

THE POWER OF POSSIBILITY



The Arc of East Central Iowa | Annual Report 2026

OUR VISION:

**A world
where
everyone
belongs**

This past year brought extraordinary highs, difficult lows, and more than its share of uncertainty. The 2025 budget reconciliation law introduced significant changes to Medicaid, with federal spending reductions projected at \$911 billion over 10 years, leaving the future of Home and Community-Based Services uncertain. Yet through it all, The Arc endures. We continue to grow and thrive because people with disabilities need us. Their caregivers need us. Every day, we help people live their fullest lives and pursue their dreams. We bend, adapt, and trust that we will emerge from this storm stronger and even more determined to serve our community for the next 70 years and beyond.

Our impact and longevity are a testament to the strength of this community. They are possible only because of the deep belief in our mission and the generosity of our individual, corporate, and foundation supporters. Thank you for investing in The Arc and making possible a stronger, more inclusive community where everyone can live, learn, work, play, and advocate with dignity and full inclusion.



Theresa Lewis
Executive Director



Shelly Strellner
Board President

Executive Team

Theresa Lewis, *Executive Director*

Kyle Schramp, *Senior Director of Operations*

Jenny Bosking, *Director of Development & Communications*

Leah Moser, *Director of Adult Services*

Whitney Alber, *Director of Children & Family Services*

Board of Directors

Shelly Strellner, *President*
Cedar Rapids Bank and Trust

Danielle Rodriguez, *Vice President*
To The Rescue

Terese Fisher, *Secretary*
Crystal Group

Nathan Haas, *Treasurer*
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Carol Meade, *Past President*
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A Year of Impact, A Future of Promise



In Fiscal Year 2026, we moved forward with the power of Possibility. All through the year we worked to strengthen existing services and set the foundation to add new programming in Fiscal Year 2027. Our Vision and Mission drive every aspect of our work, from how we deliver services and supports to how we engage in our communities.

Program growth has made us acutely aware of our need for additional space, not only to continue to serve more children and adults, but to increase our capacity to maintain a sensory-friendly and spacious environment. Our Space Needs Assessment completed by Solum Lang Architects developed a space design that allowed us to better envision new possibilities for our programming needs. The Arc engaged a realtor to view and evaluate potential properties within downtown and other parts of Cedar Rapids. We are also exploring what can be done with our current property. It is expected The Arc will determine a direction for growth by the end of the 2026 calendar year.

WE ACCEPT. Every individual we serve has their own unique personality and talents. We accept each for their Abilities, not disabilities. This starts with dignity and respect, allowing individuals to make their own decisions about their life and care, and removing barriers to support them as a contributing member of the community.

WE EMPOWER. Our critical services fill gaps in the community for individuals and their caregivers. Our services foster independence and self-advocacy, all through individualized plans that consider a person's current abilities, strengths, and dreams.

WE ADVOCATE. True to our Vision and Mission, we expect accessibility, equity, and inclusion for everyone we support. We talk with legislators locally and nationally to share the importance of Medicaid and Home & Community Based Services and fight to uphold the laws and mandates that are essential for children and adults with disabilities.

WE CELEBRATE. From our events to group respite outings to softball, we take advantage of every opportunity have fun and celebrate who we are.

Impact Highlights

44,690 Hours of *services provided to children*

257 Number of children served

109,499 Hours of *services provided to adults*

331 Number of adults served

154,189 *Total hours of impact*

588 *Total individuals served*

Programs & Supports

Children & Family

Individual Respite
Group Respite
Supported Community Living
Afterschool & Summer Care
Medical Daycare
Parent Pathways

Adult & Elderly

Day Habilitation
Adult Daycare (CHOICE)
Individual Respite
Group Respite
Supported Community Living
Supported Employment
Customized Discovery
Project SEARCH
Elderly Care
Aktion Club

Behavioral Health

Habilitation
Peer Support
Family Peer Support
Community Support Services

Community Impact



Last summer ended with our second annual **Touch-A-Truck** event at Kirkwood. With over 50 cool vehicles and tunes by Z102.9, it was a community day to remember for hundreds who were in attendance.

Our **2025 Annual Awards Ceremony** highlighted outstanding people and businesses connected to The Arc.

Top row, left to right:

- Casey Green – Community Partner Award for UnityPoint– St. Luke's
- Gale Lauwyck, DSP of the Year
- Colby Martin, Super Sibling of the Year
- Amanda Zorne – Business Partner of the Year for Craft'd

Front row, left to right:

- Katie Sievert, Project SEARCH Business Liaison for St. Luke's
- Cassius Bean, Super Sibling of the Year
- Allyson Anderson, DSP of the Year



Our annual **Arc March** fund- and friend-raiser was a hit with an island-theme and leis to match. This year we netted over \$35,000 to support The Arc's programs and services.

With You Beside Us, The Possibilities are Endless

To our donors, corporate
and foundation partners,

Thank You.

You are the path that makes
possibilities a reality for our
agency and this community.
Your passion to create a world
where everyone belongs is
inspiring. It removes barriers
and helps children and
adults achieve their
hopes and dreams.

\$100,000 +

Stan & Dawn Herkelman
United Way

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Aegon TransAmerica Foundation
Grandon Charitable Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Great America Financial
Lavern Busse & Jeff Busse
(Lavern & Audrey Busse
Foundation)
The Greater Cedar Rapids
Community Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Collins Aerospace
Dennis & Connie Deutmeyer
(Connie & Dennis
Deutmeyer Foundation)
Hudson Insurance Group
Thea Leslie
Linn County ECI
McIntyre Foundation
Raytheon Technologies/RTX
Bill & Rocki Shepard
The Cedar Rapids Gazette
United Fire Group
Van Meter Industrial, Inc.

\$2,500 - \$9,999

Alliant Energy Foundation
Bloomhall Family Endowed
Donor Advised Fund
Cedar Rapids Bank & Trust
Cedar Rapids Toyota
Charities Aid Foundation
Community Action of Eastern Iowa
Corda Credit Union
Crescent-Janko Masonic
Foundation
Crystal Group

Joe & Sue Cunningham
(Cunningham Family Fund
of the GCRCF)
Diamond V Mills, Inc
Dupaco Community Credit Union
Equitable Foundation
Jessica Fahey
Rosemary Gabe
Faye Gerner
Jason Glass
Growing Iowa
Dave & Sharon Harris
Louis Harvieux
Ann Hatfield
Mark & Jennifer Krautbauer
Kay & James Lehman
Lil Drug Store Products
Claudine Linnenkamp Estate
Matt McGrane & David Maier
MidAmerican Aerospace
Modern Woodmen of America
Tyson & Teresa Morio
Suzanne Myers
New Leader Manufacturing
Tom & Sonja Penaluna
(Todd Penaluna Memorial Fund)
Pete & Delaine Petersen
James & Suzanne Potts
Marcia & Don Primus
Lisa & Randy Ramlo
Dale & Debra Rettenmeier
Phillip & Christy Rezin
Lynda Schimberg
Shuttleworth & Ingersoll, P.L.C.
Target Foundation
Joseph Terfler
The Standard
Tricon Construction Group
TrueNorth Companies
Variety Club the Children's Charity
David & Cindy Zenk

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Anonymous Donor (2)
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Benchmark Inc
Andrew Bentz
Cassill Motors
Breakfast of Champions
Neil & Jean Bronstein
Michele Brown
Childcare Collaborative of Iowa
Pat & Sandi Cobb
Brad & Heidi Conerd
Gary & Deborah Cordell
Diamond V
Mike & Cindy Dunn
Brian Fagan
Lisa & Andre Gallet
GreenState Credit Union
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Carol Hills (The Jared & Carol Hills
Foundation)
International Paper Company

ITC Midwest
Joseph & Ann Jeffries
Kwik Star
Lynne E Hanse Prep
Charitable Trust
Melinda Kranig
Mindy Kruckenberg
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Lynette Marling
Wendy Marner
May Gortner Charitable Trust
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McGrath Auto Group
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MidAmerican Energy Foundation
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Simmons Perrine PLC
Ryan Smith
Solum Lang Architects
David & Mindy Sorg
Starbucks
St. Pius X Catholic Church
Mollie Schlue & Thomas Tapp
Dick & Ann Woodward
Veridian Credit Union

*We apologize if we have listed your
name incorrectly or have omitted your
name. Please contact us so we may
correct our error. We are grateful for
all support provided to the agency.*

Complete List of FY26 Donors



<https://arceci.org/fy26-donors/>

2026 Financials

*unaudited



The Arc and Eastern Iowa Arts Academy hosted our inaugural **Art Without Limits Gala**, a celebration to display and sell artwork (with proceeds going to the artist) made by our Day Habilitation participants.



Fostering Possibility



"Our family has been incredibly blessed by The Arc of East Central Iowa. As parents of a child with Down Syndrome, having access to trusted respite care gives us peace of mind, knowing our son is in a safe, engaging environment. It also gives us the chance to rest and recharge, so we can show up as better, more present parents for Isaac."

~ Billy & Nichole Martin

"When I think of the word Possibility, I also think of Hope and Opportunity. That's what The Arc creates for us. A safe space where Sammy can engage with the world. For me, it's the opportunity to continue to create avenues for him to develop, build social skills, and be part of the community. The Arc is full of possibilities and they are always looking at how to best serve our community and grow themselves."

~ Dawn, Sammy, and Stan Herkleman

