



The Ambassador

ADVOCACY • RESOURCES • COMMUNITY BUILDING

For People with Developmental Disabilities



THE ARC NORTHERN CHESAPEAKE REGION NAMES SHAWN REAGLE KROS AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR |



The Board of Directors for The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region after an extensive search has named Shawn Kros as its new Executive Director.

Over the last eight years, Mrs. Kros has worked at The Arc in several capacities, serving as director of multiple departments including Quality Improvement, Human Resources, Training, Family Services and Treatment Foster Care. She has also served as a Consultant and Trainer gaining a broad and intimate knowledge of Arc services, staff, and people with developmental disabilities. Mrs. Kros has more than 20 years of experience working in the nonprofit human services arena and is a nationally-recognized public speaker on social services issues. Mrs. Kros received her Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

"I am grateful to our Board of Directors for entrusting me with the responsibility to lead this dynamic organization into the future. The quality of services we provide will be second to none for individuals and families in Harford, Cecil and Kent Counties. I am dedicated to managing The Arc in a fiscally-sound manner that will assure the agency's viability in the future," says Mrs. Kros.

Mrs. Kros resides in Fallston, Maryland with her husband and two children, McKenzie and Keenan. She is an avid reader, runner, and college football fan.

RITE AID DISTRIBUTION CENTER HONORS EMPLOYEES |

Employment of people with disabilities in our community has taken a giant step forward under the leadership of the Rite Aid Mid-Atlantic Distribution Center located in Perryman. Over the years, The Arc has worked with many outstanding companies, but Rite Aid must be singled-out for setting the standard for excellence. Rite Aid employs people with developmental disabilities that play a key role in working on products sold in Rite Aid stores. This work is done during a five day work week and split between two different shifts. A special day was planned where employees participated with fellow co-workers and friends followed by an awards ceremony. The Arc looks forward to continuing its partnership with Rite Aid and thanks them for their progressive hiring practices and leadership in our community.



Richard Martin showcases his honorary award.

JOIN THE ARC ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER!

You can now stay in touch and receive updates for The Arc of the United States by joining them on Facebook and Twitter.

If you currently have a profile on Facebook, visit The Arc U.S. page as well as The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region's and become a fan! If you don't have an account but are interested you can sign up directly on Facebook, the process is quick and easy. Have you ever heard of Twitter? Are you stumped by this new phenomenon?



The Arc of the United States is now providing updates of what's happening at their office and around the nation and The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region is now on-line. *Come and Tweet with us!*



THE ARC CELEBRATES TWENTY YEARS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT |

Proclamations Presented to the Harford County Cultural Arts Board and The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region

Proclamations on the 20th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act were made by David Craig and Dion Guthrie to the Harford County Cultural Arts Board and The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region on July 26, 2010. The Community Open Air Studio has brought together Harford County artists with and without disabilities to paint freely in outdoor settings. The artists learn from each other, socialize, and enjoy each other's company while painting scenic landmarks in the county. This program, made possible by a partnership between the Harford County Cultural Arts Board and The Arc's Inclusive Recreation Program, represents the true spirit of the ADA—that people with disabilities are entitled to equality of opportunity and full participation in our community.

The event included "Art Without Boundaries Exhibit" and included exhibits from: Joe Brown; Loretta DiLoreto; Phil Gallion; Joseph Harter; Jo Houtz; Anne Maxwell; Melita Maxwell; Eleanor Mulholland; Greg Myers; Diane Quick; Ron Shuford; Jim Turner; and Helen Woodward.



From L to R: Chass Seymour (Inclusive Recreation Coordinator for The Arc), Natalie Weeks (Coordinator for the Harford County Cultural Arts Board), Ron Shuford (Artist), and Sharon Grzanka (Harford County Disability Coordinator).

The Americans with Disabilities Act was the first comprehensive declaration of equality for people with disabilities. It was a collaborative effort of the legislative and executive branches of government, federal, and state agencies, and people with and without disabilities. The ADA bans discrimination in the areas of employment, public accommodation, public services, transportation, and telecommunications.

Event Co-Chairs: Karen Green, *Harford County Parks and Rec* Scott Collins, *DTLR*

Event Sponsors: DTLR

Football Extravaganza Sponsor: Harford Mutual Insurance Companies

Community Raffle Sponsor: Rapid Refill

Touchdown Sponsors: Charles "Choo" Smith; Comcast; Good Fella's of Baltimore; Image Engineering; Macy's; Rite Aid Distribution Center; Sign Central; Signs by Tomorrow; Strakes, Roberts, & Bauer Advertising; Wendy's; Bob Bloom and Kristy Breslin of WXCX 103.7FM.

Field Goal Sponsors: Enterprise Rent-A-Car; Frito Lay; Harford Cable Network; Harford Community College; Ralph & Shirley Klein Foundation; Don & Amy Miller; Party Palace; The Aegis; The Bel Air Athletic Club; Thompson Toyota; Upper Chesapeake Health.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS |

The U.S. Department of Education announced today that \$19.9 million in grants will be awarded to help prepare special education personnel to improve services for children with developmental disabilities with \$13.5 million targeted at improving the quality and increasing the number of people who are fully credentialed to serve children with disabilities. The funds will help current and future special education professionals complete degrees, state certification, professional licenses or state endorsement in early intervention, special education or a related services field. For more information and additional legislative news regarding The Arc of Maryland's statewide legislative and public policy advocacy, visit www.thearcmd.org.



Extra Point Sponsors: Mark Dardozzi; Family Hair Generations; Giant; Giovanni's; June Poole; Power Up Solar Corporations.

Special Thanks to: Allison Tripple, America's Miss Maryland 2010; Jenny Z Mobile DJ Service; Joe McKeever & the Northern Maryland Football Association; Julie Epps of Macy's; Monica Rosenblatt; Rite Aid Distribution Center; Smyth Jewelers; Alex Johnston and the many volunteers that helped to make this event a success.



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NFL Sanctioned

PUNT PASS & KICK

FOOTBALL FESTIVAL

To Benefit The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region

Football fans demonstrated their gridiron skills, and raised funds and awareness for The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region and individuals with developmental disabilities on September 19th at the NFL Sanctioned Punt, Pass & Kick Football Festival at Cedar Lane Regional Park in Bel Air.

26 kids will move on to the NFL Sectional PPK Competition at St. Paul's School. First place corporate and high school competition winners are Rapid Refill and The John Carroll School, respectively. Visit www.arcncr.org for more information.

The Arc is a private non-profit membership organization, which has provided support services and advocacy

INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING SERVICES AT THE ARC REALIZE THE AMERICAN DREAM |



Habitat for Humanity and was approved by Habitat's Board of Directors to qualify for a home! Harford Habitat for Humanity employees, volunteers, and partner families has become an extension of his family. The sweat equity was a chore in the beginning, however, the people that he has been working with are all caring and fun so it has become enjoyable.

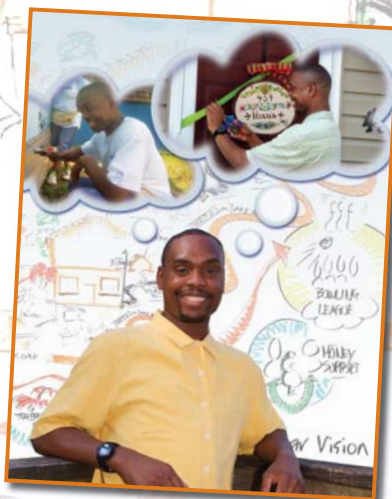
Lester is a young man that has developmental disabilities and receives services at The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region. After finishing high school, Lester decided to start working on goals for his future. He told his parents that he wanted to stay at the same job that he worked at while in school, because he was happy with the company. Lester had reached goal number one, a job that he enjoyed. Next, he talked about his desire to move into an apartment, goal number two.

After working for nine years and living in his apartment for six years, it was time to reach another goal which has always been important to him . . . "A Home to Call His Own!"

Lester met with The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region along with family and friends to map out a path to meet his goals. He shared what kind of house and neighborhood he wanted. Lester's dream was actually mapped out on paper and served as a constant reminder to stay focused. After meeting with Home Partnership Inc., he was informed about the work of Harford

On September 24, 2010, Lester reached goal number three, "A Home Of His Own," in Aberdeen, Maryland. A dedication ceremony was held on that day and many of Lester's family and friends attended to share in the joy. He is now praying for the day when he will be able to share his home with a woman that he loves, raise a family, and grow old together.

Teresa recently celebrated the completion of her new home through Harford Habitat for Humanity! Teresa and her son, Jesse, who



receives Family Support Services at The Arc, are one of a growing list of families offered the opportunity for affordable housing in Harford County. Families who qualify for the program come to know each other well as they worked together to complete their required sweat equity hours. They have also shared stories of gratitude for the multiple resources, supports and services their families receive through The Arc in Family Support as well as adult services through Supported Living, Vocational and Community Partners. Services are varied and ultimately tailored to the specific needs of the individuals and families served. Theresa celebrated her home dedication on Friday October 22nd.

Thanks to Home Partnership, Harford Habitat for Humanity and The Arc, individuals and families are realizing their dreams. With your support, other people with developmental disabilities can experience the same. Please consider donating to The Arc. It can really make a difference.

ZEWDU... A GOAL GETTER |

Zewdu receives Employment Services at The Arc and prides himself on being "his own man." Zewdu works at the McDonald's in Riverside and found his second job on his own at a local hotel. The only assistance that he specifically asked for from The

Arc support staff was help in obtaining his driver's license. With support from The Arc's Employment Services team, Zewdu was able to take the necessary steps to secure his permit. He is well on his way to accomplishing his goals.





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Advocacy, Resources, & Community Building For
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Vehicle Donation Page:
www.thearc.org/page.aspx?pid=2492

Vehicle Donation Online Form:
www.thearc.org/page.aspx?pid=2593



Due to new priorities in funding, The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region will no longer receive an annual grant through the United Way. Your workplace designation is more important than ever.

The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region is eligible to receive your workplace designated gift. This is a convenient way for Arc supporters to give to The Arc, either with a lump sum gift or with an amount designated from your paycheck.



United Way of Central Maryland Designation Number - 058

United Way of Cecil County Designation Number - 110

**Combined Charity Campaign (Baltimore City Employees)
Designation Number - 8058**

The Maryland Charity Campaign - 7112

2010-2011

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