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FALL  
2020



**Please Make a Year-end Gift today!**

This pandemic has hit us hard. Our staff is working around the clock to insure the safety and well-being of the hundreds of individuals we support. A year-end gift of \$100 will help replenish cleaning supplies and masks and it will help us reinvent the most popular event of the year, the Holiday Party. In these challenging times, your donation is critically needed. Please support the vital services that we offer and help 2020 end on a hopeful note.

**Envelope enclosed or online: [www.bvcriarc.org](http://www.bvcriarc.org)**

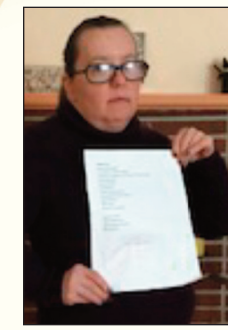
## Resilience and Creativity in the Arc's Changing World

2020 has been an incredible challenge for The Arc family and it is not over. We have raised the bar of expectations from our staff while also working to protect them and the people they support. Social distancing is a concept that needed to be described in words, pictures and modeled behavior. Inclusion and "community-based" required creative thinking and planning each and every day. The end result as of right now, we have not lost one member of our Arc Family to Covid-19. For this we are grateful to the team effort exemplified by our front line staff, program directors, associate directors and all employees. Here's a snapshot of our world over the last eight months...

### New experiences and responses to social distancing in order to protect our Arc Family



A safe community outing for the residents of Pawtucket Ave who recently went apple picking at Phantom Farm in Cumberland!



**"Twilight Zone" by Jennifer June Buckley won third place in the 2020 Allen Ginsberg Poetry Competition!**

(Left to right) Jennifer June Buckley, Paulette Boucher, Anne McDermott, Sue Berube (staff member), Lorraine Caron, Jennifer Moore and Lisa Ramos (Program Director)



Deb and Diane getting time in the community

We celebrate our front-line Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) every-day.



Andy Abrams, working from home during a pandemic



Lydia Torres, Mike Rich, Janet Morales

**Twilight Zone**

All the news feels good  
Or sometimes it makes me sleepy  
Everybody, the statehouse,  
the funding, the problem solving  
Falling backwards  
How to get closer  
To go forward  
Asking so many questions  
We want adventure and freedom  
Bring it all back  
Make it real  
We can do this together

### Donations of \$100 or more from March 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020

- |                                         |                                    |                                                             |                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Art's Sunoco                            | Independence Square Foundation     | Mr. John J. Padien III Pannone, Lopes, Devereaux and O'Gara | USI Insurance Services LLC              |
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| Beretta Realty                          | Bequest of Lester B. Keats         | Ms. Nelia Ponte                                             | <b>Grants received this cycle:</b>      |
| Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Boisse              | Klein Hornig LLP                   | Restivo Monacelli, LLP                                      | The John E. Fogarty Foundation          |
| Brassard Construction                   | Dr. Kathleen and Mr. Eugene Kohls  | Mr. Thomas Robinson                                         | <b>Donations received in honor of:</b>  |
| Bristol County Savings Bank             | William J. Lamar & Sons            | Mr. and Mrs. Claudio Rodriques                              | Paula Goldberg                          |
| Mr. and Mrs. Frank Champi               | Ms. Irene Lynch                    | Ross Realty & Property Management Inc.                      | <b>Donations Received in Memory of:</b> |
| Mrs. Joseph Cherry                      | Ms. Bertha Madden                  | Rotary Club of Pawtucket                                    | Anne Marie Demers                       |
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| Ms. Carol Hetu                          | Mrs. Gerald O'Neill                | Tufts Health Plan                                           |                                         |
| Mr. John Hird                           | Otrando, Porcaro & Associates, LTD | United Way of RI                                            |                                         |
| Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hird                |                                    |                                                             |                                         |
| Mr. Thomas Hodge                        |                                    |                                                             |                                         |
| Mr. and Mrs. Brian Hunt                 |                                    |                                                             |                                         |

For more information about our programs, call (401) 727-0150, go to our Web site at [www.bvcriarc.org](http://www.bvcriarc.org) or e-mail contact [contact@bvcriarc.org](mailto:contact@bvcriarc.org).

The Arc of Blackstone Valley is committed to supporting people with developmental disabilities secure the opportunity to choose and realize their goals of where and how they live, learn, work and play



## Letter from the CEO

As the entire country continues to battle Covid-19, we pay special attention to the threat of this virus on people with disabilities, their families and the workforce that supports them. I want to reach out and thank all of our staff for going the extra mile in making sure that everyone is safe and healthy, each and every day.

This year, we celebrated Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) Recognition week from September 13-19. I am proud to acknowledge our frontline workforces, who have remained vigilant in protecting our Arc family. To date, we have not lost one member to this virus. Thank you DSPs---for your conscientious work and dedication to The Arc.

There is a special leader I wish to celebrate in this newsletter and that is Board member and Golf Outing Chair, Melanie Cherry. Thanks to her leadership, we raised over \$42,000 towards the 2020 "Non-event" Golf Outing and Live Auction. Despite re-scheduling (and canceling) the event twice this past summer, we were able to secure all of our major sponsors and tee sponsors in support of the challenging times we are living in, and our effort to keep everyone safe. I personally want to thank Starkweather & Shepley, Tufts Health Plan and two Board members who each offered matching gifts to these Platinum Sponsors, Bill Szafarowicz and Melanie Cherry. These gifts, along with many others are supporting our critical need to purchase PPE, cleaning supplies and to re-design our Holiday Party celebration from one large event to many smaller gatherings. Thank you Melanie and the Golf Outing Committee, for your champion efforts to bring hope during a challenging time.

In our new normal of video conferencing and Zoom, we are learning how to safely integrate in the community and bring the community in to us as well. Congratulations to Jennifer June Buckley for her winning poem in the virtual Allen Ginsberg Poetry Competition this year. This event and Brown University's writer's group program, Self-Expression of Adults with Developmental Disabilities (SEADD) will offer new ways to explore and create art... at a distance.

As the holiday season fast approaches, I hope that many of you will remember The Arc in your year-end giving by returning the enclosed envelope with a gift or by donating online at [www.bvcri-arc.org](http://www.bvcri-arc.org).



Sincerely,  
*John J. Padien III*  
Chief Executive Officer

# Thank you to our sponsors and donors of the 2020 "non-event" Golf Outing!



**STARKWEATHER & SHEPLEY**  
INSURANCE BROKERAGE INC.



During these socially distanced times, Tufts Health Plan is a proud supporter of the Arc of Blackstone Valley.

WE'RE WITH YOU.



Special Thanks to Arc Board Members  
Bill Szafarowicz and Melanie Cherry



who each pledged \$5,000 in matching gifts to help us reach our goal of \$42,000!



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USI Insurance Services is proud to support The Arc of Blackstone Valley and its dedication to doing whatever it takes to enrich the lives of individuals through specialized programs, resources and community services.

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Individual Golfer Silver, \$1,000: Peter and Liz Morley

\$700: Tom Robinson and a matching gift from UBS Financial Services!

**Masters \$500:** Restivo Monacelli, Warren Tire, Thomas Hodge, Damon Arpin/Bristol County Savings Bank, Dr. Kathleen and Mr. Eugene Kohls, Manhattan Housing

**Eagles \$250:** and Ads, Tee Sponsors and Generous friends: Klein Hornig, Art's Sunoco, Atlantic Paper & Supply, Bank Rhode Island, Beretta Realty Company, Blue Moon Industries, Brassard Construction, The Collins Family, Drolet Electric, Gilligan & Bianco, Kathy & Brian Hunt, John J. Padien III, Independence Square Foundation, New England Linen Supply, Inc., Pawtucket Credit Union, William J. Lamar & Sons, Simpson's Pharmacy, Arthur and Connie Boisse, Pontarelli-Marion Funeral Home, Frank Champi, David and Elizabeth Spencer, Kevin Tracy, Manning-Heffern Funeral Home, Michel Benoit, John Hird, Robert Skurka, David Thomas, Charles Kave, Henrique Pedro, Robert and Lisa Hird