

The Arc of Blackstone Valley
LIVE · LEARN · WORK · PLAY
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WINTER 2019

The Arc of Blackstone Valley Resource

LIVE · LEARN · WORK

A PUBLICATION FOR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE ARC OF BLACKSTONE VALLEY



LOOK FOR OUR
SAVE THE DATE
EVENTS ON THE INSIDE!

A Partnership with Results

When Project Search was launched at the Cincinnati's Children's Hospital Medical Center in 1996, organizations supporting individuals with developmental disabilities across the country took notice. As an evidence-based model, Project Search had an ambitious objective: to have a 100% success rate in securing competitive employment for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Supported by ORS Counselor Avis Gunther-Rosenberg, the two Kevin's rise very early in the morning five days a week, and take a RIDE bus to Rhode Island Hospital to work a full day. Both will work in three different departments over the course of one year, approximately 12 weeks in each area. The first and last hours of the day includes a group/classroom experience where they work on job readiness skills, discuss issues, review the day's activities and prepare for the day ahead.

Kevin Monaghan and Kevin Spencer of The Arc are participating in the first adult-age project in the State of Rhode Island. The partners in this project include Lifespan, Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH), Goodwill Industries and the Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS) with eight participants coming from The Arc and other agencies. Because of our relationship with ORS and the fact that both Kevins were active in The Arc's Resource Center, they were encouraged to apply. Both were selected because of the progress they had been making with our staff and ORS.



Kevin Spencer, Kevin Monaghan and ORS Counselor Avis Gunter-Rosenberg

As they now begin their second 12-week experience, Kevin Spencer will work in the Central Sterilization Department and Kevin Monaghan will work in the Housekeeping Department. Kevin Spencer is required to wear scrubs, booties and a mask at all times as he sterilizes surgical equipment. Kevin Monaghan will have a more relaxed dress code of a Project Search shirt and khaki pants and he will be in charge of organizing and circulating hospital maps, hand sanitizers and much more.



Kevin Spencer working in the Laundry Room, his first placement at RI Hospital

Kevin Monaghan in Central Transport, his first Project Search assignment

The "Mayor" of the hospital as Kevin Monaghan is known, commented, "What I like the most about this Project is that we are connecting with our peers from other programs and developing friendships." Kevin Spencer exclaimed, "I really liked learning about safety skills...and in the Laundry Room, I was able to re-program a broken machine which was really cool."

With the goal of 100% employment for all participants by year's end, we think the Kevins are well positioned to succeed!

Donations of \$100 or more from September 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018

DONATIONS:

- Anonymous
- Barlow's Plumbing and Well Systems
- Mr. and Mrs. Frank Champi
- Crown Collision Centers
- Mr. Joseph Doyle
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- Ms. Kathy Jacquart
- The Bequest of Lester B. Keats
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IN MEMORIAM:

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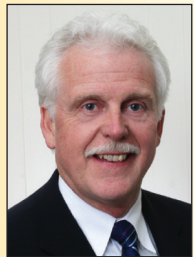
DONATIONS RECEIVED IN

MEMORY OF:

- Jayne Ann Brown
- Ellen McCarthy
- Ruth McCarthy
- Richard Poniatowski

For more information about our programs, call (401) 727-0150, go to our Web site at www.bvcriarc.org or e-mail contact 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

I have great news to share! The BVC Bullets brought home the Gold medal on December 1st after years of walking away with the Silver medal. They played two games in the final playoffs and won both. Congratulations BVC Bullets on your victory!



Congratulations to: Denia Tavares (coach), Darius Debnam (partner), Kevin Spencer, John Wood, Stephen Banks, Deven Ainsbury, Carlos Rivera, Michelle Rattray (coach), Jose Delgado, Alex Rivera (partner), Dominic Lottinville, Claudio Rodrigues (partner). Missing: Ras Sostre (partner)

Over the past months, The Arc's Board of Directors has been engaging in a strategic planning process. Our consultant, Jennifer Meade, Ph.D., is a professor of social work at Rhode Island College and has extensive experience working with non-profit organizations to develop multi-year strategic plans. Dr. Meade meets with the Board monthly and is beginning to engage with employees for their input as well.

March is membership month! Please open your hearts (and wallets) this March when renewing your membership dues or joining for the first time. Your support directly helps The Arc go above and beyond with community-based recreational activities, employment training and support, trips to the MacColl YMCA, team sports and much more. Be an Arc Angel this year and support our efforts to integrate our folks into the community each and every day.

As the cold days of winter linger, we eagerly look forward to the spring season which promises a feeling of renewed energy and growth. We will soon have a new memorial garden at Veterans For Tomorrow---our housing complex for homeless veterans. This small garden will feature a patio of engraved bricks purchased by individuals to memorialize a family member lost in combat, or to honor an active service member. Stone benches, also purchased by donors, will surround the patio and a flag pole, which we hope will provide a quiet space for thought or conversation. The memorial garden is being installed by generous neighbors who have offered to create this garden free of charge.

Last but not least, don't forget to mark your calendars for Monday, June 10th for The Arc's 38th Annual Golf Outing and Live Auction; it's a guaranteed great time for all!

Sincerely,
John J. Padien III
Chief Executive Officer



Great friends, great food, lots of dancing and fun!

The Holiday Party was the highlight of 2018! We are grateful to the donors of the Annual Golf Outing and Live Auction who made this celebration very special with their generous pledges!

Brenda Wilkinson and Damon Mahon



(L to R): Kevin D'Angelo, Joe Cabral, Eric Barbrie, Dominic Lottinville

The HR Women pose for the camera: Natalie Severe and Diane Sanford



Dressed and ready to dance (L to R): Lorraine Caron, Anne McDermott, Jennifer Buckley, Paulette Boucher and Jen Moore



And...The Gold medal goes to the Arc of Blackstone Valley's BVC Bullets!

Do you know how your Membership dollars impact The Arc of Blackstone Valley?

They support our Gold medal winning basketball team. They support weekly workouts at the MacColl YMCA, including the use of treadmills, weight machines, the climbing wall, and group classes for dozens of Arc participants. They support our annual Holiday party which is the highlight of the year for the entire Arc family. They provide weekly community excursions for our folks to participate in activities and events throughout the State. They support the advocacy work of Citizens With Power to effect the positive change that is needed to bring equality and accessibility to all individuals with differing abilities.

This is the work of The Arc of Blackstone Valley --- and these are all the reasons why your annual Membership dues are critical.

Please be an Arc Angel this year by either renewing your Membership dues this March or becoming a new member. The Membership envelope is included with this mailing.

SAVE THE DATE

WEAVE THE TREES

Flying Shuttles Studio 35th Anniversary Exhibition

Jamestown Arts Center
18 Valley St., Jamestown, RI 02835

Exhibition Dates: January 10 - February 22
Gallery Hours: Wed. - Sat., 10 am - 2 pm
Closed: February 18th for Presidents' Day

VSA ARTS' 15TH ANNUAL SHERLOCK EXHIBITION

Juried Exhibition of Art by Artists with Disabilities

The Atrium Gallery
One Capitol Hill, Providence

February 19 - March 14, 2019
Hours: Mon-Friday 9:00am-4:30pm

THE ARC ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

Wednesday, April 3, 2019
12:30pm

Auditorium, Independence Square Foundation



THE ARC OF BLACKSTONE VALLEY 38TH ANNUAL GOLF AND AUCTION OUTING

Monday, June 10, 2019
Pawtucket Country Club

