

### **Inside The Arc**

#### **Northwest Wayne County**

#### October 2019

## "Be the change you wish to see in the world." Ghandi

Those who know me are already aware that I love inspirational quotes, as they promote positivity and help bring about motivation toward change. I have worked in the disability service field for 26 years and am strongly driven by my desire to help achieve the best possible life outcomes for people with disabilities. I am very much

looking forward to my return to Community Living Services (CLS) where I will be the future CEO upon the retirement of Jim Dehem, who has served as the CLS CEO with much passion and dedication for many, many years.

I truly believe we can change the world, not only by impacting the quality of life for each person we serve - one person at a time - but also by designing our service provision centered on the values we uphold. These values include a commitment to advancing person-centered planning, self-determination, full community participation, individual rights, social justice, and the use of respectful language.

Over the last few decades, I have experienced our Michigan service systems from many different perspectives. This includes as a family member, advocate, direct support professional, service provider, and funder. I am mindful of the ongoing struggles, but have also seen the hard work, commitment, positive outcomes, and the personal life successes resulting from our important work.

Our support system for people with developmental disabilities has gone through many changes in recent years and there are sure to be more changes ahead in the future. Regardless of what comes our way, we must remain fully focused on our ultimate purpose. I believe our ultimate goal should be to assist people to HAVE GREAT LIVES (not just great services).

I know there are uncertainties that face us, examples of these include the staffing shortages, budget / funding challenges, and the ongoing privatization debate in Michigan.

Our mutual determination to keep people first in all that we do, regardless of the changing environment, will always be my top priority. My last day at Oakland Community Health Network will be December 1, 2019 and my first day at Community Living Services (CLS) will be December 2, 2019. For the first two months, I look forward to working closely

with Jim Dehem to learn from his insight and experiences as the CEO of Community Living Services over the last 33 years. Jim will be officially retiring on January 31, 2020 and I will take over as the CEO the next day.

I want to recognize the CLS staff, Board of Directors, people served, community allies and advocates who show up and speak out related to matters of injustice. I know that maintaining open, honest communication is key to establishing and cultivating effective partnerships. It is my hope that we can

increase our collaboration and joint advocacy related to the potential threats

that influence the lives of those we are so honored to serve. It is also my sincere hope that we can come together as promoters of the best life possible for the people we serve. In good times AND in bad times, I hope we can have transparent dialog and work together on positive solutions when they are needed. Please know that I happily look forward to reengaging with the members of The Arc NW, and all of the valued stakeholders connected with Community Living Services as TOGETHER WE ARE ALL STRONGER. In the months, and years to come, I look forward to strengthening our partnership and dialog about what we hope to achieve, not only within our service system, but in our world.

Changing the world may be a very broad goal, but I believe it is absolutely attainable and I look forward to working with each of you to do just that!



**Annette Downey** 



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www.thearcnw.org

Next Board Meeting October 8, 2019

# 2019- 2020 Board of Directors OFFICERS

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SECRETARY Rana Ramouni

TREASURER Susan Gardynik

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Lekotek Play Leader:

Lana Richardson

Lekotek Librarian:

Katie Perkins

Claims Processor:

Amy Pomicter

**Accounts Payable Clerk** 

**Diamond Watkins** 

Office Manager:

Latrice Wilborn

#### Achieve with us.



United Way for Southeastern Michigan

# Direct Care Professionals Recognition Week!

Dear Friends,

The Arc MI shared with us that "Governor Whitmer issued a proclamation recognizing the week of September 8 as Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week." (Arcmi.org) The Arc NW currently works with about 140 direct care workers who provide support to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities as they participate fully in their communities. The value these staff bring to people being able to live independent, meaningful lives of their choosing is immeasurable. Yet low wages and lack of professional supports can undermine direct care workers' feelings of worth. The Arc of MI reports that there is a crisis of not enough direct care workers.

The Arc of MI October 2018 blog reports on direct care workers, "Turnover rates average 37%. Some providers have been forced to discontinue services. Direct care starting wages, which are tied to Medicaid funding, are too low. Service providers cannot compete with other businesses that hire at the same level, often with fewer work demands". (Arcmi.org) Across the country The Arc advocates for competitive wages and excellent working conditions for direct care workers. The Arc NW is deeply committed to ensuring that direct care workers served through our Fiscal Intermediary Services have the best supports in place to do excellent work. As The Arc NW grows our Fiscal Intermediary services, we look forward to more partnerships with direct care workers and to supporting more individuals living self-determined lives in Wayne County. We want to thank all the direct care staff in our network for the amazing work they do each day!

With Gratitude,

Gretchen Sanewsky Executive Director





# Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority takes new name that reflects broader role

Jay Greene September 04, 2019



# The Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority is changing its name on Oct. 1 to the Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network.

The name reflects a trend in health care that looks at treating people in a holistic approach, which includes addressing mental and behavioral health needs, but also medical, social and dental issues.

"We are moving more toward the intersection of behavioral and physical health to provide a fully integrated system of care to the people we serve and we wanted our name to reflect the change as well," said President and CEO Willie Brooks Jr. in a statement. "We want people to know we provide services and supports to a wide range of populations including children with serious emotional disturbance, those with intellectual and developmental disabilities and individuals with substance use disorder and mental illness."



DWIHN, the largest of 12 regional behavioral health networks in Michigan, provides care to 75,000 children and adults it serves in Wayne County. Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network this week posted a short video about the name change and the network.

"The timing is right for this change as we are in the midst of a system transformation where we are changing the way we do business by working directly with our service providers and offering a more holistic approach to care," Brooks said. In May, DWIHN announced a pilot project to partner with one or several Medicaid health plans to integrate mental and physical health. The proposal could save up to \$25 million in unnecessary hospital emergency room visits and inpatient hospitalizations that could be used to expand mental health services.

### The Arc of Northwest Wayne County The Arc of Western Wayne County

### After I'm Gone Program



#### October 3, 2019

At Western Wayne Skill Center/Garfield Community School Social Security & The Dept. of Health and Human Services

#### October 10, 2019

At Western Wayne Skill Center/Garfield Community School
Supporting People in Decision Making

#### October 9, 2019

At Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary School Person Centered Planning & Self-Determination

October 22, 2019 2:00- 4:00pm Via Zoom webinar.

**Person Centered Planning & Self-Determination** 

You MUST RSVP via email in order to get participation login: info@thearcww.org

Information sessions are held monthly during the school year at

Western Wayne Skill Center/Garfield

Community School

10218 Arthur St., Livonia, MI 48150

and at

Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary School 36075 Currier in Wayne

6:30pm - 8:30pm

Please RSVP: 734-729-9100 or 313-532-7915 ext 204

info@thearcww.org

mdriscoll@thearcnw.org

Check our website for info on webinars beginning in October!

www.thearcnw.org

We had a beautiful, warm summer day for our "Welcome Back" hot dog roast on Friday, September 6th at the Livonia Rotary Park. There were over 216 members, families and staff attending this year. It's always so great to see so many faces and friends getting together to have fun. The Pavilion was nicely decorated patriotically in red, white and blue bows, streamers and flowers. A big thanks to our gals (Sandy, Barb, Angie, Karen, Mary, Maureen, Elena, Patti) for decorating!

A very special thank you to ALL of our committee members and volunteers (Bill Beck, Patti, Richard, Peggy Barnes) who helped so much setting up, cooking 400 hot dogs and serving everyone so quickly! We couldn't do it without all of you!

Thurston high school construction is completed and so **ALL cars may park in the back** near the cafeteria (same as before) parking lot. It has been expanded so this should help a lot. **DO NOT pull into the front of the school!** Our new starting time is 6:30pm and ending (pick up) is 9:00pm.

REMINDER: Halloween Dance, Friday, Oct. 11, \$3 at the door. Thurston High School, 6:30 - 9:00pm. Looking forward to seeing all of those great costumes.

Happy Autumn, Jackie Norris JUST FUN CLUB NEWS



#### Krazy Kopz

#### Millionaire Parties/Texas Hold 'Em 2019 - 2020

to benefit The Arc of Northwest Wayne County

@ Vision Lanes
38250 Ford Rd. (at Hix Rd.) Westland, MI 48185

More Millionaire Parties coming in January, April and October of 2020



## Thursday, October 3rd through Sunday October 6th

Thursday and Friday evenings from 6:00pm to 2:00am Saturday and Sunday from 10:00am to 6:00pm

To learn more or to volunteer contact Pat Zagar at

pzagar3@gmail.com or call The Arc NW office at 313-532-7915

\*\*\* MARK YOUR CALENDARS \*\*\*
You won't want to miss it!

Happy Fall Everyone! Baseball & Soccer are over and Poly Hockey is in full swing. Basketball will be starting in December. Players or parents ask your coaches, or call Lana at the Arc, to find out when your health form will be expiring. Remember the health form MUST be current for the entire season of the sport.

A health form expires (3 years) from the date of the doctor's exam date.

#### Mark & Save the Dates.....for sport & fundraiser events for the Sport Program

Poly Hockey Area Games – October 12
Poly Hockey State Games – November 23 & 24
Area 23 Basketball Games – February 15, 2020
Regional Basketball Games – March 7, 2020
Sport Program Bowling Fundraiser – May 1, 2020 @ Westland Bowl Area Spring Games – May 8, 2020

## **The Arc Sports News**

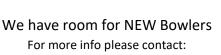
Next Area 23 Sport Coordinators meeting – November 11<sup>th</sup> all coaches are invited.

Enjoy the Fall & Happy Halloween - Janice

#### **GUYS & DOLLS**

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON BOWLING

OAK LANES



Jim Gallas 248-318-8856 (cell) or jagallas@comcast.net

1:30pm Start Time Bowlers please arrive by 1:15pm
2 - Games Each Saturday at a cost of \$6 for the day

## The Arc Early Birds Bowling League



We still have openings!

We bowl every other Saturday morning at 9:00 at Oak Lanes on Middlebelt in Livonia. It's a fun league made up of bowlers with a variety of skill levels. If you want to join, please call Vicki Soto at 734-422-3732.

### **Memorials**

#### In Memory of Sean Radon

Jackie Marchewka Andrea Rogoff Mark & Linda Forsthoefel **Debbie & Cody Bartlett** William & Kristine Copeland Joseph Blair Wanda Madden Sue Rodmond Paul & Claire Burke Rick & Renee Jedele Larry & Cathy Stanley Jeff & Diane Smith Rebecca Wenglinski **Eunice Schmidt** Marianne Licari William Mullally Barbara Pooley & Anne Gobel Steve & Jan Fuslle Rob & Cathy Zeni

If you hear of the passing of an Arc member please let us know. Help us honor the memories of our members and support one another through difficult times.

Call The Arc NW office at 313-532-7915

#### In Memory of Lana McNutt

Ellen Stefaniak Lisa Collucci Linda Gronowski

#### **In Memory of Tammy Summer**

Rita Wygonik Martha Wasen Jan Ramljak Marsha McLean

### **Donations**

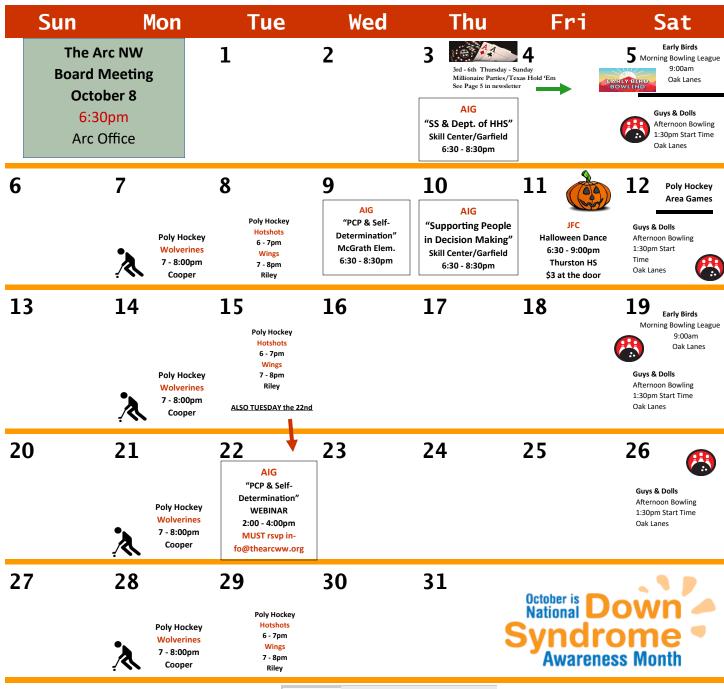
Donna Smith
The Beardens
Bill Heaton
Miriam Glantz
Ms. Sue Gardynik
Lynn Jones
Lambert Solak
Mark & Jane Averill
Charles Bedro

Thank You



## October 2019

**Northwest Wayne County** 



#### CHECK IT OUT!

The Arc of Northwest Wayne County's
Web Site

thearcnw.org







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Each edition of this newsletter is prepared for mailing by volunteers from Zeta Tau Alpha.



Achieve with us!

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313-532-7915

Inside The Arc is also available online at thearcnw.org

Call 313-532-7915 to end your printed mailed newsletter.

#### **Membership Application**

Member Name(s	s)		
Address			
City		State _	ZIP
Daytime Phone			
Email Address			
		The Arc NW I am agreeing to hav	e my image used for printed and online marketing efforts.
Membership Du	ues	O 400	
O New Member		○ \$25 Individual Membership	Additional Membership Fees: \$5 to join Just Fun Club \$15 to join Lekotek
O Renewing Member		○ \$50 Family Membership	An individual and his/her family or a group home with multiple
DONATIONS	O \$100		residents. Includes additional membership fees for Just Fun Club and Lekotek.
O <b>\$25</b>	O \$150		
O \$50	O \$ Other	$\odot$ \$100 Organization	Businesses, non-profits, community groups, or government entities
○ \$75			that support people with disabilities.