ANNUAL REPORT

2019
www.CGArc.org

SINCE 1975
Facilitating growth for people with disabilities through choice, experience, guidance, and respect.
"I like doing work and like being around my peers."
- Erasmo P.

"I like to come to DTA because of the outings and dance every Friday."
- Christian

"Throughout the years, staff have been very supportive & receptive to my son’s many needs. I’m especially grateful for the longevity of the supervisors and communication.

By having programs provided by CGArc, JJ is having the benefit and opportunity to have a quality of life - a life I strive for him to have."
- Pat N.

"CGArc has helped me grow in life, a full life being more independent. Learning to express my feelings assisted me with issues at work."
- Mike S. employed with Mod Pizza through CGArc Employment Support
Hello Friends!

Chandler Gilbert Arc was first started by a handful of dedicated parents in 1975. We’ve continued to proudly serve our community by providing life resources to adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) throughout the east valley. Over 200 individuals are served by our programs each year, thereby supporting the hundreds of family members who love them.

We believe that all people should have the opportunity to develop to their fullest potential and we are dedicated to our role of creating opportunities designed to enhance the independence of each person.

With an emphasis on community engagement, I am pleased to report that we have developed partnerships with over 200 community volunteers; these partnerships have provided us the opportunity to make many positive changes in our programs.

We are currently modifying four homes into fully wheelchair accessible residences with special attention to inclusive kitchens, which serve as the heart of these homes. The people who live in their homes actively participate in personal self-sufficiency, including working with our dedicated staff to prepare meals and maintain their homes. This level of support extends to our specialized community-based Employment, Transportation and Adult Day programs.

In partnership with The Arc of Arizona, we’ve hosted the nationally recognized annual Sprout Film Festival© for five years and counting. Sprout showcases actors, directors, and producers with IDD in short films from all over the world. It serves as an entertaining and educational platform to the incredible artistic potential among our co-citizens with disabilities.

Programs like these pave the way for public inclusion programs like those we conduct in partnerships with Tempe School District, Virginia G. Piper, Transdev, Dignity Health Foundation, Safeway, Knights of Columbus, and Maricopa Community Colleges.

With our mission of Facilitating Growth for People with Disabilities through Choice, Experience, Guidance and Respect, I have learned so much about myself in these past 25 years from the people we support and the dedicated members of our team that have chosen Chandler Gilbert Arc as their place to work. It is with this guidance that I look to my past for ideas, inspiration, and experiences, my present for collaboration and inspiration, and my future for the continuation of our agency vision. For these lessons I am most grateful.

Kind Regards,

Billy Parker
Executive Director
Like many people with disabilities, Mary has had her fair share of challenges throughout her life. An Arizona native, she was sent to Amarillo, Texas where she was loved and cared for by her grandparents. She was especially close to her grandfather who helped her at a very difficult time in her life.

After the death of her grandfather, Mary's life took a challenging turn when she returned home to Arizona at 12 years old. Over the years, she found herself in a life with drug and alcohol addiction with periods of homelessness. She often stayed with various family members and friends or lived in group homes around the Phoenix area.

At 43 years old, she found her way to recovery and a friend told Mary about CGArc. Since that time, Mary has completed treatment and has remained clean and sober for over 20 years.

Through CGArc, Mary found a job and recently celebrated her 15th anniversary working for Albertson’s Grocery Store. When she isn’t getting a new tattoo, you can find her smiling at work and “picking on” her co-workers.

Mary lives in her own apartment with support from CGArc where she independently enjoys traveling all over the Phoenix area and out-of-state, taking care of her pet bird “Princess”, and enjoying her favorite sports team, the Minnesota Vikings.

In 2017, Mary accepted a position on Chandler Gilbert Arc’s Board of Directors where she shares her important perspective and ideas with her fellow Board members. “I like to learn as much as I can about how to help CGArc who has helped me so much. After all I have been through in my life I have found a home and family here at Chandler Gilbert Arc.”

Our Programs

Mary’s Story
An Arizona native, Mary has been a member of CGArc since 2004.

Employment Services: Offers community-based employment and individualized training with an emphasis on independence and career development.

Day Treatment & Training for Adults: Offers specialized social and life-skill training, learning opportunities, community involvement, and volunteerism.

Community Living: Offers specialized support and training in individual or shared homes with an emphasis on self-determination, community involvement, and independence.

Transportation: Specially trained drivers provide transportation in accessible vehicles to and from our service programs and throughout the community.

Mobility Management: Under contract with the City of Phoenix and Maricopa Association of Governments, we develop partnerships within the Human Services provider community promoting transportation access for seniors and persons with disabilities.
Working with others in our community is vital for our members. Chandler Gilbert Arc greatly values dedicated volunteers as a vital component of the services we provide and volunteering can be a very rewarding experience at CGArc.

Volunteers are fully trained and screened for each individual assignment, and relied upon in the same way we would an employee.

Specialized Volunteer Opportunities Include:
- Community Outreach Advocate
- Driver / Transportation Specialist
- Environmental Enhancement Coordinator
- Grant Development Visionary
- Outsource Employment Professional
- Office Assistant Extraordinaire
- Our Hero Handyman

Service Learning Partnerships:
- Pima Medical Institute
- Maricopa Community Colleges
- Harcum College
- Phoenix College
- Grand Canyon University
- Creighton University

Community Engagement

In partnership with The Arc of Arizona, we hosted the 4th annual Sprout Film Festival ©. This nationally recognized event showcases actors, directors, and producers with IDD in short films from all over the world and draws over 600 viewers providing our community the opportunity to witness the incredible artistic potential among our co-citizens with disabilities.

Among the partnerships we are most proud of through "Sprout", is the incorporation of the film festival into the Tempe School District as part of their Diversity and Inclusion Curriculum.
Supporting those in our community with disabilities is our mission, but we cannot continue services without the support of community members. To accomplish this mission, we know we must focus on supporting each program member toward their personal goals and dreams.

In our community today, someone with a disability is:
- Aging out of high school and needs assistance
- Struggling to find a job
- In need of a place to live
- Without friends
- Homebound and without transportation

Although our job isn’t done, your support can help to ensure that these members of our community won’t have to face these challenges alone.

"The opportunities for outings and social events that CGArc has provided for my daughters have helped them to develop social skills that have helped them in everyday life. The staff has helped them develop appropriate interactions with others in private and social settings.

The life skills that they have learned at CGArc are invaluable."

- Gwen K.
Thank You
Community Partners

[Logos of various community partners]

The Arc
Chandler/Gilbert

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