

milestones

enrich • empower • educate

Fall 20

WE WON!

Teen Club Wins Team Up Challenge and \$10,000!

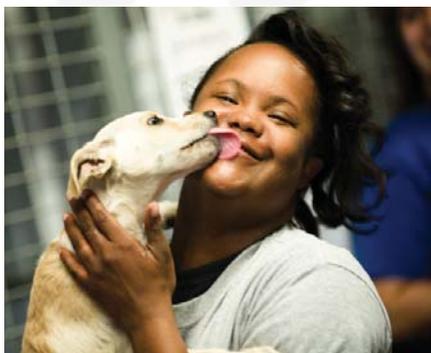
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“I knew we would win,” said Noah with a beaming smile. His enthusiasm contagious as he, Kyle, and Cody gave each other high fives after the announcement. The Arc of San Antonio was selected as one of the three champions as part of

the Team Up Challenge presented by the Silver & Black Give Back Foundation and AT&T. The teens created Team Up 4 Pets which provides dog and cat food for pet loving home-bound seniors and families experiencing financial hardship. Often, seniors and families in economic distress cannot provide for their four-legged friends.

For one hour each day, the Team Up 4 Pets crew packaged donated pet food into gallon-sized zip lock bags and distributed the pet meals through Meals On Wheels, local food pantries and animal rescue groups.

The Team Up 4 Pets Project is a great way for our teens to learn multiple life, social, vocational and community awareness skills. They’ve learned how to create and work in an assembly line to scoop, package and label food. They’re realizing how to benefit from each other’s specific abilities and disabilities.

Cody, has cerebral palsy and is limited with his mobility. But that doesn’t stop him from helping with the

production of the project. He and his partner work together.



“We work fast together because she peels the label fast and I can stick it on,” Cody says with a sense of pride.

All of the teens, no matter the disability, work on the project. The teens with limited mobility stack the completed packages on their wheelchair trays and transport them to a long table to unload.

By working within a team, the children are learning social skills. And, as expected, some disputes arise. The word around school is that scooping the food into the bags is the coveted job. The team developed a great work around that was also budget-friendly.

Then of course, we had the cat lovers vs. the dog lovers. At first, some team members only wanted to package

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Serving People With Developmental Disabilities

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the big picture



Steve Enders, President/CEO

Are we all surviving the summer heat?? Fortunately, fall is around the corner and will signal both traditional events and some new things at The Arc. We are busy planning for our October 10th Achievers Banquet, one of the highlights of our year. Celebrating the successes of our participants at The Arc and of those who are involved with our many partner agencies in San Antonio is what we're all about. We're planning on a great evening!

We will also begin promoting our 25th anniversary Gala to be held on March 2nd. This year we will be honoring the Mays Family. The Mays Family Foundation has supported The Arc for

many years and was a major sponsor of our new pool at the Pam Stephens Center. We are thrilled to recognize their tremendous community spirit at our annual Gala.

We are still working hard on more improvements to our day habilitation program, aided by contributions from many individuals, corporations, and foundations. New activities and curriculum and more staff training to provide a more exciting and engaging experience for our participants remains our focus. And our child care rooms at the West Avenue Center are getting a face lift! Remodeling of this area starts at the end of August, courtesy of a grant from The Charity Ball Association.



As always, thanks to all of you who support what we do and for recognizing the needs of those in our community with a disability.

-Steve Enders



(team up challenge cont.)

either cat or dog food. But after a team meeting about how all pets need to eat nutritional food each day, they were able to find a common ground.

This project not only gives back to the community, it also continues to teach children with disabilities a multitude of skills so that they do not regress during the summer while out of school. There is a true sense of job ownership as team members stake their claim on the scooping, zipping or labeling jobs. A sense of duty toward these animals has also been instilled. As Kenyatta says, "You can't just give dogs jalapenos." This project allows pets and their owners to each have their own nutritional food.

"We made all of this!" said Johnna when walking into the room, eyes wide and face beaming. The teens are packaging it quicker than they can move it. An entire classroom at the Holmgreen Center has been overrun with individually packaged pet meals.

Through a partnership with Meals on Wheels, the team received a special pet food delivery route. The San Antonio Food Bank and Girl Scouts have also picked up

boxes of food. The teens donated over 150 pounds to the Animal Defense League.

Creating meals isn't the only part of the Team Up Challenge the team has been involved with. They've colored and distributed flyers requesting donations, designed banners promoting the online voting part of the challenge, and manned booths at a Silver Stars game and at the San Antonio Pet Expo and Mega Adoption Event. The team has completely taken on the responsibility of making their Team Up 4 Pets project a success.

In August, Noah, Tina, Kyle and Cody presented their project to the Silver Black Give Back Foundation in hopes of winning \$10,000 for The Arc of San Antonio. The group did a great job talking about their project to a group of about 20 community and corporate leaders.

The teens received special on-court recognition at the Silver Stars game on August 21st at the AT&T Center.

We are very proud of our champions!



Special thanks to Katie Funk for sharing the Team Up Challenge pictures!




2012
Achievers
 of the Year
Awards Banquet

October 10, 2012
 Morgan's Wonderland

Gordon Hartman
 Master of Ceremonies

The Achievers of the Year Awards Banquet is an annual event which honors children and adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities for reaching milestones in their lives. Awards are given to individuals who have accomplished a major goal such as learning to walk or communicate, getting a job in the community, or improving a basic skill.

Tickets are \$10 per person. Space is limited.



*The Arc of
 San Antonio's*

25th Annual Gala

honoring

Mays Family Foundation

March 2, 2013

JW Marriott Hill Country Resort

presented by

The Gordon Hartman Family Foundation

Summer Fun

Our summer program is quickly coming to an end, and it seems like we just started. We've been busy going swimming, on field trips, playing games and a whole lot more.

Our children and teens have enjoyed visits from The San Antonio Museum of Art, The San Antonio River Authority and VIA Transportation.

The San Antonio Museum of Art gave a presentation on animal art from around the world. The group identified all the animals using a map. Afterward, everyone created a mask that looked like their favorite animal.



Melissa Cornelius, Director of Curriculum at mcornelius@arc-sa.org or 210-490-4300 ext. 135.



The San Antonio River Authority brought us a huge 3-D model of San Antonio's rivers, lakes and terrain.

VIA Transportation stopped by to teach everyone about the San Antonio VIA Transportation system. They gave a tour of the bus, letting the kids try their hand at some of the controls.

The Arc of San Antonio loves having community partners get involved in our curriculum. If you or someone you know would like to give a presentation or contribute to the curriculum, contact

Tools⁴ School

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over and children are getting ready to go back to school. Many of our children in our Comprehensive School-Based Case Management (CSCM) program need back to school supplies including back packs, paper, pencils, crayons and more.

Our CSCM case managers work with over 900 families who are caring for children with special needs. The majority of these families are classified as low-income and need a little help from our friends in the San Antonio community.

You can help children with special needs go back to school with the tools they need to be successful. Pick up an extra ream of paper or box of crayons while you are shopping for your own children and drop them off at either of our Arc of San Antonio locations (13430 West Avenue or 6530 Wurzbach Road).

Help give our children the Tools for School.



planning for the future

An educational series of workshops designed to help parents and caregivers prepare for the future. All presentations will be held at The Arc of San Antonio, 6530 Wurzbach, SATX 78240



SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION FROM SCHOOL TO ADULTHOOD BEGINS TODAY! TIPS FOR PARENTS *Presented by Nancy Hunter, Private Consultant*

Transitioning starts as early as grade school! This introduction to the transition process will help caregivers think about the future and discover their child's interests, preferences and strengths. Learn the importance of setting goals for life after high school and learn to design middle and high school experiences to promote independence.

When: Saturday • September 15th, 2012 • 9:00am - 11:00am

OVERVIEW OF POST HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS *Presented by Pam Stephens, Rose Lozano-Zombrano and Larry Rodriguez*

An overview will be provided about local college opportunities, day programs and residential programs available for the student with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities preparing to exit the special education system.

When: Saturday • October 27th 2012 • 9:00am - 11:00am

INTRODUCTION TO SUPPORT AGENCIES *Panel Representation: Alamo Local Authority, Department of Assistive Rehabilitative Services, and Social Security*

Join us for a panel discussion with three local programs that provide funding and programs for individuals with disabilities. Representatives from each program will be available to provide an overview and Q&A.

When: Saturday • November 17th, 2012 • 9:00am - 11:00am

MEDICAID WAIVER PROGRAMS

Panel Representation: CLASS, HCS and MDCP

Participants will learn about the Interest "Lists" and Medicaid Waiver programs: What are they and why are they important to families of children and adults with developmental disabilities? Representatives from each Waiver will be available to provide an overview and Q&A.

When: Saturday • January 19th, 2013 • 9:00am - 11:00am

GUARDIANSHIP

Presented by Julie Balovich and Monica Guerra, Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid

A disability does not automatically mean that an individual needs a guardian. During this workshop, you will learn whether your child or other family member should have a guardian and how to obtain guardianship. You will also learn about alternatives to guardianship for higher functioning individuals. ***A session in Spanish will be offered simultaneously***

When: Saturday • March 9th, 2013 • 9:00am - 11:00am

**TO REGISTER, PLEASE CONTACT HEATHER LONG AT
(210) 490-4300 EXT. 113 OR
HLONG@ARC-SA.ORG**

***Child Care: The Respite Care of San Antonio** offers Family Day Out at the Pam Stephens Center on Saturdays from 9:00am - 4:00pm. You **MUST** be registered with Respite to utilize this service.

Contact Oralia Waldron at (210) 737-1212 to reserve child care.



The Perfect Gift!

And you don't have to wait in a line!



It's hard year after year to run to the mall and look for a perfect birthday, graduation, promotion or bar mitzvah gift!

Now you can give a gift that keeps on giving. By donating a monetary gift to The Arc in honor of your special person, you are recognizing an achievement and helping children and adults with special needs.

We will send an acknowledgment card to your honoree and recognize him or her here in our newsletter that is seen by over 2,000 people. That is better than

the Jumbo Screen at the Mission's game!

Donating in memory of a loved one who has passed away is also a wonderful opportunity to create a living legacy.

Give a gift that will never be returned, re-gifted or put in the back of a closet. Your gift today to The Arc of San Antonio helps our children and adults with disabilities reach their maximum potential.

Memorial Gifts

In memory of **Esther Stockton**

Betty Binkley
Paul and Liz Deshotel
Jesse Holland
Midway Community Church
Joanne Perdue
Mrs. Conway Stockton
Carolyn West

Jeff McLane

Pam & Ken Stephens

Honor Gifts

In honor of **The Arc Staff**

Bernard and Florence
McGaffigan

Steven Lubbering

Thomas and Diana Gendry

The Arc of San Antonio Needs Your Support

Each year, The Arc of San Antonio helps over 7,000 families in San Antonio with family members living with an intellectual and/or developmental disability (I/DD). **You can support The Arc of San Antonio in many ways:**

Cash Gifts: Support The Arc with cash, check or credit card. It is the quickest way to see immediate results of your donations at work.

Honorary & Memorial Gifts: A thoughtful and wonderful way to recognize a person's life and accomplishments. When you make an honorary or memorial gift to The Arc of San Antonio, we will notify the honoree or next of kin with a special note.

Planned Giving: Create a living legacy by including The Arc of San Antonio in your estate planning. You can do this several ways by **designating stocks, bonds, real estate or life insurance to The Arc of San Antonio.**

To make a donation, please use the enclosed envelope. For more information on how you can help The Arc of San Antonio, contact Beth Green, Director of Development, (210) 490-4300 ext 127 or bgreen@arc-sa.org.





Serving People With Developmental Disabilities

The Arc of San Antonio
13430 West Avenue
San Antonio, TX 78216

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20,000 Hours and counting...



Members of the V.I.P.s with swimsuits for SAMMinistries.

The Arc's V.I.P. (Volunteer Involvement Program) started in October 2011 as a way for adults with disabilities to give back to the community. And boy, have they given back!

As of August 2012, the V.I.P.s have performed over 20,000 person/hours of community service for local non-profits such as Meals on Wheels, The San Antonio Food Bank and Animal Defense League.

In addition to performing volunteer work, the V.I.P.s host a weekly snack bar to raise money for activities. Instead of spending the proceeds on a movie day or a lunch for themselves, they continue to give back to the community.

In July, the V.I.P.s purchased girl swimsuits and donated them to SAMMinistries. In August, the V.I.P.s donated over \$100 in school supplies to the Alamo Local Authority (ALA) for intellectual and developmental disabilities. ALA is distributing school supplies to local families caring for children with disabilities.

The V.I.P.s are still going strong and committed to making a difference in San Antonio!