

# Annual Membership and Fund Drive

## 2011

### Membership Matters



**SUPPORT**



**EDUCATION**



**ADVOCACY**

*Providing supports to children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families*



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**[www.arcofschuyler.org](http://www.arcofschuyler.org)**

*A chapter of NYSARC, Inc.  
Member of The Arc of the U.S.  
A United Way Agency  
Member of Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce*

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Before The Arc of Schuyler commenced operation in 1978, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Schuyler County area were forced to travel extended distances to surrounding communities to receive even basic supports and services. Other individuals were forced to live in deplorable conditions at institutions.

Knowing that this system of support had to be improved in order for their children and relatives to lead fulfilling lives as members of their community, family members organized and strategized to form an organization in Schuyler County that could meet the needs of people with disabilities, and The Arc of Schuyler was soon established.

Nearly thirty-three years later, The Arc of Schuyler continues to assist similar families and persons with disabilities who are seeking to be respected members of our community as they live independently and maintain meaningful employment.

The Arc of Schuyler receives a substantial amount of its funding from government sources, and as you may know, there will be inevitable reductions in the New York State budget. Furthermore, many of the programs The Arc offers are not covered by these traditional funding resources. More than ever, The Arc and the highly vulnerable population it serves need your voice and support.

Without the strength of members, people with developmental disabilities are at risk of being overlooked when critical decisions are made at the state and national levels.

By July 31, 2011, The Arc of Schuyler is aiming to raise **\$25,000** to help secure for all people with developmental disabilities opportunities to actualize their goals of how and where they learn, live, work and contribute to their community.

Please consider renewing your membership or joining The Arc of Schuyler and assist in creating an environment of independence, productivity, and inclusion through person-centered services. Simply complete the membership form on the enclosed addressed envelope and include your donation of any amount.

This booklet details the benefits of membership, outlines the many services provided by The Arc, its involvement in the Schuyler County and surrounding communities, and its key reasons for fundraising.

Like the families who organized in 1978 to create The Arc of Schuyler, we look forward to working with you to continue ensuring the highest quality supports and services to persons with disabilities in our community.

Kind Regards,

Barbara Specchio  
Membership Chairperson

### Benefits of Membership

- Be informed about programs and services in our local community and participate in legislative advocacy.
- Take advantage of opportunities to contribute time and talent through volunteering.
- Gain access to information and services offered by our state and national organizations as well as other Arc chapters.
- Learn about national and local events that members can participate in.
- Complimentary admission to The Arc of Schuyler's Annual Member Reception.

### Membership

Membership provides a sense of purpose and belonging. Whether you are an individual with a disability, a self-advocate, a parent or family member of someone with a disability, a staff member, a member of the community, or someone interested in offering support, The Arc of Schuyler welcomes you.

As our membership increases, so does our impact relative to issues affecting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities on local, state and national levels.

### Value of State and National Membership

Members are tri-level members. When you become a member of The Arc of Schuyler you are also enrolled as a member of our State Association, NYSARC, Inc. and The Arc of the U.S. Membership lists are NEVER shared, sold, or used for any outside solicitation purposes. They are used only to provide information and/or organizational promotions to its members at all three levels.

Find out more at  
[www.nysarc.org](http://www.nysarc.org) and [www.thearc.org](http://www.thearc.org)

## Programs and Services

**Residential Services** The Arc of Schuyler currently operates seven homes in the community that function as community living options that provide a family atmosphere, recreation, and leisure activities of choice for more than 60 individuals with disabilities.

**Service Coordination** Service Coordinators use a person-centered planning approach, designed to assist individuals in obtaining necessary services and support based on their needs and requests.

**Home Services** Home Care and Family Support Services offer hands-on assistance for bathing, dressing, meal preparation, feeding, household and other chores to relieve a primary caregiver. Additional services include recreation opportunities for socialization and family reimbursement to help with expenses specifically related to the care of a family member with a disability living at home.

**Day Services** Day Services aims to maximize individuals' potential for independence by providing individualized skill development activities and community integration opportunities for up to 70 people with disabilities.

**Guardianship** Where needed, Guardianship services ensure that people over age 18 with developmental disabilities have a trusted individual to advocate for them and act in their best interest.

**Transportation Services** Transportation is provided to individuals who are elderly or who have a disability. The Arc also provides medical and pre-school transportation on a contractual basis and is an approved provider of National Safety Council Defensive Driving Courses.



### Skill Development and Recreation Activities at The Arc

- **Courses/Lessons:**
  - Painting
  - Drawing
  - Creative Movement
  - DJ Skills
  - Guitar
- **Film Club**
- **Photography Club**
- **Athletics (Special Olympics)**
- **Social Dances**

The Arc welcomes volunteers and community participants for many of these activities!

# Glen Industries

## Vocational Supports and Community Business

### Community Job Placement and Paid Employment

Glen Industries assists individuals in finding and earning employment. Supported employment offers staff and/or material support for a person to obtain and retain community employment. The work activities center in Glen Industries provides paid employment for individuals who need additional support before moving forward with community job placement and/or supported employment. Glen Industries will work with community employers to find a great employee eager to utilize their experience and skills.



### Transitional Employment

This is a “School to Work” program that provides prevocational and work-study services for students at least 16 years of age through Glen Industries. Job coaches trained to equip individuals with necessary skills guide individuals into community employment. Prevocational services prepare individuals for the work environment and for the social relationships that the workplace demands. Many individuals have gained community employment after prevocational training at Glen Industries.

### A Community Business



Glen Industries is also a viable business in the Schuyler County community. Employees of Glen Industries provide auto-detailing (Seneca Shine), janitorial, packaging, industrial, mailroom, catering, and food co-packing services for individuals and small and large businesses in and beyond Schuyler County. Not only are individuals with disabilities gaining valuable work experience and a variety of skills, but Glen Industries’ services offer cost-effective options for businesses.

*To learn more about supports at Glen Industries, the benefits of employing an individual with disabilities, or services for businesses, visit [www.arcofschuyler.org](http://www.arcofschuyler.org)*

# Community Impact

The Arc of Schuyler demonstrates commitment to enhancing the Schuyler County community for all citizens and in effect, providing opportunities for community inclusion to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

### The Arts - Franklin Street Gallery and Gift Shop



The Franklin Street Gallery and Gift Shop exhibits and sells not only the work of local and regional artists, but work created by individuals with disabilities. The gallery offers courses in a variety of mediums, and hosts lectures, book readings and signings, and special exhibits that are open to the public with typically free admission. The gallery is a resource for new and experienced artists, provides volunteer opportunities, offers workshop space to community art clubs, and exists to foster art education and enrichment programs for all individuals in Schuyler County and surrounding communities.

### Transportation - Schuyler County Transit

In August 2010 Schuyler County entered into a contract with The Arc of Schuyler allowing The Arc to operate Schuyler County Transit, the public transportation system accessible to all members of the community. The system has enabled persons with disabilities and senior citizens to travel independently according to their own schedules to medical appointments, recreation activities, grocery stores and other locations. Local students and working adults are also beginning to recognize the advantages and benefits of public transportation. The Arc has been pleased to contribute its resources to enhance services in the community.



### Education - Joanne S. Hayes Memorial Scholarship

The Arc of Schuyler annually awards \$1,000 scholarships to up to three 12th grade students enrolled at a school in Schuyler County or who live in the county and are attending school elsewhere. The Arc of Schuyler believes that supporting the quality education of students in Schuyler County is important to building community relationships and hopes to promote student interest in the field of human services and opportunities to collaborate with individuals with disabilities. The Arc of Schuyler also participates in mentoring and shadowing programs with local schools and colleges.

