

Achieve With Us!

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Doubt kills more dreams than failure ever will.

Look for our Billboards in several different areas of the County from now until April 25th!

NOW HIRING

Caring Support Professionals

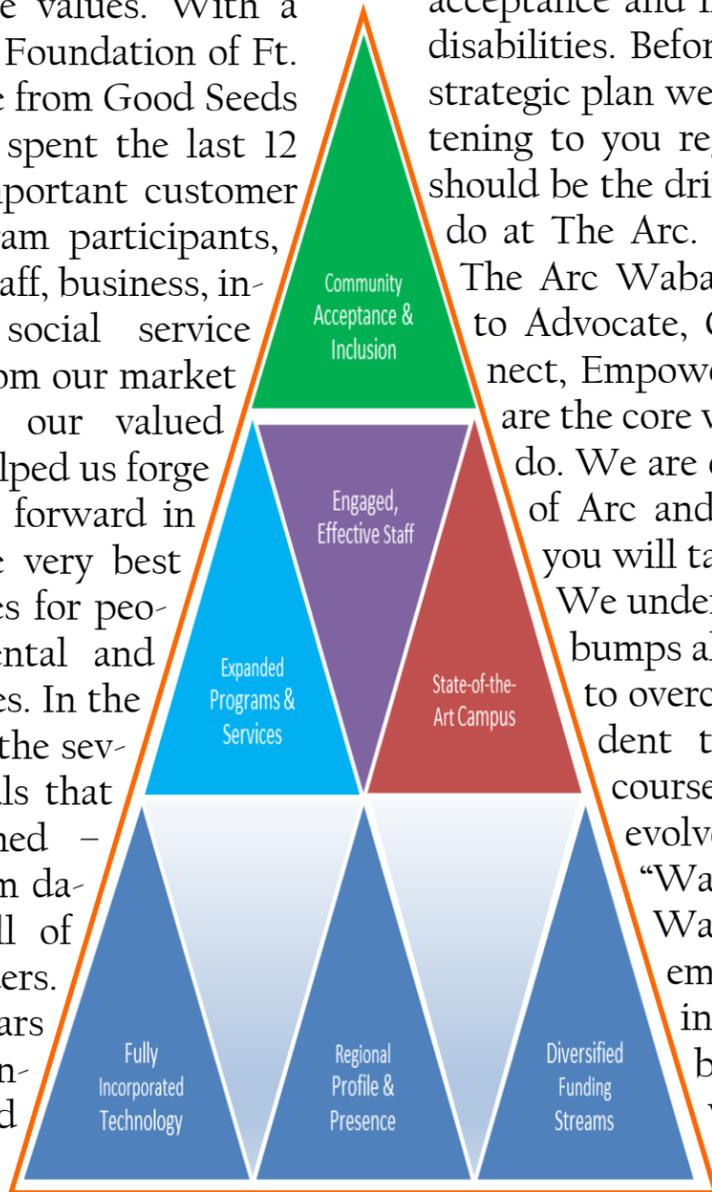
**COMPETITIVE PAY & BENEFITS
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Turning Disability into Possibility through Opportunity!

“Planning is bringing the future into the present so that we can do something about it now.” The Arc Wabash County is excited to reveal a new strategic plan along with newly identified core values. With a grant from the AWS Foundation of Ft. Wayne, and guidance from Good Seeds Consulting, Arc has spent the last 12 months gathering important customer feedback from program participants, parents, guardians, staff, business, industry, education, social service agencies, and even from our market competitors. You, our valued stakeholders, have helped us forge a fresh, new journey forward in order to provide the very best programs and services for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. In the pyramid you can see the seven core strategic goals that have been established – these goals arose from data collected from all of you, our stakeholders. Over the next four years Arc will be intentionally moving toward completion of these



seven strategic goals, which will include a new state-of-the-art facility, enhanced and expanded innovative programs and services, and growth in community-wide acceptance and inclusion of people with disabilities. Before we established a new strategic plan we spent valuable time listening to you regarding the values that should be the driving force behind all we do at The Arc. It was determined that The Arc Wabash County must aspire to Advocate, Care, Collaborate, Connect, Empower, and Innovate - these are the core values behind all that we do. We are excited about the future of Arc and we are overjoyed that you will take this journey with us. We understand that there will be bumps along the way – obstacles to overcome – but we are confident that we can “stay the course,” change, grow, and evolve into an even greater “Wabash original.” The Arc Wabash County has been empowering and supporting individuals with disabilities since 1954, and we know our future is bright.

Jeff

Arc Introduces 2020 Employee of the Year

Name: Heather Enyeart

Title: Community Employment Supervisor

Years at Arc: 3 years. I left for awhile but came back because I missed Arc so much!

Family/Children/Pets: Husband, Nick; son, Eli; daughter, Remi. We have 3 cats, 4 fish, and 2 hamsters.

Hobbies: Kayaking, camping, fishing, really anything outside, karaoke.

Favorite Food: I am not a picky eater, but if I had to choose I would say any kind of pasta.

Favorite Color: Purple.

Favorite Actor: Shemar Moore, for obvious reasons.

Favorite TV show: Outlander.

Favorite Movie: I don't have one favorite, but I do like historical movies – especially WWI/WWII movies.

Favorite Sports Team: The Cubs.

Favorite Book: White Oleander.

Favorite Thing To Do on a Day Off: I am currently a full-time student. Any day that I don't have to spend doing school work is a good day. Summertime really is my happy place.

When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

I wanted to be a high school band director.

Name a place outside the US you'd like to visit but never have.

Definitely Scotland.

Got any pet peeves?

Oh yes. Men who still think they are better than women.

How did you find out you'd won the Arc 2020 Employee of the Year Award? Since our annual awards dinner was cancelled last year, awards were given out during an inservice. I actually took that day off so I missed it. I had no clue until the next week when Lindsay called me to her office, I really thought I was in trouble by the way she sounded. She handed me the award and I was definitely surprised. Of course I put a lot into my job, but so do many others at Arc!

What does an Employment Supervisor do?

The simple answer is assisting consumers to find employment in the community. When working with an individual, we explore interests, strengths, and even weaknesses to come up with a good employment goal for that individual. Resumes, job shadows, informational interviews, trial work experiences, job readiness training, and mock interviews can all be a part of the process. After securing employment, I am able to provide support on the job site if needed. Everyone is different, so what that support looks like can be vastly different from one individual to the next.

What part of Arc's new strategic plan excites you the most?

For sure the new building. We need an upgrade and more room!

If you were President/CEO of Arc for a day, what would be your top priority?

First, I would make Covid go away. In all seriousness though, whenever it is safe and we are able to do so, we need a huge party!

What is one thing (just one) that a consumer has taught you?

We focus a lot on goals at Arc. Everyone has a goal for each program that they participate in, but sometimes as staff I think we forget that we have things that we need to work on as well. I used to work with an individual who absolutely hated me. She would literally say "I like that one and that one and that one but NOT THAT ONE" as she pointed at all of the staff members in the workshop. I always wondered what it was that she didn't like about me. I finally just asked one day after she blew the "cooties" off of the parts that I had just touched. She said "Because I don't know you!" It was in that moment that I realized that I need to work on being more open. That will always be a work in progress for me, but I am happy to say that this individual knows me now!



Arc's Community Employment Supervisor, Heather Enyeart, is the recipient of the 2020 Arc Employee of the Year Award.



Arc Welcomes New Board Member

The Arc Wabash County's newest board member is Andrea Zwiebel. The true test--can you pronounce her last name? (Zwee-bull!) Andrea moved to Wabash with her husband Adam. The Zwiebel family includes two kids, daughter Emerson and son Adler, and lots of pet animals! Andrea is the Executive Director of Wabash Marketplace. The nonprofit focuses on downtown revitalization with activities such as First Friday and Farmers Market. If you see Andrea in Downtown Wabash, be sure to say hello!

HOW TO GET INVOLVED WITH *THE ARC*

There are many different ways to be involved with the Arc Wabash County. You can join our team! We currently have **Direct Support Professional (DSP)** positions available to provide care, guidance, and companionship to those who live in our Arc homes and apartments. We have a **Community Support Program/Participant Assistance and Care** position available. The CSP/PAC role involves assisting people with disabilities in their volunteer, recreational, and personal endeavors in the local Wabash County community. We are also currently interviewing **Artists** in order to expand our Art Program. Do you paint? Watercolors, oil, acrylic? Do you make jewelry or candles or leather goods or things out of wood, or perhaps you enjoy photography? Or perhaps you like to cook and bake? We are looking for artists and craftspeople who are caring, compassionate, and looking to teach others. The artist position is part-time paid or as a volunteer. The DSP positions can be part-time or full-time, and the CSP/PAC position is full-time. Another way to get involved is to **Volunteer**. Volunteers can contribute by helping with special projects, assisting staff with our clients, or making an in-kind donation of your time by contributing your expertise in skilled areas such as marketing, public relations, fundraising, grant-writing, or computer technology. An exciting way for young adults to get involved at Arc is to explore an **Internship** in the fields of social services, marketing, IT, or other industry-related areas. With the launch of Arc's new four year Strategic Plan, there has never been a better time to "get on board!"

Words of Healing

Differently-Abled

A train led me to have one arm and struggle day by day,

Maybe there's something you've struggled with,

Be it MS, blindness, deafness, epilepsy, etc. that you have today,

But everyone including me has something we struggle with.

I used to struggle thinking positively,

Always thinking negatively,

Now I shine,

And so can you shine.

You just have to let go,

Let go of negative thoughts,

Like I had after my accident,

And trust me you're far from ugly, worthless, or crazy, my friend.

You are God's creation.

Blessed not cursed.

Strong,

Not weak.

Amazing

~Abigail Deuter

"Oh, gosh, hundreds of them!" Abigail Deuter exclaimed when asked how many poems she has written. "Most of them I wrote before the accident. I remember those being the best ones, but I can't find them."

Deuter, known at Arc as simply "Abi," enjoys several creative outlets, including art and graphic design, but has enjoyed a mentionable level of online success with her poetry. She has been a participant in Arc's Industrial Services Program since moving to Wabash in 2019.

"I don't write everyday anymore; only when an idea hits me. I also have lots of short stories in my head, but since the accident, writing them down these days is tedious and frustrating. I write poems at a slower pace. My left hand can keep up with that kind of word-crafting process, but other forms of writing...not so much. Too slow."

Abi nearly lost her life to a brain injury in 2013 as the result of a train accident. She fought to survive, waking two days later to discover she had lost her right arm above her elbow. "I was right-handed. I've had to learn to do everything with my left hand. I manage really well. I'm just slow when I write and draw."



Oh The Way She Laughs

Oh the way she laughs,

You wouldn't know she's beginning to crumble away,

She's making a wish on a passing train to cross paths,

She's talking to angels and God today.

She's been locked inside the darkness for ages,

She's waiting on superman to unlock the cages,

She says, "Yeah he's coming. He's just stuck cleaning up my mess"

"After all I'm nothing, but a big stress"

But what she doesn't know,

Is she's already found her superhero in God's arms,

And He'll protect her from what she doesn't know,

And she'll wait another day to see Him face to face and arm in arm.

~Abigail Deuter

Even after being a practiced writer for half of her life, Abi aspires to improve. "I'll be starting a creative writing class soon. I have some art classes lined up too." She revealed that she finds herself being more intentional about drawing and painting than writing these days. Abi is proud to share her piece entitled, **Differently Abled**. "I'm not even sure it's a poem but I think that everyone should know that they are important and valuable. There are a lot of people who don't think they are. I've been there. My poems helped me explore that and get through a rough time and be able to look at life with much more hope. I hope they can help others too."