

## RSVP now for annual ArcJC picnic!

It's picnic time again! With summer just around the bend, it's time to break out the barbecue for The Arc in Jefferson County's annual picnic, coming to the Jefferson County fairgrounds on Wednesday, July 18. Festivities begin around 5 p.m. and end around 8 p.m.

As you may have heard, the picnic was moved to the pavilion at the fairgrounds in order to accommodate the larg-



er crowds we've had in recent years. The fairgrounds are located near the junction of 6th Avenue and I-70. A playground for the kids is adjacent to the pavilion.

The picnic is a fun opportunity to check in with old friends and eat lots of food! The balloon lady will be back again this year for the kids, and we're hoping to have live music and a magician as well.

The free picnic is open to members and friends of The Arc in Jefferson County, and we do ask that you RSVP to (303) 232-1338 x205 or by email to [info@arcjc.org](mailto:info@arcjc.org) no later than July 10th.

## Self-determination funding available through DDRC

Someone needs a computerized prompting system, where a computer sounds off "It's time to get up," so that the person gets to work on time and holds on to their job.

Another person needs gardening equipment in order to start her own landscaping business.

Another needs home modification and tile cutting equipment, plus extra hours of supervision to supplement limited Supported Living Services funding, in order to start a business and be occupied in meaningful and safe day activity.

Someone on the Comprehensive Waiting List living with an

aging parent begins to use paid supports to visit the library, attend computer class and participate in a Jazzercise club at the neighborhood recreation center.

The Self-Determination Model Project was conceived in order to fund such projects that lead to self-initiative, independence, greater self-control and enhanced quality of life. The Developmental Disabilities Resource Center (DDRC) has allocated \$300,000 of local mil levy dollars to fund such innovative projects. Some of the projects are one-time expenses but oth-

See FUNDING on page 2

## Feuer spaghetti dinner set for June 6 at The Arc

The "Alan Feuer Memorial Dinner" will be held Wednesday, June 6, from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. at The Arc in Jefferson County, located at 8725 W. 14th Avenue in Lakewood. A donation of \$3.00 per attendee is suggested. The proceeds of this Italian-themed dinner will be split among the self-advocacy groups Alan was active with and who are sponsoring the dinner.

To register for this event or to get more information, please contact Jeanne Weis at The Arc in Jefferson County, (303) 232-1338 x204.

### The Arc in Jefferson County

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# First-ever Mobilizing reunion coming August 2

Over the years hundreds of families and professionals have benefitted from the *Mobilizing Families* training.

After all this time, we've found ourselves wondering how our graduates are doing, so we are inviting all *Mobilizing*

graduates back for a reunion on August 2nd at The Arc in Jefferson County's office.

The Mobilizing Families reunion will be a fun opportunity to reconnect with classmates and network with other parents.

A letter with more details will be mailed to graduates in July.

If you're interested in serving on the planning committee or helping in other ways, please contact Jo Lynn Osborne at (303) 232-1338 x206.

## FUNDING from page 1

ers, such as those that require supervision and/or job supports, may be ongoing.

People who are under-served by Supported Living Services (SLS) and those on the Waiting Lists for SLS or Comprehensive

Services are encouraged to apply for Self-Determination funding. Staff at The Arc in Jefferson County will help you with your application or will refer you to get the planning assistance you need.

Self-determination is the chance to think "What if..." It's the chance to think outside the

disabilities services "box." Self-determination is the chance to dream.

To apply for Self Determination funding or to find out more, call Bob Arnold at DDRC, (303) 462-6501. Now is the time to take charge. Now is the time to act. Now is the time to show your determination.

# Getting Connected

*Below is an abbreviated list of agencies and community resources in the Jefferson County area. For additional resources, please visit our Web page at [www.arcjc.org](http://www.arcjc.org).*

**Access-A-Ride** (303) 299-2960: Provides curb-to-curb transportation to passengers who are unable to use RTD buses and qualify for certification under the guidelines established by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADD) of 1990.

**Developmental Disabilities Resource Center** (303) 233-3363: Services and resources are provided for people with developmental disabilities in Jefferson, Clear Creek, Gilpin and Summit counties.

**Disability Center for Independent Living** (303) 320-1345: Centers for Independent Living (CILs) are private, nonprofit corporations that provide services to maximize independence of individuals with disabilities.

**Empower Colorado** (866) 213-4631: Support, education and advocacy for families of children with mental or emotional health issues, also referred to as brain disorders.

**Family First** (303) 914-6307: Provides resources to help families obtain respite and child care.

**Family Voices** (303) 973-5780: National grass roots organization composed of families and friends who care for and about children with special health care needs.

**JFK Partners:** (303) 315-2323: An interdisciplinary program to support people with developmental disabilities at University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. [www.jfkpartners.org](http://www.jfkpartners.org)

**Jeffco Action Center** (303) 237-7704: Serving homeless people and those at risk of becoming homeless.

**Jefferson County Department of Health** (303) 232-6301: Provides a variety of services and supports for people with specialized health care needs including WIC and HCP.

**Jeffco First Steps** (303) 273-1550: To enhance opportunities and support for families of young children with special needs as an integral and valued part of their chosen communities.

**The Legal Center for Persons with Disabilities and Older People** (303) 722-0300: Protecting the human, civil and legal rights of people with mental and physical disabilities, people with HIV and older people throughout Colorado.

**Mental Health Ombudsman Program of Colorado** (303) 813-1173: Serves residents enrolled in and receiving mental health services through Medicaid managed care.

**Parent to Parent of Colorado** (877) 472-7201: Connecting families of sons and daughters with disabilities or special health care needs in communities across Colorado.



*Come learn about the exciting work of our organization! Please RSVP to Genni at (303) 232-1338 x209 with the date you would like to attend. Each tour lasts one hour.*

- Wednesday, June 6 @ noon
- Wednesday, July 11 @ noon
- Wednesday, August 4 @ noon

## ABOUT US

*The Arc Independent is a publication of The Arc in Jefferson County, a local unit of The Arc of the United States and The Arc of Colorado.*

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**Genni Williams • x209**  
Director of Development

**Ann Moulton • x205**  
Administrative Manager

# State launches interim committee to review waiting list

An interim committee to study the Waiting List and to evaluate current services will be launched this summer in the Colorado legislature. Representative Michael Garcia from Aurora, working with The Arc Plan, an alliance of many local Arc affiliates, is spearheading the effort. The committee's work may lead to legislation in the upcoming session.

The purpose of the joint House-Senate resolution, passed by both houses in the legislature stated is to establish a legislative committee that

shall meet in the interim after the first regular session of the Sixty-sixth General Assembly to study ways to improve the system that provides long-term health care services and supports to persons with developmental disabilities.

Four areas will be studied by the committee, made up of five members of the House and five members of the Senate.

- 1) Ways to create more transparency, reliability, efficiency, and accountability throughout the process of providing long-term health

care services and supports for persons with developmental disabilities;

- 2) Innovative options to meet the long-term health care needs of people with developmental disabilities;
- 3) Recommendations to eliminate all waiting lists for long-term health care services and supports for persons with developmental disabilities with all deliberate speed; and
- 4) Recommendations for the creation of new funding for persons on the waiting

lists (Children's Extensive Support, Family Support, Supported Living Services and Comprehensive Services).

If you or someone you know is interested in testifying in front of the committee related to any of the areas to be studied, please contact Todd Lowther at (303) 232-1338, ext. 203.

Representative Garcia is especially interested in hearing from families who have been impacted negatively by not receiving services in a timely manner.

## Sherry Horan appointed to board of directors

The Arc in Jefferson County is happy to announce that the board of directors has appointed Sherry Horan to fill one of the remaining vacancies on the board. Sherry and her husband Barry moved to the Denver area about a year and a half ago from Chicago, and Sherry began working with The Arc as a volunteer.

Sherry notes, "Since I was a young girl my passion has always been to work with developmentally disabled children. 11 years ago my nephew was born with Down Syndrome. That only solidified my belief that all people, regardless of their ability, deserve the same options and opportunities. Since moving to the Denver area I have followed my passion by becoming a preschool teacher with Jefferson County Public Schools and becoming

a volunteer at The Arc in Jefferson County."

She threw herself into her numerous projects at The Arc with such a passion that she received special recognition as a great volunteer at our last annual meeting in November 2006. In February of this year, the board members voted to have Sherry join the board. She was invaluable to The Arc during the planning and execution of our recent Summit of Hope luncheon. We are pleased to have her on our team, and look forward to many years of her support and dedication.

To see more about any of our staff or board members, check out our web site at [www.arcjc.org](http://www.arcjc.org) – click on 'About Us' and follow the 'Staff and Board' link on the left side of the page.



## Dancing with the stars

Self-advocate Joan Jurann and board member Mike Wittman cut a rug to live music during People First's monthly Coffee House at Atlanta Bread Company in Lakewood. To learn more about People First contact Jeanne Weis at (303) 232-1338 x204.

## Arc, Peak Parent host training on changes to IDEA 2004

The Arc in Jefferson County, in partnership with Peak Parent Center and Jefferson County Schools, held a joint training on May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Jefferson County School Districts Educational Center.

We had over 65 people in attendance to learn about changes in the educational law Individual Disability Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA '04). The law has significant changes that affect programming for students with disabilities. Some of the most important changes in the law are: reporting of progress, multi-year IEPs, short-term objectives, IEP team member attendance, transition programming, due process and discipline. To view a summary of all of the changes, please go to [www.arcjc.org](http://www.arcjc.org) and follow the IDEA link under News & Events.

While the Federal Law was re-authorized in 2004 and the Federal Regulations went into effect November of 2006, Colorado is still waiting for the

State Regulations to be finalized. The regulations will be available for public comment this summer and should be finalized in the fall of 2007. If you are interested in reading the proposed State Regulations and providing public comment, check the Colorado Department of Education web site at [www.cde.state.co.us](http://www.cde.state.co.us) starting in July.

Also, Jefferson County schools will begin using a new IEP program called Encore this coming school year. Not only will your IEP look different, but it should also incorporate the changes in IDEA '04. The educational advocates at The Arc will be available to provide guidance as requested. We will also continue updates on the implemented changes to IDEA '04 throughout the year.

If you missed the May 9<sup>th</sup> training please know that additional joint trainings will be offered in the fall of 2007. Stay tuned for information.

## "File of Life" can help during emergency

A simple new tool could help save your life in a medical emergency. The "File of Life" is a 4 x 5 inch bright red plastic sleeve with a magnetic strip on the back so the file can be hung on your refrigerator. In the sleeve is a card you fill out that contains information such as the name of your doctor, your preferred hospital, existing medical conditions and medications, blood type, religion, allergies, medical insurance information, and

emergency contact names and phone numbers.

A separate red sticker is secured to a front door or entry way to alert EMS responders to look for the sleeve. In a medical emergency, if you are unconscious or unresponsive, the EMS personnel responding to your home can simply take the File of Life off the refrigerator and transport it with you to the hospital. For more information, contact your local fire or police district.



Self-advocates Diana Braun, left, and Kathy Conour.

## Diana & Kathy to share movie at June 22 Self-Advocate Day

On Friday, June 22, two self-advocates will share the movie made about their lives as part of Alliance Colorado's Self-Advocate Day.

Join Diana and Kathy as they present a major motion film about their adventures as self-advocates. After the movie, Diana and Kathy will lead a discussion on self-determina-

tion with the developmental disabilities community.

Self-Advocate day is free for all community members with disabilities, their staff, and families.

For more information contact Melissa Peterson at (303) 832-1618 or by email at [mpeterson@alliancecolorado.org](mailto:mpeterson@alliancecolorado.org).

## Don't miss annual Jefferson County Resource Fair June 12

The 2nd annual Jefferson County Community Resource Fair is scheduled for Tuesday, June 12 from 1-7 p.m. at Jefferson High School, located at 2305 Pierce Street in Edgewater. The Community Resource Fair is free for everyone!

The Community Resource Fair is an opportunity for residents, professionals and businesses in Jefferson County to provide and receive information about a variety of resources available in the community. Participating agencies will be from the following areas: Child & Family Services, Adult Services, Cultural Services, Basic

Needs Services and Health & Wellness.

In addition to agency information, there will be a variety of cultural performances provided throughout the day as well as door prizes, giveaways and refreshments. New this year, will be a Kids Corner that will provide story time, face painting and activities for parents to do with their children.

For more information about the Jefferson County Community Resource Fair, please contact Ashleigh Sedbrook at 303-271-4825.

# Arvada residents can take advantage of Lockbox Program

Many seniors and people with disabilities, especially those who live alone, need to know that help can get to them quickly in an emergency.

Imagine someone falls or loses consciousness in the middle of the night and can't get to the door to unlock it for the emergency responders.

In an emergency situation

when 911 is called, precious minutes can be lost if paramedics and other help cannot get to the stricken person. Paramedics may have to wait for the arrival of police or fire personnel, who will then assess the nature of the emergency and then break a window or door to gain entry if necessary.

Besides being time consum-

ing, there is the obvious financial burden to then repair the damage, and the possibility that the home can't be secured once the resident is transported to the hospital.

These issues can cause added stress during an already stressful time. In response to this problem, the Arvada Police Department has offered

a lockbox that can provide a readily accessible house key to emergency responders.

The Arvada police can be contacted at (720) 898-6724. If you live outside of Arvada, contact your local police department to see if a similar program exists.

## Workshop on residential options slated for June 25

JFK Partners will present an all-day workshop designed to share valuable information about self-directed living options with parents and individuals with developmental disabilities, specifically targeting those of transition age, but all are welcome. The workshop is scheduled for June 25 in Denver.

Workshop sessions will include: discuss of the microboard model; a panel of caregivers sharing their experiences; using computerized prompts to build independence; home ownership and community resources; and consumer directed attendant support.

The registration deadline for this program is June 18. For scholarship information or questions about the event, please contact Dina Johnson at 303-864-5267 or by email at [Johnson.Dina@tchden.org](mailto:Johnson.Dina@tchden.org).

## End of life training coming to Denver June 22

An end-of-life planning workshop for people with developmental disabilities will be coming to Denver at the end of June. The training will be conducted by Leigh Ann Kingsbury, a leader in the developmental disability field. Kingsbury has worked for several non-profit agencies and

states, helping people with disabilities leave institutional settings, return to their communities, and establish the lives they want.

This one-day overview provides an introduction on how to establish communication of end of life wishes for people with developmental disabil-

ities. Participants will learn about both practical and emotional issues surrounding the end-of-life process.

For more information or to request a brochure, please contact Bob Sattler at (303) 537-3643, or email him at [bsat@aol.com](mailto:bsat@aol.com).

## Brain injury employment conference set for June 23

Denver Options and CTAT will host "Building Bridges to Supports & Opportunities," a brain injury employment conference on June 21 in Denver. The conference will feature a keynote address from George Johnstone, PhD.

For more information or to receive a conference brochure, contact Wendy Sain at (303) 636-5727.

## Assistive technology conference to be held in DTC June 21-23

The Collaborative Assistive Technology Conference of the Rockies, will be held June 21-23, 2007 in Denver, Colorado at the Hyatt Regency, Denver Tech Center. Attendees will learn about local and national perspectives on state-of-the-art assistive technology devices and services. Don't miss the largest assistive technology conference in the Rocky Mountain Region.

If you use or recommend assistive technology now - or you're planning to take advantage of all that technology can

offer - this conference will give you the "inside track." With 70+ sessions covering all aspects of assistive technology, you'll have the opportunity to take a walk along today's technology landscape and 'surf' what tomorrow's technology will offer. With local and national presenters, this conference is your hands-on route to new insights and information.

For more information call Assistive Technology Partners/SWAAAC at (303) 315-1280 or (303) 837-8964 (TTY).

# Aktion Club gives back to world community



**Jo Lynn Osborne**  
Assistant Executive Director

Rocky Mountain Partners Aktion Club (RMPAC) is making a difference around the world and here in Jefferson County through community service.

If you think that sounds pretty incredible, you're right. The members of RMPAC all have disabilities and a desire to make a difference in their community. Since the club formed 7 years ago, it has operated just like any other Kiwanis club with the major focus being to help children.

When Kiwanis Clubs were raising funds to build an astronomy lab at Windy Peak our Aktion Club was actively involved selling "Share the Stars" bracelets for the project. This year Kiwanis International Aktion Clubs are working together to raise money to benefit Sleeping Children Around the World

(SCAW) a non-profit organization which provides beds and bedding for children in third-world countries.

Once again RMPAC has stepped up to the challenge. When Kiwanis International announced they had a grant in the amount of \$10,000 to use in matching gifts from Aktion clubs to SCAW, the Rocky Mountain Partners Aktion sent in the maximum amount allowed \$200.

Still they wanted to do more, and in March they held a raffle during the Kiwanis Rocky Mountain Mid-Winter Conference. In just a couple of hours they raised \$411 for SCAW. Joan

Jurann, Heidi Shinn and George Giles all did a fantastic job selling raffle tickets, but the end of the day, Joan Jurann had sold the most tickets.

Other ongoing projects of RMPAC are collecting food and reusable containers for the Jeffco Action Center food bank and providing school supplies, decorated Halloween bags, and potted plants for teacher appreciation day for Brady Exploration School.

Why did RMPAC select these good causes to support? To quote Louise Weech, "I want to show able-bodied people that even though we have disabilities we can help them."

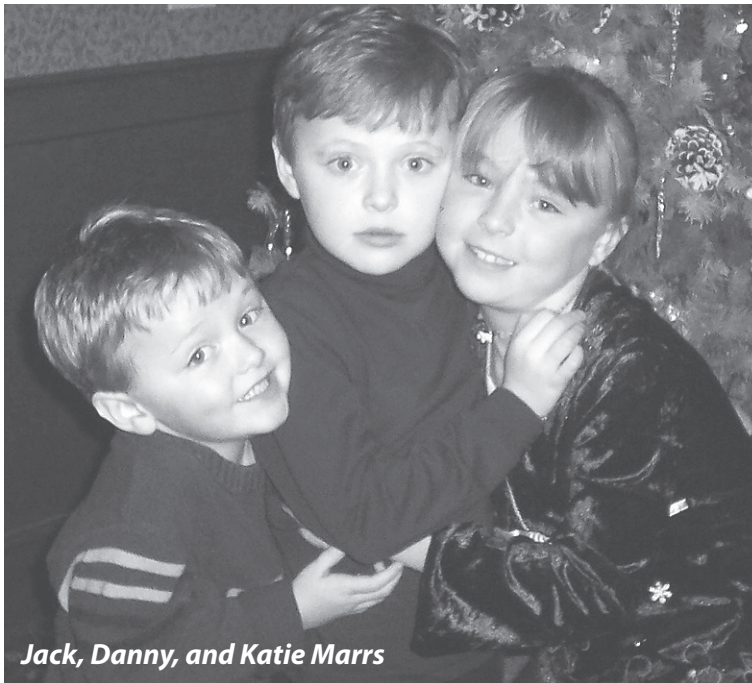
# Board member learns value of community involvement

**by Laura Marrs**  
Vice President, Board of Directors

I have been listening to those wise folks who work at the Arc preach about community building for years. I have taken baby steps to make that happen.

My husband, Hugh and I sold our house last winter and moved into the neighborhood that feeds into the school my two oldest children attend. It was important to our family that whatever school Danny, our middle child, was placed at would also be a good school for all three of them to go. Living down here, we walk to school, and have almost completely eliminated time spent in the car.

One of the things that people gloss over is the isolation a fam-



*Jack, Danny, and Katie Marrs*

ily feels when you have a child with significant special needs. Because all of our time was spent around intensive inter-

vention for my son, we missed out on play groups for the kids and mommy's groups for me. I decided I wouldn't tolerate this

isolation for Danny, so I began to step out. I started slowly by becoming Katie's brownie troop's cookie mom, and then her room mom. I have joined the local parent's network, and become its new president this year.

I have discovered a couple of truths. The first, not only is Danny just like any other kid, I am just like any other mom. The other truth is that the only way I am able to do any of this is because I have the correct supports in place at home. I highly recommend joining a book or bunco club with typical moms and you would be surprised about how much you have in common.

Danny's disability doesn't define who he is. Sometimes I need to be reminded, it also doesn't define me.

# 'Tis a season of change in supported living services



**by Jeanne Weis**  
Director of Adult Advocacy

Now that I've caught your attention, please know that the changes really are not anything that I can inform you of - or report to you about. There are truly more questions than there are answers, right now, but I would like to let you

know a few basic things that are known at this time.

The following are excerpts from a "clarification memo" dated 5/8/07 from Fred De-Crescentis, Director of the Division for Developmental Disabilities:

"Each year, the Colorado General Assembly passes a bill that authorizes funds for services in the SLS waiver. The Departments of Human Services, Division for Developmental Disabilities (DHS/DDD) and Health Care Policy and Financing administer the SLS waiver within the limits authorized by the legislature. Half of the authorized funds for the SLS waiver are reimbursed to Colorado through an agreement with the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). CMS reimburses its share of the costs when services are provided in the community to a person who would, if not for the provision waiver services, be institutionalized in an in-

termediate care facility for the mentally retarded (ICF/MR).

Based on the legislative authorization, the average cost of services per year per person in the waiver is \$13,522 for fiscal year 2008. This amount represents the average cost and is not a budget, allowance or an entitled amount of funds for each consumer. The cost of services for some consumers will be less than the average; whereas the cost for others, more. Some individuals may have costs that can equal the \$35,000 cap. However, the overall average cost for service (total funds appropriated divided by the number of individuals enrolled) cannot exceed \$13,522.

Service authorization is not based on the amount of funds available, but rather on the needs identified in the Individualized Plan. These needs shall be supported by assessments, medical and functional necessity, and professional judgment while taking into consideration any natural supports, third party sources, and/or the Medicaid State plan benefits. Any person whose needs cannot be safely met in

the community or for whom the cost of service to meet those needs exceeds the cost limitations in the waiver shall not be eligible to receive services through the waiver."

So what does this mean to us?

Most individuals and families involved with the Supported Living Services (SLS) waiver have probably heard the term "RAC," which refers to the Resource Allocation Committee at our local community-centered board, the Developmental Disabilities Resource Center (DDRC).

For the past number of years, the voting members of the RAC committee have been three individuals from the community and two staff

**See CHANGES on page 11**

## Are we looking in the right places for community resources?



**by Louise Todd-Stoll**  
Director of Indiv. & Family Support

Most of us in the disabilities arena tend to look "within" for resources when connecting folks with information, services, and supports.

Resource junkie that I am, I have typically been aware of

the more generic resources and work with these organizations to help them provide specialized supports. After all, if we are looking to be fully included in our community, doesn't it make sense that we look to generic community resources and—as needed—hold them accountable by helping them to be aware of people with developmental disabilities?

For example, the Jefferson County Council on Aging's role is to identify the needs, concerns and issues of older adults in Jefferson County. The Council advises and advocates for services that best meet these needs by actively encouraging

cooperation and coordination within Jefferson County. Kudos to them, they actually initiated and asked that The Arc and DDRC be represented in their planning.

While preparing a presentation for this group, I was delighted to find that the 9News web page ([9News.com](http://9News.com)) has a link on the right side entitled Senior Source, which provided me not only with information for the presentation, but more importantly opened my eyes to the reality that many of the issues we have been studying internally at The Arc were also right there at a click. It was refreshing to have this variety of information

collected in one place, without having to specifically go to each individual agency.

It was a lesson for me that I had not gone "broad enough and cast my net wide enough." Little do we know that what we may need is right around the corner and we are looking in all the wrong places.

Many services and supports available to seniors are also available to people with disabilities. It's worth the check to "cast one's net beyond" the services and supports traditionally offered by the disability community and see what is available in generic places and in one's own local community.

# Summit of Hope luncheon raises awareness

by **Todd Lowther**  
Executive Director

April 24 was a history-making day for The Arc in Jefferson County, as our first annual Summit of Hope community awareness and fund-raising luncheon was a resounding success. Despite the gloomy, rainy spring weather, more than 400 people braved the elements to learn about our work for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

After an action-packed program demonstrating our impact in the community, many of our guests rallied together to raise more than \$100,000 in one-time gifts and multi-year pledges to provide ongoing support for our mission.

The Summit of Hope is part of an ongoing effort to raise public awareness and support for our work in the community. In addition to the Summit of Hope, The Arc hosts monthly one-hour tours the first Wednesday of the month at noon, where participants are urged to Think Different about disabilities.

In this more casual and intimate setting, we cite individual stories about the effect of advocacy on in-



**Clockwise from top:** More than 400 guests packed into the ballroom of The Arvada Center to learn about The Arc of Jefferson County during our first annual Summit of Hope Luncheon; speaker and former board member Marilyn Broughton and her son Andrew; Executive Director Todd Lowther shares his vision. PHOTOS BY BRITTANY IBARRA & ANNE JENSEN

**Thanks to all of our generous donors!**

**Community of Hope**

Connie Bartram  
Paula Lowther  
Todd Lowther  
Charles & Margaret Mangieri  
Kathleen & Gerald Marrs  
Sarah & Bill Steinmiller  
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**Left:** Board member Mike Stanley speaks to the crowd. **Right:** Table captain Debbie Talvitie (far right) chats with her guests before the program. PHOTOS BY BRITTANY IBARRA & ANNE JENSEN

Simply put, we need to grow. Without new funds, we'll never catch up with the demand, which is why the Summit of Hope luncheon was a crucial step toward sustainable funding for our advocacy.

Now that our well-kept secret is out, we'd like you to help us spread the word about our work. Invite your friends, neighbors, and co-workers to a Think Different Tour. We'll even buy your lunch! All we're asking for right now is one hour of your time. No tricks up our sleeves. We think you'll be impressed with what you find.

Even if you think you know our work already, you may be surprised by what you didn't know about us. Maybe you're a long-time member and haven't been as involved as you used to be. Come to a tour, come see how we've changed, and how we're changing the lives of people with developmental disabilities.

To reserve a spot at a tour or for more information, please call Genni at (303) 232-1338, ext. 209 or by email at [genni@arcjc.org](mailto:genni@arcjc.org).

dividual lives, and discuss the major obstacles people with disabilities are facing today—like the waiting list crisis. Tour participants are inspired to get to know us better and to get involved to help us create political change.

Many of you already know The Arc. You know we're a grassroots organization devoted to advocacy for people with developmental disabilities and their families, free of charge. Maybe you've been to one of our trainings, or received guidance from one of our advocates.

No matter how you got to

know us, you know how deeply we believe in community, in strengthening community relationships and involvement. The Think Different Tours and Summit of Hope luncheon are ways for us to practice what we preach, to reach out to our community and invite people to be our allies in this effort to ensure the rights and dignity of people with disabilities are respected and honored.

At the same time, reaching out to our community has its down side, too. Despite being more than 40 years old, The Arc in Jefferson County has

been a well-kept secret. More often than not, people don't know we exist until they need our help, which means they often come to us already entrenched in a crisis that could have been prevented if they had found us sooner.

On the one hand, reaching out to our community will help us provide more proactive support for the people we serve. On the other hand, the demand for advocacy has already outpaced our ability to provide it, which means we're going to have to get creative to meet the rising demand.

Peggy Hannan  
Nancy Hanson  
Stacey Harkey  
Patricia Healey  
Angie Hempel  
John & Joann Herrick  
Patrick Hickey  
Barry Hinkley  
Diane Hitchingham  
Darl Hobson  
Art Hogling  
Carl Hohman  
John & Lisa Howes  
Becky Hudson  
Lynn Huizing  
Dody Jackson  
Kelli Jahn  
Sharon & Paul Jeffers  
Anne Jensen  
Bill Jewell

Jill Johnson  
Mary Lee Johnson  
Michelle Johnson  
Paula Jung  
Ron & Pat Jurann  
Peg Kastberg  
Joan Kemple  
Norm Kirsch  
Michelle Kline  
Ann Knollman  
Sherry Konkell  
Terri Kragness  
Melissa Kraai  
Rena Kuberski  
Julie Kuklenski  
Amy Kusek  
Carolyn Kwerneland  
Diane Lee  
Shirley Lee  
Leslie Levine

Lloyd & Leslie Lewis  
Laura Locke  
Teri Luba  
Vern & Jeanette Luft  
Patty Luke-Gysin  
Jodi Lundin  
Peter Macmillan  
Nick & Kathy Madsen  
David Manes  
Mona Mansfield  
Tasha Mansfield  
Ron Marquez  
Lisa & Jim Martinez  
Bob & Vi Martinez  
Kathy MacAdoo  
Linda McClelland  
Aileen McGinley  
Alyssa Meier  
Carol Meredith  
Karen Middleton

Joe Miklosi  
Glenda Miller  
Scott Mitchell  
Karen Moore  
Tom Mulvahill  
Rick Myles  
Tommy Neill  
Deb Oberbeck  
Sandy Olson  
Pamela Polito Orten  
Julie Osborne  
John Peery  
Hereford Percy  
Carolyn Peterson  
Leandrea Pfluger  
Frank Plaut  
Sal & Nora Polito  
Teddy Polito  
Jody Polito Minervini  
Valerie Pollitt

Jim Polsfut  
Betty Proctor  
Barb Ramsey  
LaRita Rau  
Barb Richardson  
Ellen Richen  
Dave Roark  
Karen Roberts  
Jan & Bill Roemish  
Anne Rossart  
Jenna Roth Peterson  
Sandy Russalesi  
Rebecca Saltman  
Wilbur Sanchez  
Sue Schafer  
Maura Scherrer  
Bill Sechler  
Susie Seitz  
Carl Shinn  
Dorothy Smith

JoAnn Smith  
Ron & Mary Snow  
Marilyn Spickler  
Kelly Stahlman  
Jim & Myrs Stanbraugh  
Mike & Sharon Stanley  
Kathleen Stapleton  
Gary Stebick  
Cindy Stevenson  
Bob Stollard  
Raejean Stotler  
Mickie Stover  
Susie Sutherland  
Debbie Talvitie  
Karen Taylor  
Phyllis Taylor  
Dennis Tetley  
Gerta Thompson  
Dorothy Threlkeld  
Ruth Thury

Betsy Tinker  
Louise Todd-Stoll  
Vickie Touchon  
Leane Vasquez  
Louise Vaughan  
Christine Vermilyea  
Sue Weimer  
Sharyl Whitaker  
Cindy Whitlock  
Wendy Wilson  
Shane Wright  
Rachel Wysuph  
Bob Zachman  
Debbie Ziemer  
JoAnn Zimmerman

# Summit of Hope



**Left:** Arc Thrift Stores President Lloyd Lewis shares his experiences as a parent. (L-R) Lloyd, Kennedy, Aiden, and Leslie Lewis.



**Below (L-R):** Board member Deb Karsell and guest Glenda Miller; Eddie Brauch makes an off-camera appearance; member, volunteer, and Arc Thrift employee Jodi Luft.



**Far Left:** Board member Diane Jurann.

**Left:** Arc of Arapahoe Douglas board President Kelly Stahlman with Kennedy Lewis.

PHOTOS BY BRITTANY IBARRA & ANNE JENSEN

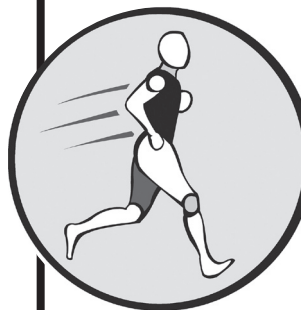


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# CHANGES from page 7

members from DDRRC. Voting members from the community were family members and/or parents and an Arc advocate; voting members from DDRRC were outside of the SLS department. These members of the RAC committee were the decision-makers regarding the actual SLS funding to be allocated to those in DDRRC's service area. The RAC committee efficiently managed a "pool" of allocated resources with input from SLS management to ensure equitable allocation.

In July 2006, as a result of federal Medicaid changes affecting both "Case Management Agencies" such as DDRRC and the state's Medicaid funded waivers, the RAC committee was disbanded. The decision-making for resource allocation is now being handled through an internal committee of DDRRC staff members, including Resource Coordination and SLS Department Management.

The changes to Medicaid resulted in a new direct billing system, which requires billing per individual by units (15-minute increments). The former "pool of allocated resources" is gone. There is no longer a pool of funds to be managed. The average resource amount is approximately \$13,522, which is the bottom line, as indicated in the memo above.

The Medicaid direct billing takes away the community centered board's ability to manage funds in an equitable fashion. This year, the changes are an interim step, and

the program is being "held harmless" from any major fiscal impact, and plans are being funded at previous year's amounts unless there have been significant documented "life changes" experienced. It has become increasingly difficult – if not impossible – to creatively bill for some services that have been funded in the past such as recreation, or some various transportation, etc.

Any additional funding over the allocation amount (roughly \$13,522) is coming out of an already financially strapped Colorado State budget. The state's Division for Developmental Disabilities system is struggling with a variety of major changes to Medicaid: the "unbundling of services" is creating major budget and billing changes as described above; and the new Supports Intensity Scale must be completed for all persons in the comprehensive waiver. Many more changes are looming on the horizon for those in the SLS waiver.

My true concern is that the average recipient of SLS funding may not be aware of the potential budget disaster that is being created, and that the state's response could be quite devastating to existing waivers. The Supported Living Services Department at DDRRC is between "a rock and a hard place." As a former member of RAC, I felt the need to bring this to the attention of the public. Please feel free to contact me with questions or comments.

## Membership & Contributions

### NEW MEMBERS

Willa Allen  
Becky Pyle  
Karen Stasica  
Cory & Michelle Hulin  
Corissa Oldham

### PLATINUM DONORS

Rachel Baldon  
Corissa Oldham

### GOLD DONORS

Cory & Michelle Hulin

### SILVER DONORS

Ava Goff

### RETURNING MEMBERS

Wille Babb  
Rueben Romero

## Support The Arc by becoming a member!

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual membership rates:** Individual \$15, Family \$19, Individual with developmental disability \$5, Couple with developmental disability \$7

Yes! I want to become a member of The Arc. My dues of \_\_\_\_\_ are enclosed.

Yes! I want to make a tax-deductible contribution:

by check Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_

by credit card Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:  VISA  MC

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please contact me about stock donations.

**Please send your completed form to:**

The Arc in Jefferson County  
8725 W. 14th Ave, Ste. 100  
Lakewood, CO 80215

*E-mail us your feedback or story ideas at [info@arcjc.org](mailto:info@arcjc.org). If you know someone we should feature, contact Genni at 303.232.1338 x209.*

# Calendar

## June 2007

### Wednesday, June 6

*ArcJC Think Different Tour.* 12 to 1 p.m.

### *Rocky Mountain Partners Aktion Club.*

ArcJC offices, 4 to 5 p.m.

*People First.* 6:30 to 8 p.m. Special spaghetti dinner in memory of Alan Feuer. See article page 1 for more information.

### Wednesday, June 20

### *Rocky Mountain Partners Aktion Club.*

ArcJC offices, 4 to 5 p.m.

*Board of Directors Meeting.* 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

### Thursday, June 21

*People First Coffee House.* 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Atlanta Bread Company, Alameda & Wadsworth

## July 2007

### Wednesday, July 4

*ArcJC offices closed for Independence Day.*

### Wednesday, July 11

*ArcJC Think Different Tour.* 12 to 1 p.m.

### Wednesday, July 18

### *Rocky Mountain Partners Aktion Club.*

ArcJC offices, 4 to 5 p.m.

*Annual Picnic.* Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

### Thursday, July 19

*People First Coffee House.* 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Atlanta Bread Company, Alameda & Wadsworth

## August 2007

### Wednesday, August 1

*ArcJC Think Different Tour.* 12 to 1 p.m.

### *Rocky Mountain Partners Aktion Club.*

ArcJC offices, 4 to 5 p.m.

*People First.* 6:30 to 8 p.m. Special spaghetti dinner in memory of Alan Feuer.

### Thursday, August 2

*Mobilizing Families Reunion.* See article page 2 for more information.

### Wednesday, August 15

### *Rocky Mountain Partners Aktion Club.*

ArcJC offices, 4 to 5 p.m.

*Board of Directors Meeting.* 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

### Thursday, August 16

*People First Coffee House.* 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Atlanta Bread Company, Alameda & Wadsworth.

# Save the date!

The Arc in Jefferson County's annual picnic will be held **July 18** at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. Don't miss out on the fun— mark your calendars now!



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