



Butler County ARC Newsletter

March 2008

The Work We Do



Have you ever wondered what the ARC of Butler County does? We've been busy! Here's an update of what we have been doing.

- Our volunteers continue to support the Bereavement Group as a fiscal agent. This year through sales, fundraisers and donations two deceased indigent consumers received funds for burial. Annually providers are being encouraged to help consumers preplan for their burial needs.
- The annual Memorial service was held at the Middletown Center in May. Loved ones were remembered in prayers, pictures were displayed and flowers were distributed.
- We have increased the number of individual BCMRDD consumers who are forming micro enterprises. Examples of these businesses include a greenhouse venture, a small repair shop, and a vending machine business.
- BCARC continues its long-term financial support to the BC Dental Program. The program's dental hygienist helps arrange dental services for consumers as well as provides support and education.
- BCARC continues to advocate for and protect the personal safety, finances, and residential preferences of BC consumers. When local provider, Connex, suddenly closed its operations and gave consumers three days notice to find another place to live, we deemed this necessary.
- BCARC took over as the provider for "Job Club", which previously was provided by Connex. We will contract with the same experienced person who has knowledgeable staff that already is familiar with these consumers. Job club gives consumers an opportunity to attend area events, such as, baseball games that they enjoy.
- To promote diversity, BCARC together with Miami University Middletown, sponsored two performances of "Dancing on Wheels", a traveling entertainment group whose members are in wheelchairs.
- We continued our public relations to raise awareness of BCARC by providing hole sponsorship at a golf outing benefiting persons with disabilities. In addition, BCARC assumed responsibility for the annual spring flower from BCMRDD.

Check this newsletter to find ways that you can support the work of ARC through our various activities and fund raisers. Forms are enclosed for the ARC sponsored Flower Sale from Bern's Greenhouse & Garden Center. Plan to join us for the annual dinner in May or attend a board meeting (held the first Thursday of the month, 7 pm at Janet Clemmons Center).

We are always looking for volunteers and new members! Call 513-867-5960, ext. 272 for more information. If you would like to join the ARC just send your name, address, phone and \$20 membership fee to Butler County ARC, 282 Fair Ave., Hamilton Oh. 45015. New members are always welcome!



Mark Your Calendar's Now!

The Arc of Butler County Annual Dinner

The annual ARC dinner will be held on May 15th, 2008, 6:30 p.m. at Redeemer Church on Rt. 4 (enter at the Butler Tech neon sign or off Millikin Rd.). Visionaries & Voices will talk about the work they do as well as introduce us to some of their local artists. Cost for the dinner will be \$11 for adults, consumers and children under 12 will be \$7.

For reservations send your check in a self-addressed envelope to Butler County Arc, 282 Fair Ave., Hamilton Oh. 45011. Include your name, address and phone number as well # of adults, # of consumers, # of children under 12 who will be attending.

Heart of the Art Studio



The Grand Opening will be held in Hamilton at 3400 Symmes Rd. on April 17th from 2 – 7 and April 18th from 10 – 2. Come see your favorite artists, shop and take advantage of the free demonstrations.

The Arc of Butler County Flower Sale

Final date to order flowers is April 11th. Flowers will be delivered at Redeemer Church on Rt. 4 on May 9th. Pick up anytime between 11- 6. For more information contact Kathy Overbeck at 737-9369 or Doris Hall at 860-2309. See the enclosed flower form for selections.



Annual Memorial Service

The memorial service to remember our friends and loved ones who have passed away in the past year will be held at the Liberty Center at 1 p.m. on Friday, May 23rd. Loved ones are remembered in prayers, pictures are displayed and flowers are distributed. For more information call Margie at 513-867-5922.

Bereavement Support Group Information

Progress is being made toward many of our established goals. We have:

- **Identified needs and set up pre-planned funeral arrangements.** Support Coordinators are assisting with this. Information on funeral homes pre-pay plans and insurance is available. Notification plans have been made for client/ staff when a death occurs.
- **Raised funds for individuals served by BCMRDD that have a verified need for assistance.** There has been a Tupperware sale, Taste fundraiser, Culver's fundraiser, Blues & Bikes & others and miscellaneous contributions.
- **Provided support.** Programs and literature are available such as: Grief in the Workplace, The Long Goodbye, and Advanced Care Planning. \

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Donate an extra burial plot that your family will not need in the future.
- Pre-plan for your loved one.
- Participate in Fundraisers. Just send your email address to Kathy Overbeck at koverbeck1@fuse.net for updates.
- Plan to attend the annual Memorial Service. Donate a flower.
- Use any envelope or our BCARC donation envelopes when you want to make a memorial or make any remembrance. Checks can be made to The Arc of Butler County. Please send to The Arc of Butler County, 282 N. Fair Ave., Hamilton, Ohio 45011.