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# Local nonprofit gets new home, tries to work its way back

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September 14, 2009 5:48 PM

Times-News

A lot is going on at an Alamance County nonprofit.

The Arc of Alamance County, Inc. has moved to a new location and is working to bring back some of the services that the agency has had to drop recently because of a drop in funding.

"The Arc was really kind of down and out for a while," said Margaret Livengood, the Arc's executive director.

The agency, which provides services to local clients with developmental disabilities, once employed a full-time director. Livengood, who has held the director position for nearly a year, is still working part time.

The Arc is working to reestablish its role in the local schools. That means providing support as parents work out individual education plans. The agency also provided support this summer to Camp Greenleaves, a camp for children with developmental disabilities that the agency started and is now run by the city of Burlington.

The agency received a grant from Truliant Federal Credit Union and is providing mini-grants to five exceptional children's teachers in the Alamance-Burlington School System. Arc volunteers have begun shopping for Christmas gifts through the annual ArChristmas Fund, which provides gifts for Arc clients.

The agency's two biggest fundraisers, the annual lasagna sale and a wrestling event, were both succesful this year, Livengood said.

Two new board members have been added — Neil Dunn and Sarah Alexander. Dunn is the agency's new president.

After a couple of years based in space at Loaves & Fishes Christian Food Ministry, the Arc is now located at 1212 Turrentine St. in Burlington. The Arc made the move to the Starpoint day program, part of Ralph Scott Lifeservices, Inc., a provider of individualized community living services and supports for people with developmental disabilities, at the end of August.

"The Arc thanks Loaves & Fishes Christian Food Ministry for graciously providing a home to The Arc since July 2007," Livengood said. "Loaves & Fishes is known for meeting basic needs, and feeding the hungry in the community, but this was beyond just meeting a need. They welcomed us and made a home for us for two years. Loaves & Fishes gave us a place to regroup and start growing again. Thank you Loaves & Fishes for taking care of us heart, mind and soul."

The Arc's new phone number is 513-4333; the fax is 513-4341.

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**whazzup** wrote:

Good luck Margaret. The Arc has done a wonderful job for over 35 years providing advocacy and support for our county's citizens with developmental disabilities. Cuts in funding has greatly reduced the services that The Arc provided to these citizens, but they continued on with reduced funding but still with the desire to help these individuals. Although not an Agency that is thought worthwhile by some, it is truly an Agency that puts people first. Good luck to The Arc we are pulling for you.

9/15/2009 5:59 AM EDT

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