Celebrating Achievement!

2018 Achievers of the Year Awards

Each year, The Arc of San Antonio hosts its annual Achievers of the Year Awards Banquet, where individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities are honored for their accomplishments. This year, we honored 28 Achievers from 27 local agencies!

Achiever awards are given to people who have accomplished a goal or major milestone during the year, such as getting a job in the community, learning a new task or improving a basic skill.

Returning to host this event favorite, held at Morgan’s Wonderland, were local businessman and Philanthropist, Gordon Hartman and KSAT Meteorologist, Adam Caskey.

The Arc has been hosting the Achievers Banquet for over 30 years. This year’s nominees spanned in age from 3 to 80 years old and were celebrated for various achievements such as living independently and inspiring others to achieve their own accomplishments.

The Arc honored three recipients this year: West Avenue’s Tameka Hughes & Shaun Dooley, and the Pam Stephens Center’s Omar Saldana.

To see more photos from the 2018 Achievers Banquet click here.
Great Times at the 2018 Achievers Banquet

The Arc of San Antonio celebrated another successful annual Achievers Banquet on September 26th.

Special thanks to all of the participating agencies, Gordon Hartman, Adam Caskey, sponsors Valero, News 4 San Antonio/Fox 29/ CW35, Amerigroup, Community First Health Plans, Williams-Chadwick Family Charitable Fund, Whataburger, & The City of San Antonio District 9, and all of the volunteers for making this event so successful.

Participating agencies included:

AACOG
Advantage Care Services
Alamo Heights ISD Transition Program
Angel Care Center of San Antonio
Any Baby Can
Autism Treatment Center
Brighton Center
CAMP Camp
Centers for Children & Families
Down Syndrome Association of South Texas
Eva’s Heroes
Foundation School for Autism
Helping Hands Day Habilitation
Kinetic Kids, Inc.

One for Autism Academy
Providence Northeast
R+K Specialized Homes
Reaching Maximum Independence
Regency Community Services, Inc.
TEAMability
The Academy at Morgan’s Wonderland
The Arc of San Antonio—Pam Stephens Center
The Arc of San Antonio—West Ave
The Bridge at Morgan’s Wonderland
Trinity Baptist Church/Special Friends
Unicorn Center

Thank You Sponsors!
Welcome back to Milestones, our newsletter concerning all things at The Arc of San Antonio, where every day is a mixture of work and FUN for our clients, participants, staff, volunteers, board and, most assuredly, our supporters. As we revitalize Milestones, I’ll be visiting with you as to how the “Big Picture” looks to all of us.

Below you’ll find some interesting statistics on how what we do improves the lives of so many in our special needs community. With 15 months under my shiny new Arc belt, I’m know that while facts count, my experience over four decades in nonprofit service reminds me that stories matter.

My friend Dave Sanderson came to town recently to speak to several groups about his experience as a passenger on US Airways Flight 1549 and its 2009 “Miracle on the Hudson” landing in New York City. That defining moment created the rest of Dave’s life, as he uses the lessons of that day to help others understand how to create purpose in their lives.

It struck me in listening to Dave that we at The Arc do just that: we bring purpose to our community’s outreach and support of special needs individuals. From the three hundred individuals who participate in our daily Adult Life Enrichment program to the nearly 1,400 children and adults we serve through our three case management programs, we help them and their families find resources and assistance while participating fully in their lives.

Much more to come as we continue this journey together. It’s a privilege to work with everyone associated with The Arc and with our many colleagues across the metro area to fill every day with purpose…and enjoyment. Many thanks to all of you for your support, without which we could not do this important and fulfilling work.
## Summary of Audited Financial Statements

*year ending June 30, 2018*

### Support & Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Grants &amp; Contributions</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Way</td>
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<td>Special Events</td>
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<td>Program Services</td>
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<td>Contract Services</td>
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<td>Other Incomes</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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### Expenses

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Occupancy</td>
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<td>Equip. &amp; Supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,838,919</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Revenues
- Events (Net), 5%
- Grants & Contributions, 25%
- United Way, 2%
- State Contracts, 26%
- Program Income, 41%
- Other, 1%

### Expenses
- Personnel, 82%
- Occupancy, 7%
- Equipment & Supplies, 5%
- Other, 6%
Tameka Hughes

In Tameka Hughes’ dreams, she does not have cerebral palsy. She can walk, talk, sing and dance like anyone else. But in her waking life, Tameka, who is 35, is wheelchair bound and speaks with the aid of an electronic communications device. She needs assistance with nearly every aspect of her daily life.

Tameka has been coming to The Arc of San Antonio for more than a decade to participate in the Adult Life Enrichment program. With a ready smile and a keen sense of humor, she seems to know everyone at The Arc. She writes a monthly blog on The Arc’s website and, with assistance from other participants, produces an in-house newsletter and periodic flyers to keep participants and families informed about Arc activities, special dates, holiday closings and other information. She is known as The Arc’s “editor in chief.” A voracious reader, she uses her communications device to read books to other Arc participants and she also writes children’s stories.

“I feel like The Arc gives me a purpose in the world,” she said. “I have a place where I can use my unique writing talents to speak for the participants who cannot speak to their parents. I feel like The Arc is the place that the universe has chosen for me to be, because it is the one place where I can help others.”

Without The Arc, she said, “I would be at home without anything to do. I would be bored and lonely.”

Continued on page 6
An only child, Tameka lives with her mother, Lola, but grew up with her four younger cousins, whom she regards as brothers and sisters. “Also, I think of some of the other Arc participants as brothers and sisters,” she added.

A graduate of John Marshall High School and the Nellie M. Reddix Transitional School in San Antonio, she still keeps up with school friends via Facebook. She loved school, especially English and creative writing classes. “The only thing that I disliked about school is when the other students would call me a teacher’s pet,” she said. “But, I would simply reply, ‘I might be a teacher’s pet, but I am a teacher’s pet who is on the ‘A’ Honor Roll.’ Which would leave the other students speechless.”

She finds it incredibly frustrating that people sometimes ask her mother if she can understand them speaking – right in front of her – rather than asking Tameka herself. “Or they talk to me in a baby voice,” she said. “Just because I have a speech problem doesn’t mean I’m not a smart person.”

Tameka thinks of herself as an activist for people with disabilities and wants “to stand up for people who cannot stand up for themselves,” she said.

“I’m a regular human soul with emotions, hopes and dreams.”
Upcoming Events

Pie for a Purpose

Generously sponsored by The Weisinger Law Firm, this year’s Pie for a Purpose will be held on November 13th. Arc families and friends are invited to join us for an afternoon of pie and a supply drive/fundraiser in support of The Arc! Click here for more information.

Wrap The Arc in Cheer

Each year, we run a program called “Wrap the Arc in Cheer” which provides Holiday gifts for Arc families who are lacking in financial resources. These families are nominated by case managers and Arc program directors and sponsored by amazingly generous individuals (and companies) throughout our San Antonio community.

Information about sponsoring a family will be available mid November at this link.
Join The Arc of San Antonio on Friday, December 7th from 6 PM - 8 PM at Kendra Scott at The Shops at La Cantera for a Holiday Kendra Gives Back Party. Come hang out with your friends and enjoy drinks and sweet treats while you complete your holiday shopping. 20% of all proceeds from the event will be donated back to The Arc of San Antonio. [Click here](#) for more information.

**2019 Roses & Races Gala**
Join us, Saturday, May 4th on the breathtaking hilltop of the La Cantera Resort & Spa, where the spectacular views of the Hill Country meet true Texas hospitality, for an evening of elegant Southern Cuisine, Kentucky Derby highlights, Mint Juleps, Live and Silent Auctions, and everyone’s favorite: The Race to Independence! Roses & Races is the largest annual fundraiser for The Arc of San Antonio. [Click here](#) to see photos from the 2018 Roses & Races Gala.
Planning for the Future is a series of workshops designed to help self-advocates and parents/caregivers of children/young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities walk through the steps required to plan for a successful future.

**When?**
Select Saturdays
9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

**Where**
The Arc of San Antonio—Pam Stephens Center
6530 Wurzbach Rd
San Antonio, TX, 78240

Register by contacting Liz Perez at
210-490-4300 ext. 103 or lperez@arc-sa.org
Click here for more information

**Planning for the Future Series**
Financial Planning
This session will provide general information with regards to Financial Planning for individuals and family members with Special Needs. Information on Special Needs Trusts and ABLE Act will also be provided. Special Needs Trusts allow individuals to retain vital resources without losing essential benefits.

Saturday, November 17, 2018
9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
6530 Wurzbach Rd, SA, TX, 78240
Contact Liz Perez to register
210-490-4300 ext. 103
lperez@arc-sa.org

**Planning for the Future Series**
Life After High School
During this session, we will explore and discuss different post-secondary programs including day programs that young adults can utilize as they transition from a school to a community setting. TWC-VR will also present program information.

Saturday, January 19, 2019
9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
6530 Wurzbach Rd, SA, TX, 78240
Contact Liz Perez to register
210-490-4300 ext. 103
lperez@arc-sa.org

**Planning for the Future Series**
Social Security Overview
Attendees of this session will learn the difference between SSI and SSDI, as well as eligibility and the application process. Additional topics include fair share, appeals, and Disabled Adult Child (DAC).

Saturday, April 6, 2019
9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
6530 Wurzbach Rd, SA, TX, 78240
Contact Liz Perez to register
210-490-4300 ext. 103
lperez@arc-sa.org

*Childcare is not offered by The Arc of San Antonio during these sessions, however, respite is available on-site through Respite Care of San Antonio with registration and reservation. For more information, contact Respite Care of San Antonio at 210-737-1212.
We are pleased to share that we will be hosting a new Support Group. This will be an opportunity for families in the special needs community to meet, mingle, and support each other in a friendly and safe environment. This is for families and caregivers of individuals of all ages. The first meeting will be for families to tell us what topics they are most interested in. We will then be facilitating speakers to come and present on these topics. We will alternate the presentation months with parent led discussions.

**WHEN:** Our first meeting will be **November 16, 2018 6:30-7:30 pm.**

**WHERE:** 6530 Wurzbach Rd-The Arc of San Antonio Pam Stephens Center

**RSVP:** Please RSVP to Allison at 210-490-4300 x 133 or acampbell@arc-sa.org

**Upcoming 2019 meetings**

- **January 18th**
- **March 1st**
- **April 5th**
- **May 17th**
- **June 14th**

*Child care is not provided by The Arc of San Antonio during this meeting, however, respite is available on site through Special Reach with registration and reservation. For more information on Special Reach contact them at 210–784-7478*