learn more and sign up [CLICK HERE](#).



WITH DEEPEST

Sympathy

John Hayes • May 31, 1942 ~ June 10, 2021

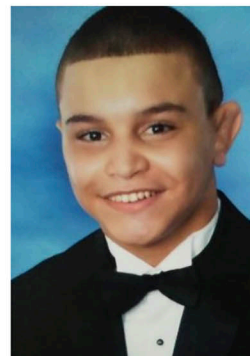


It is with great sadness that John Hayes, beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather passed away on June 10, 2021 at the age of 79. John was the Founder of the Empowerment Resource Center which operates WRES-FM 100.7 radio. Throughout his life he had thirteen sons & daughters, and with his wife Becky, fostered over 50 children ~ and he was a mentor to so many more. He really believed that the children are our future. The Arc of Buncombe County offers their condolences to his family, friends and all that were touched by him during his life.



Way to Go Diego!

June 5th marked a pivotal and celebratory moment as Diego Adams walked across the stage to accept his high school diploma from T.C. Roberson High School. He was recently acknowledged during T.C. Senior Recognition Award Ceremony, he received the Air Force Junior ROTC, Denny's Hungry for Education, and AB-Tech Community College scholarships. On June 15th at AB Tech's Ferguson Building, he was honored and received the Martin Luther King Scholarship. He's hopeful and optimistic as he continues to mature, grow, learn and anticipate his defining moment coming to fruition. Please join his family, friends and community as we wish Diego much deserved success and very best of wishes. He has yet to reach his full apotheosis. ~ Ms. Adams



Chrissie Gulden Retires



Chrissie Gulden retired as CEO of BlueWest Opportunities on June 30, 2021. She began her career in 1992 by providing direct support services to six gentlemen residing at the Ora Street group home here in Asheville. These guys became her friends and teachers. "My learning from this first job taught me more than any of the formal credentials I have achieved over the years. The experience directed me toward service and leadership for 29 years. I will always take pride in the way I got my start. It is with a grateful heart that I extend my appreciation for the support and encouragement during the past 15 years from my co-workers at BlueWest Opportunities and to the providers of ICF/11D services I have befriended across the state of North Carolina." She will have fond memories of the community of stakeholders and consumers she has worked with and appreciates all of those who have extended kind words and good wishes as she looks ahead to her next chapter! "I wish you all well and hope our paths will cross again," Chrissie Gulden.



Congrats Lori Ordway!

The Arc of Buncombe County congratulates Lori Ordway, a three-year volunteer of Arc, on receiving her MSW from Western Carolina University. In addition, she earned certification as a Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Scholar and was honored by the School of Social Work with the MSW Excellence in Leadership Award.

The Arc Provides Services to People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

If you have a child or adult who has been diagnosed as having mild, moderate, or profound intellectual disabilities The Arc of Buncombe County has many programs to assist help them increase their independence and achieve a higher quality of life. The majority of clients we work with suffer from Down Syndrome, Autism, Prader-Willi Syndrome, Chromosome Disorder, Angelman Syndrome, and/or Rett Syndrome. If you are need of any of these services, please reach out to us to see how we can help. Our programs include:

ADVOCACY AND LIAISON

ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS (CRISIS INTERVENTION)

FASD AWARENESS PROGRAM

HEALTH AND WELLNESS (HEALTHY LIVING)

OPERATION SANTA

SOCIAL ENRICHMENT

SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

WINGS FOR ALL

***If you or someone you know is in need of services,
please visit our website.***

A Huge Debt of Gratitude...

goes out to Autism Speaks for the generous grant they issued to The Arc of Buncombe County to help support our summer camp initiative.



Thank you to the Following Companies and Organizations for Your Support During these Challenging Times



Have a Story to Share?

We're always looking for content for our newsletter, so if you have a story that you think would be of interest to our readers, please let us know! Contact Linda McDaniel at linda@arcofbc.org or 828-253-1255

“You've made this day special just by being you. There is no one in the world quite like you, and I like you just the way you are.” ~ Fred Rogers

