

DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH

In March, the State of Indiana celebrates Disability Awareness Month to help individuals understand disability issues within their community. This month is a perfect time for community members to show their support and celebrate individuals with disabilities. We are sharing the lives of Brian, Alyssa, and Don so that our donors understand how your support impacts those we serve.

In celebration, The Arc will be promoting "Mondays with Meaning," "Wednesday Winners," and "For Your Enjoyment Friday" each week in March. Check out our Facebook each week in March, and website for all of the fun. Of course, each Friday will be our "Orange Out" days, where we ask the community to wear orange and share your photos on our Facebook page! Be sure to tell others why "Orange Out" days are essential.

CELEBRATING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

SERVICE - Arc Industries, a division of The Arc of Evansville, is a packaging, assembly, and distribution facility that offers employment and vocational training to individuals with disabilities. Those served receive assistance for developing work skills and appropriate behaviors for a work environment while earning a paycheck.

SUPPORT - Brian has been working at Arc Industries for over eight years. At one time, Brian's job was to attach handles to plastic buckets, and his pay was based on the number of pieces he completed. As Brian learned new skills, his job performance and quality of work improved. Brian is now inspecting and cleaning barrels for reuse. He has a real-world work opportunity and is gaining critical employment skills at a higher rate of pay. When asked what his new position means to him, Brian quickly said, "I make good money!"

IMPACT - Brian uses his earnings from Arc Industries to pay for living expenses, such as rent, food, utilities, etc. Because of his new job, Brian has enough money to go out to eat Chinese and go bowling every once in a while. He says he needs to earn money to pay his bills, and that he missed his paycheck when Arc Industries was thought to be closing. Thankfully, the closure did not happen, and Brian can continue living on his own without the fear of losing his independence. **Donors are making it possible for Brian to live an improved life!**



CELEBRATING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

SERVICE – Individuals with disabilities of all age groups can receive assistance from our Behavior Support Services program. Individuals learn the reason behind their behaviors and replace them with more appropriate social and adaptive skills. With these new skills, individuals are equipped for building relationships and increasing their independence in the community.



SUPPORT – Alyssa has a goal to improve her reading skills, and before the pandemic, she frequently visited her local library. After libraries closed, Alyssa had a limited supply of books for reading. An Arc Behavior Support Specialist wanted to keep Alyssa inspired to read, so she got creative. Together, the two completed a computer search for local little blue libraries, which are community lending libraries for all ages. Alyssa learned to read a map and provided directions for finding the library. She renamed herself the 'Library Fairy' because she enjoyed sneaking up and restocking the libraries with donated books gathered by the Specialist. Alyssa selected books to read and then deposited them in the next lending library.

IMPACT – Alyssa learned some valuable skills through this exercise, including problem-solving, internet searching, map reading, and providing instructions, all while improving her reading skills. What would have happened without the support of Alyssa's Specialist? **Thankfully, support by The Arc's donors ensures Alyssa is achieving!**



SUPPORT – Don enjoys being in the community and likes to socialize with all individuals, not just those with disabilities. He enjoys building relationships, making new friends, and finding a sense of belonging. Health conditions keep Don from seeking employment in the community; however, he has a desire to impact others. With the assistance of an Arc Specialist, Don volunteers at the Tri-State Food Bank.

IMPACT – Don has learned a variety of jobs and improved his skills through his community volunteerism. He has increased interactions with others and enjoys contributing to his community. **Donors make it possible for Don to experience a sense of purpose in his life.**

Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.

Helen Keller

YOUR LEGACY

We appreciate the value of your legacy! Your planned gift or bequest is validating your desire to provide individuals with disabilities with meaningful and independent lives. A legacy gift may be made through gifting shares of stock, contributing a life insurance policy, setting up a charitable trust, or making a provision in your will or estate plan. To discuss your legacy opportunities, please contact Cinda Phillips at (812) 428-4500, ext. 308 or visit arcofevansville.org.

GIFT CLUB MEMBERSHIP

The Arc of Evansville honors those who help us serve more than 600 individuals with disabilities of all ages. To qualify as a Gift Club member, a donor must give to the annual fund a minimum of \$250 cumulatively during the campaign year (July 1 – June 30). A donor may advance his/her level by making additional contributions throughout the campaign year. For more information, contact Jen Kerns at (812) 428-4500, ext. 309 or visit arcofevansville.org.



The Really Big Show Was Presented By Co-Title Sponsors **Old National Bank** **Toyota Motor Manufacturing**

Producer Sponsors

Bussing-Koch Foundation, Inc.
J.E. Shekell, Inc.
Schultheis Insurance Agency, Inc.
Shoe Carnival
Tropicana Evansville

VFW Auxiliary to Art Fellwock Post
#1114
Zeimer, Stayman, Weitzel &
Shoulders, LLP

Friend Sponsors

Accel Consulting
Alpha Laser and Imaging
Anchor Industries
Baird
Blankenberger Brothers Inc.
Cintas
Dan Koester Farms
Hafer
Happe & Sons Construction
Heritage Petroleum
Industrial Contractors Skanska
Kahn, Dees, Donovan & Kahn, LLP
Kitch & Schreiber
Keller Schroeder
Michael Powers, Jr., CPFA, CFP,
Merrill Lynch
RJ Pohl Advisor Services, Inc.
Walmart
Woodward Commercial Realty
Zeller's Master Tire

Underwriter Sponsor

Romain Cross Pointe

Supporter Sponsors

AmeriQual
Apex Benefits
Ascension St. Vincent Evansville
Atlas World Group, Inc.
Berry Global
BKD CPAs & Advisors
Custom Staffing
Dennis & Catherine Lamey
Evansville Teachers Federal Credit
Union
German American Bank
Harding, Shymanski & Company
Keith & Karen Hinderliter
Kemper CPA Group
Lensing Building Specialties
Margaret Boorman
Meijer
South Western Communications
The Women's Hospital
Tri-State Fire Protection

Media Sponsors

14 News
104.1 WIKY
HOT 96 FM
News 4U



The Arc of Evansville
615 W. Virginia Street
Evansville, IN 47710

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
EVANSVILLE, IN
PERMIT NO 2140



The Really Big Show brought in over \$65,000!

A Really Big THANKS goes out to our sponsors, supporters, contributors, participants, and viewers! Your support assists individuals with disabilities in being accepted by the community as they live, learn, work, and play. YOU strengthen our community!

The 2021 Really Big Show is available for viewing on our website at arcofevansville.org.

Our Mission The mission of The Arc of Evansville is to empower individuals with disabilities to build relationships, gain independence, and achieve their full potential.

The Arc of Evansville - 615 W. Virginia Street, Evansville, IN 47710, (812) 428-4500, www.arcofevansville.org

Deidra R. Conner, President

Please direct any questions or comments regarding this newsletter to Cinda Phillips, Vice President of Development at (812) 428-4500, ext. 308, or cinda.phillips@arcofevansville.org.



Vanderburgh County
Board of Commissioners