

Advancing the value of and respect for individuals with disabilities.

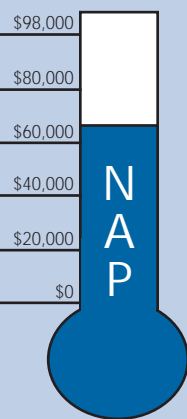
NAP Credits

Available For 2003

Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of the Evansville community, almost \$55,000 was raised between November and December for the NAP Credits Campaign! The December 31 deadline to raise \$48,000 was met (and then some!). Thank you to all those who helped us achieve this deadline!

A total of \$67,000 has been raised but an additional \$30,000 still needs to be received by the end of May. If you were unable to give to the NAP Campaign in 2002, you can still help adults become more independent AND receive a tax credit that can be used for your 2003 state tax returns.

Through this state-funded program, you or your business can receive a state tax credit worth 50% of the donation when a gift of \$100 or more is made to Evansville ARC's Adult Day Services Program. Your donation is also eligible for the federal deduction on the entire donation amount. For example, with a gift of \$100, you could save as much as \$89, depending on your tax bracket.



Call Sarah Stafford at 428-4500 for more information.



The Really Big Show Is This Month!

Spend a fun-filled evening with us!

Ever wanted to see Brad Ellsworth sing Frank Sinatra's "New York, New York" or Phil Hoy as "The Great Garbanzo" and his assistants Mayor Russell Lloyd, Jr. and Curt John do a magic trick together? An Elvis impersonation contest? How about a bunch of singing nuns? No ... it's not Sister Act, it's The Really Big Show! And you can help us really big by attending this spectacular event.

The event will take place at The Centre at 7 p.m. on February 15. Go to our website at www.evansvillearc.org for more information about The Really Big Show.

Net proceeds of this event will go to benefit the children and adults at Evansville ARC. With your really big support, money can be raised for Evansville ARC's programs and services in greatest need. The programs and services provided at Evansville ARC can

only be enhanced by your continued support. What a great way to enjoy a fantastic line-up of performers and make a difference in someone's life at the same time!

Hurry!

Tickets to the show are \$15 for adults & \$5 for children and are going fast.

They can be purchased at the Centre or Roberts Stadium Box Office, all Ticket Master locations or charge by phone at 812-423-7222.

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A Message From

The Executive Director



Deidra Conner

Hardly a day goes by without a newspaper headline reminding us of the budget crisis in the State of Indiana. State

funding, and public policy for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. We continue to expand our services to meet the needs of the individuals and families we serve. Without the support of our donors we would not be able to expand our programs and grow as an organization.

funding for services for individuals with developmental disabilities has been cut \$24 million during the 2002 fiscal year and \$26 million during the 2003 fiscal year. The outlook for the 2004 fiscal year is bleak with a \$1 billion deficit forecasted for the State budget. Title XX funding for Adult Habilitation Programs is once again expected to run-out before the end of the fiscal year, and adult service providers, such as Evansville ARC, will most likely receive reduced payments for the services provided to individuals in our programs.

New programs developed or implemented during the past year include: Targeted Case Management Services for children or adults on the Support Services Waiver, DD Waiver, or Autism Waiver; a Positive Behavior Supports Program for individuals of all ages; and, Community Living Services to provide supports in the home. As an alternative to the limited Title XX funding, we now provide services under the new Medicaid Support Services Waiver program introduced by the State of Indiana in 2002.

Despite all of this, Evansville ARC is committed to providing quality programs. We continue to work closely with the Arc of Indiana and local legislators to develop programs,

We look forward to the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in 2003, and we will continue to look for ways to improve the programs and services we offer to better meet the needs of those we serve.




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**A Quarterly Publication
For Friends Of Evansville ARC**


The mission of Evansville ARC is to advance the value of and respect for individuals with disabilities by providing opportunities for development and independence in the community.

For information on our programs and services:
 Evansville ARC • 615 W. Virginia Street • P. O. Box 4089 • Evansville, IN 47724
 (812) 428-4500 • www.evansvillearc.org

Deidra R. Conner, Executive Director

Evansville ARC Development Team

Theo Boots, Director • Monica Fleeger, Development Assistant
 Becky Pike, Promotions Coordinator • Sarah Stafford, Development Coordinator





West Side Nut Club members bring Christmas cheer and gifts to the Child Life Center Children.

Continued From Page 1



featuring

Thank you to all of the major corporate sponsors and donors who have supported The Really Big Show.



- The Amazing & Sometimes Funny Pat Coslett
- ANEW and the Athena Award Winners —Roxy Baas, Nancy Gaunt, Carolyn Georgette, Lucy Himstedt & Linda White
- The Beatles a.k.a. The Pits
- The Browne Sisters
- The Competing Elvis's featuring Sherman Greer, Rick Kersting & Linda White
- Convent Combo—Musical Nuns from the Evansville Area
- The Crossroads Church Choir with Teresa Calhoun
- Dr. Kerry & Ricki Newman
- Evansville ARC Child Life Center Kids
- The Grande Finale with a Solo by Teresa Calhoun
- Hadi Shrine Funsters
- Joe Harrison, Sr.
- Juggler Eric Soelter
- Norman Hunter
- Paul Black
- Phil Hoy "The Great Garbanzo" & His Assistants, Mayor Russell Lloyd Jr. & Curt John
- Sheriff Brad Ellsworth
- Shively & Shoulders
- University of Evansville Opera
- Ventriloquist Karen Seal & Her Friend Spencer
- Vince Vawter & The Soggy Paper Boys
- Willie Taylor

"YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS HYSTERICAL COMMUNITY VARIETY SHOW! ★★★★★"
-Mayor Russell Lloyd, Jr.

IT'S REALLY BIG!

THE REALLY BIG SHOW

A Benefit For ARC

FEBRUARY 15, 2003
7:00 P.M.
THE CENTRE

Presented by

Grants & Fundraising

Welborn Foundation



Evansville ARC Executive Director, Deidra Conner, and Development Coordinator, Sarah Stafford, accept a \$128,000 grant award at the 2002 Welborn Foundation Awards Dinner. The grant money will be used to continue the Best Practices in Early Education for Children Project. One of the project's objectives is to establish a Resource Center at the Central Library. The Resource Center will feature hundreds of books with topics on early childhood education and special education. This is the second year that the Welborn Foundation has funded this project.

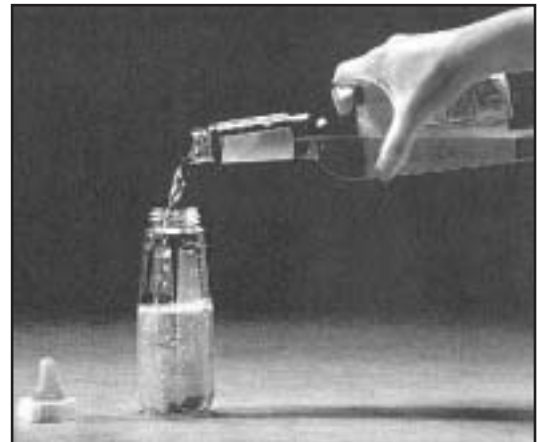


Community Development

With a \$12,000 Community Development Block Grant, Evansville ARC will implement the Communication Assessment and Training Project. Adults with communication difficulties, like Mike (featured in the photo), will learn to use assistive communication devices or techniques, helping them to communicate their needs and wants to others.

Junior League of Evansville

Since 2000, the Junior League of Evansville (JLE) has partnered with Evansville ARC to educate youth and the general public on the lifelong, devastating, and permanent effects on children by mothers who drink alcohol during pregnancy. With a \$2,500 grant from the JLE, Evansville ARC will continue the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Campaign and presentations in local schools during 2003.



West Side Nut Club

Fall Festival

The 2002 West Side Nut Club Fall Festival was a big success for Evansville ARC. Over \$8,000 was raised for Evansville ARC's programs and services during the festival; the biggest net profit for Evansville ARC's food booth to date! Thank you to all the volunteers and donors who made this event a big success!

Contributors

September 12, 2002 - January 15, 2003

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(Gifts \$1,000 & up)

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Steve Walker, president of Evansville ARC Foundation, received a contribution from Ron and Connie Romain, the title sponsors of the 2002 NBA Benefit Game.

Contributors (Continued)

September 12, 2002 - January 15, 2003

Ladies Aux of the Germania Maennerchor
Bruce & Diane Marheine
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Fall Festival

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In September 2002, The St. Philips 8th Grade Class volunteered at the Adult Day Services Fantastic Friday event.



Giving Kids A New Perspective

For the last two years, the Welborn Foundation has granted Evansville ARC's Child Life Center funds to establish and implement the Best Practices in Early Education for Children Project. One of the programs developed through this project is called "Sibshops", and is only for brothers and sisters, ages 8-13, of children with disabilities. The purpose of Sibshops is to celebrate the many contributions made by siblings of children with disabilities; allow the siblings to talk with others about what it's like to have a sibling with a disability; and present the siblings with information about disabilities.

"There are many support groups for parents who have a child with a disability. Currently, for this area, this is the only program to offer support groups for siblings of persons with a disability," said Amy Lupfer, Coordinator of Special Education Services for Evansville ARC.

Each Sibshop is a four-hour workshop that motivates children to participate in low and high intensity activities. Some of activities include talking about different disabilities with one another in a group discussion, sharing their daily routines, and the benefits and challenges of living with a sibling with a disability. One of the favorite activities is called "Dear Aunt Blabby" where Aunt Blabby, an advice columnist, needs help from the Sibshop experts with questions she has received from siblings who have a brother or sister with a disability. The activity gives the children a chance to give their feedback and advice to the questioning writer. This activity also helps to promote sharing among the Sibshop participants.

"We have been very fortunate to have great instructors for our sibshops who work as teachers for children with learning disabilities at Thompkins Middle School and Caze Elementary," said Ms. Lupfer.

"Many times children with disabilities get so much attention because of their special needs. This sometimes can make the other children in the household feel left out. These Sibshops give all the attention to the siblings and that is what makes the workshops truly unique," said Ms. Lupfer.



Courtesy of The Evansville Courier & Press

The next set of Sibshops are scheduled for March 15 and April 12, 2003, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost is \$5 per child, which includes a lunch. Please call Amy Lupfer at (812) 428-5433 for more information or to register.

Targeted Case Managers *Funding Rules*

Evansville ARC has been providing Targeted Case Management Services to over 65 individuals with developmental disabilities since March of 2002. They have been instrumental in assisting individuals receiving services under the new Support Services Waiver as well as connecting them to other community supports.

Effective January 15, Evansville ARC's Targeted Case Managers are now able to provide these services to individuals who are on the Developmental Disabilities Waivers (DD Waiver) and the Autism Waivers, including those who receive 24-hour supports.

Both children and adults with developmental disabilities who are Medicaid eligible are entitled to Targeted Case Management Services. (For children under 18, parental income is not included when determining Medicaid eligibility.) Targeted Case Managers provide assistance in locating providers for community based services as well as monitor quality and satisfaction with services.

For additional information, contact Kelly Barnett, Director of Rehabilitation and Employment Services, at (812) 471-1633.



Another Success Story

Joe Gentry

Ever wanted to know where to get replacement tires and rims for your car? Joe Gentry could recommend a good place for you to go and he will even put together the tires for you! In conjunction with Community Job Link and his caseworker Scott Berry, Joe has found his ideal job at Liberty Auto Salvage. Joe is the tire specialist at Liberty and in any given day he can pull apart/put together 150 tires!

Joe began in the Community Job Link program a few years ago. His first placement put him as dishwasher at Rolling Hills Country Club. Due to family illnesses he went to work for his family business, Smith's Roofing Company. He since returned to the Community Job Link program in July 2002 and is very satisfied with his current job placement.

Joe is a graduate of Castle High School and enjoyed his Auto Mechanics class where he first received experience working on tires. "Joe told us that he wanted to

work around cars and tires. Since he had training in this environment it was a plus when we called Liberty Auto Salvage to place him," said Scott Berry.

"When I think of Joe the first things that come to mind are hard worker, determined and friendly. He started at Liberty Auto Salvage working part-time and he is doing so well that he has been hired as a full-time employee," said Scott.

"The job program has helped me find a job and I'm happy to be here. I have even outworked some of my co-workers because I enjoy what I'm doing," said Joe.

"If I ever have problems I can go to my co-worker Shawn or my supervisor Kerry and they are very helpful. I am getting my drivers permit this weekend and they are letting me drive the van on a non-traveled road so I can get some practice," said Joe.

When Joe is not at work he enjoys watching television, monster truck and deer

hunting videos and other movies. He also likes to deer hunt and is looking forward to getting his drivers permit.



If you would like more information about Community Job Link, please call Katherine Webb at (812) 475-2210.