April 2023

Would you like to learn how to express your commitment to the goals of The Arc of Fort Bend County? You could do this through a planned gift. Once you have provided for loved ones in your will, you may want to include a gift of money, stock or property to The Arc. Your gift will be a lasting tribute to your concern for the advocacy, services and programs The Arc provides, while guaranteeing our long-term future.

April is Autism Awareness Month

The Arc of Fort Bend County works year-round to promote and protect the rights of people with IDD to live, learn, work, and play as valued and contributing members of Fort Bend County.

Although April may be Autism awareness month, we challenge Fort Bend County to include and celebrate the abilities of people with Autism year-round.

The Arc of Fort Bend
Annual Awards Dinner

Kathy Moody Memorial Scholarship Award
Larry Sharp Service Awards
Trey Sissom, FBISD, Travis High School

Advocacy Awards
Dr. Tera Jean Torres, University of St. Thomas
Courtney Kalaheer, Out Loud Dance Studio
Lauren Dowdy, Out Loud Dance Studio
Allison Vickery, Missouri City Parks and Recreation
Cristina Escamos, Missouri City Parks and Recreation
Margaret Lee, We Rock the Spectrum

Community Awareness Awards
Michael Kahlenberg, Fort Bend County Sheriff’s Office
Sgt. Matthew Hricko, Fort Bend County Sheriff’s Office
Judy Blake, Family to Family Network
Mary Sotelo, Texana Center

Special Recognition
Megan Neely, Adult Sibling Support Group
Kathleen De Beer, Adult Sibling Support Group
Zaima Chowdhury, Teen Sibling Support Group
Suhani Goswami, Teen Sibling Support Group
Riya Bhalesha, Teen Sibling Support Group

James Patterson Volunteer of the Year
Debbi Peterson

Outstanding Educator Awards
Torivia Hernandez, LCISD Project L.E.A.R.N.
Debra Wingard, FBISD Job Training Program, Dulles HS
Enobong Usanga, FBISD SAILS Program, Clements HS
Caroline Wheeler, FBISD SAILS Program, Baines MS
Kara Hallenberger, FBISD Program Supervisor, EIA
Victoria Montenez-Roberts, FBISD, EIA
Deborah Campbell, FBISD, EIA
Regan Dean, Campus Compliance Coordinator, FBISD, EIA
Aaron Moore, BCBA, Texana Center
Sharmila Singh, Christ Church Sugar Land
Sunila Singhal, FBISD, Clements HS
Charlene Gregus, True Knight Academy

Outstanding Employer Awards
Chris Frazier, Texas Roadhouse, Rosenberg
Shirley Collier, BJ’s Restaurant & Brewhouse, Sugar Land
Vickie Maresh, TX Burger, Needville
Jonathan Willingham, Kroger, Colony Lakes

Outstanding Employee Awards
Chance Geary, Texas Roadhouse, Rosenberg
Larryn Lobue, BJ’s Restaurant & Brewhouse, Sugar Land
Ty Williams, TX Burger, Needville
Mike Cushenberry, Kroger, Colony Lakes
Welcome to our New Members

Ayesha & Caleb Abraham
Paula Brown
Monica Campos & Carlos Alvarez, Jr.
Blaine Chambliss-Morgan
Sohana, Tanvir and Zaima Chowdhury
Candace & Scott Cowdery
Salma & Iman Osama Dafaalla
Debash & Dishan Dash
Jesica Garcia
Greg & Remington Gaspard
Lisa Pena-Gaber & Daniel Gaber
Charlotte Gidden & Kendrea Gidden-Jett
Aaron Hampton
Autumn Henry
Casey Hettig & Lily Ferry
Genu & Denis James
Nicholas Mark
Shannon and Ashia Mallory McKinney
Candido Mejia
Keiara Mooney
Izareena & Francis Orito
Prabu Parthasarathy & Lavanya & Vedanth Prabu
Eugenia Peck, Chase, Arial & Benjamin Lee
Bona Regas
Bryana Reynolds
Shynar & Nathan Rodriguez

Chairman's Award
(Awarded Night-Of)

Teams are filling up fast!
Register now at
https://arcgolf23.givesmart.com
Or call The Arc's office to reserve your team!
281/494-5920
Mark your calendars!
November 11, 2023 at the George Ranch

Thank you GFL Environmental for selecting The Arc of Fort Bend as a recipient of proceeds from your golf tournament fundraiser.

We are extremely grateful for your continued support of our mission!
Meet The Arc Day at the Texas Capitol

Parent Education & Support Group
Virtual Event

Thursday, April 27, 2023
11 am - Presentation Topic
12 pm - Parent Support Group

Join Maribel Burgos, Authority Services Practice Manager at Texana Center, for a presentation about Community First Choice. CFC is a Medicaid benefit for people with developmental disabilities. The presentation will provide a program overview and highlight what consumers need to know to determine eligibility and how to access services.

Zoom Meeting #: 876 5151 7569
Passcode: THEARC

FREE VIRTUAL EVENT ALL ARE WELCOME
WWW.ARCOFFORTBEND.ORG

Meet The Arc Day at the Texas Capitol
Rep. Suleman Lalani with The Arc of Fort Bend County advocates, Karri Axtell and Laura LaVigne and The Arc of Texas Public Policy & Advocacy Director Ashley Ford

Rep. Stan Kitzman with The Arc of Fort Bend County advocates, Karri Axtell and Laura LaVigne.

2023 Teen/Tween Social & Parent Night Out

WHO
11 – 18 year old Fort Bend County residents with an Intellectual or Developmental Disability (IDD)

WHAT
Games, Sports, Crafts, Activities, Movie
1 – 1 – Small Group, Social Skills Practice
STAFF: BEHAVIOR TECH, TEEN & ADULT VOLUNTEERS

WHEN & WHERE
2023 Dates
Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 3, Mar 31, May 5, Jun 2, Sep 1, Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 1
CHRIST CHURCH @ Family Life Center
3300 Austin Pkwy Sugar Land, TX 77479

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: ARCOFFORTBEND.ORG
*REGISTRATION DEADLINE 7 DAYS BEFORE EVENT

Put this on your calendar!
The next Teen/Tween Social & Parent Night Out is May 5!
Parent Education & Support Group
Virtual Event

Individualized Skills & Socialization

Thursday, May 11, 2023
11 am – Presentation Topic
12 pm – Parent Support Group

Join Kevin Barker, Director of Intellectual & Developmental Provider Services at Texana Center, for a presentation about Individual Skills and Socialization service. ISS is a service provided to people receiving the waiver programs Home and Community-Based Services (HCS) or Texas Home Living (TxHmL). The presentation will provide a program overview and explain how the new program differs from the former Day Habilitation service.

Zoom Meeting # 899 7434 8365
Passcode: THEARC

FREE VIRTUAL EVENT
ALL ARE WELCOME
WWW.ARCOFFORTBEND.ORG
Has your child recently been diagnosed with autism?
Do you understand what autism is?
Have you wanted to improve communication with your child?
Are you looking for strategies to help with those challenging behaviors?

Join us!
**Autism Academy 101**
and Resource Fair
Saturday, April 29th, 2023
9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
United Way
50 Waugh Drive – Houston – 77007
FREE covered parking

**Presenters**
Dr. Ken Montfort, PhD and Dr. Natalie Montfort, Phd
Montfort Psychological Associates
Jacqui Arias, MA, CCC-SLP
Habla Cadabra SLP
Susan M Catlett, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA
Catlett Consulting

**Parent Panel**
FREE registration available for the first 100 Family Members
by Pre-Registration only
$40 Family Members
$60 Professionals*

Register online until April 24th:

*2 CEUs (no ethics) for Social Workers/Licensed Professional Counselors

For more information, please call Family to Family Network at 713-466-6304 or email info@familystofamilynetwork.org
Visit The Arc of Fort Bend County Facebook page for the latest tips, resources, community events, helpful videos and MORE.

The Arc's Programs for Adults with IDD:
Adult Social Recreation (22+ years old)
Special Olympics (22+ years old)
Saturday Bowling (22+ years old)
TwentySomethings (20-29 years old)

If you would like to be added to the email list for all of the adult programs, a membership is required as well as registration with one of the adult programs. You can join The Arc of Fort Bend County online at www.arcoffortbend.org/membership.

**RSVP's are mandatory for all events.**

**Who to Contact:**

Contact Nancy Dobert if you would like 2023 Registration information for the Adult-Social-Bowling program.
Email: nndobert@arcoffortbend.org or phone 281-494-5926

2023 Registration is required before you can participate in the Social-Recreation-Bowling program.

**Reminder: Registration and weekly reservations are required.**

If interested in joining Special Olympics or the TwentySomethings group, contact Pam Hollaway at phollaway@arcoffortbend.org or 281-494-5928.

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**Adult Social Recreation/Bowling**

**April In-person Events:**

**Disney On Ice**
Frozen & Encanto
April 15

**Arabia Shrine Circus**
April 23

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**Adult Social Bowling**
Bowlero Stafford Lanes
If any athlete's medical form has expired (3 years after submission date), please go to the link below and have one completed by your doctor's office. Return the medical form to Pam Hollaway at The Arc's office: 123 Brooks St., Sugar Land, TX 77478. A Current Medical is Required to Participate in any Sport!

**Athlete Medical Form**

**Events:**

**Soccer Regionals**
April 22
Baytown

**Track & Field Regionals**
April 22
Baytown

Contact Pam Holloway at phollaway@arcoffortbend.org or 281/494-5928 for more information.