

Fall 2005



THE ARC OF SEDGWICK COUNTY

Arc E-Newsletter

Planning for OUR Future

'Strategic Planning', it sounds like an overwhelming task. How do we plan "strategically" for our future and what exactly does that mean. That we will soon find out.

The Arc board is having a retreat this October to focus on a Strategic Plan for The Arc of Sedgwick County, which means it is a plan for all of us. The plan will be developed by looking at what is happening at The Arc and what we foresee happening in the future.

We will look at our mission statement. I have addressed before that it needs some attention. It must reflect who we are, who we serve, but say it in a way that is concise. We will look at the factors that the staff feel are impacting what we do. Funding restrictions, a changing client base, and space issues just to name a few. Then we will some how develop a plan to address these issues, so that the board can implement a plan covering our next 5 years.

This whole process will not be easy. This is not something that can be thrown together and we need direction. We have secured professional help. We have secured with Marla Flentje, a professional consultant with years of experience guiding businesses through retreats and plan development just like this. What makes her even more capable of looking at what is happening within The Arc is that she is a parent and an Arc member. Her heart is within The Arc. She also has board experience and currently chairs the board of directors at Starkey. We are truly blessed to have her knowledge and experience guiding us through this process.

It really is a daunting task. We serve literally thousands each year and our numbers are growing. We are already outgrowing our nearly new building. We are outgrowing our busses and up-keep on our aging vehicles is a concern. Many we serve need more as-

sistance than some of our programs were designed for due to behavioral issues.

This plan effects all of us. It effects those in the programs, the volunteers and staff working the programs, and the costs and resource restraints that will effect the programs. This planning process is only one step in the process. This is the master plan that is meant to get us started, but it will need to be updated. We have to be ready for changes that we will have to deal with. This is not the end all solution for what's to come. We will need the support of our membership, leadership from our board, and the commitment of all involved as we move forward.

At our membership meeting on November 7th we hope to update you on some of the happenings at the retreat and what some of the plans are for the up-coming year. Please plan to join us as we look toward our future.



How Things Are Looking



The Arc has received notifications from the United Way allocation committee that we are expected to receive an additional \$20,000 for our new 'Circle of Friends' program. In tough economic times it is difficult to secure new funds for programs and the United Ways' funds are just as tight. We are excited that the allocation committee volunteers see the importance of a mentoring program like this and what it could mean in our community.

Michael Porter, CPA, presented his independent audit report to The Arc board of Directors. Mr. Porter, once again, had a very positive report to share with high marks for the efforts staff are making to ensure accuracy and accountability. He had high praise for Arc ac-

countant Stacey Evans for the work she does and her assistance in getting all needed information to the audit team.

The Arc Management Team is working on developing new procedures and up-dating policies within the organization. As an agency we are accountable to numerous entities from our own membership and client base to the County, state and federal government. We just want to make sure we are doing all we can to assure things are done correctly at every level of programming.

We are also working on developing a new database system to hopefully simplify paper work for families and allow The Arc to track changes of information

easily. The new system should be up and running at the first of the year .

The Arc website continues to develop as a resource for families. New Links, added calendars, and informational updates can all be seen. We are always looking for feedback, so please go to the contact us section of the website and share your thoughts. In the coming year we hope to add E-commerce allowing families to make donations through the site and eventually pay for trips and events while making reservations on-line.

Visit us on line at:

www.arc-sedgwickcounty.org

October 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Mini Tour Kansas City- Great Wolf Lodge and Renaissance Fair Check In at The Arc 6:00 am
2 Mini Tour Kansas City RETURNS To The Arc 8:00 p. m.	3	4	5	6 11:30 am ACT @ Arc	7	8 10am – 3pm DD Horseback riding & Hay- rack rides
9	10	11 6:30 SA Forum 7 – 8:30 pm OP Craft and Exer- cise	12 12:30 – 2:30 Adult Day Art at Arc	13	14	15 <i>Congratulations Donnel & Jenny</i>
16	17	7 – 8:30 pm OP Dance Night	19	11:30 am ACT @ Arc	21	22 5 – 9 pm SA/ YAC Corn Maize/Dinner
23	24 6:00 pm Board Meeting	12:15 – 2:45 pm YD at OP Hal- loween Carnival 7-8:30OP Open gym & movies	26 12:30 – 2:30 pm AD Halloween Car- nival at Edgemore Park	27 11:30 am Parent Advisory Group	28	10am-3pm DD Trick or Treat Street 6:00-8:30 Hal- loween Carnival & Dance
30 2 – 6 pm SA Spookville Set- up	31 5 – 8 pm Spookeville at The Arc (SA host)					

November 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7 – 8:30 pm OP Evening of Activities	2	3 11:30 am ACT @ Arc	4	5 10AM-3PM Kidfest @CenturyII
6	7 Arc Membership Meeting 7:00 PM	8 6:30 SA Forum 7 – 8:30 pm OP Craft and Exercise	9 12:30-2:30 Adult Day Art w/ Ruthie	10	11 ERC Awareness Concert @ Westside Christian church 7:00 YAC Dinner & movie 5-10	12 10AM-3PM Bowling & Pizza @Cheney
13	14	15 12:15 – 2:45 pm YD at OP Thankful gathering 7 – 8:30 pm OP Dance Night	16	17 11:30 am ACT <i>Financial Planning 6:00PM</i> <i>MT: Branson</i>	18 <i>MT: Branson</i>	19 <i>MT: Branson</i>
20 <i>MT: Branson Returns @ 6PM</i>	21	22 5:30PM Thankful Feast @OP	23 12:30-2:30 Adult Day Movie @ The Arc	24 <i>Thanksgiving</i> Arc Office Closed	25 Arc Office Closed	26 5-8 PM YAC Bowling & Pizza
27	28 6:00PM Arc Board Meeting	29 7 – 8:30 pm OP Dance Night	30			



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Visit us on the Web!
www.arc-sedgwickcounty.org



Arc Membership Meeting

Monday, November 7, 2005

7:00 pm at

The Arc of Sedgwick County
2919 W. Second St.

Business

1. Two members elected from the General Membership to serve on the Nominating Committee thru Oct. 2006
 2. Review of recommended membership fees for the new associate category that was approved at the annual membership meeting
 3. Update everyone on the exciting happenings at the Arc
- Membership dues must be made current 5 working days prior to a membership meeting in order to vote at said membership meeting. Contact Kristen Phillips at 943-1191 if you are unsure of your membership status.

Reminder

All memberships will expire December 31, 2005. As approved in our annual membership meeting we are now moving to an annual membership January 1st – December 31st

Celebrating Independence Day



The Arc's most successful fundraising event ever took place on the 4th of July. The 2005 Independence Day Car Show raised nearly \$40,000. From that over \$32,000 was netted to benefit The Arc through our endowment.

The success of this event, like so much of what we do, was because of amazing volunteer efforts. Especially the work of Carl Fry and his family and friends. Carl, a member and former Arc board member, has dedicated hundreds and thousands of hours over the last two years to make the Independence Day Car Show a reality. In 2004, the event

grossed nearly \$10,000, but more importantly it introduced hundreds to The Arc and paved the way for the 2005 event. Following last year's event Carl secured the donation of a 1967 Jaguar from Denny McKee in Rogue River Oregon. Mr. McKee is a family member who saw the potential of this event and the importance of the cause.

Through the generous donation The Arc received thousands of dollars of donations from friends and families hoping for a chance to win this classic car.

Kim Fry, Self Advocate and Carl's daughter, pulled the winning ticket from the air in a special prize booth which swirled the tickets around her.

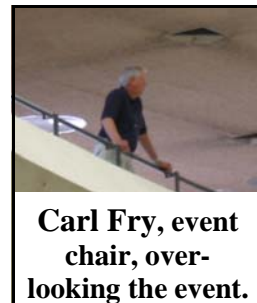
Melvin Grim-sley of Wichita was the lucky winner. Mr. Grim-



sley was not present, but Carl contacted him by phone and he arrived shortly later to receive his prize.



Storms July 3rd scarred away some of our registered car owners, but we were still able to fill Century II exhibition hall and had several vehicles shown on the Kennedy plaza.



Carl Fry, event chair, overlooking the event.

Thank you to all those who attended the event and to the many who gave their time and energy to make this event a success.