



The Mission of the Arc of Yates is to empower individuals with developmental disabilities to lead self-directed, meaningful lives.

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From the President & CEO

"Exploration is really the essence of the human spirit."

ASTRONAUT FRANK BORMAN



In 2016, the Arc of Yates took a lesson from Astronaut Frank Borman, and began an exploration of new and exciting endeavors.

Extensive changes for Keuka Lake School and the Center for Lifelong Learning have provided untold new opportunities in programming. A tradition was born in the first annual, week long, highly successful Summer Camp excursion. The Duck Race, a popular community fundraising event, made a spectacular reappearance. Major housing and transportation initiatives for the Arc of Yates and the community at large gained traction.

Although these successes and many more were realized in 2016, I believe that the greatest sense of accomplishment was the spirit exhibited by staff and the individuals we support in embracing new challenges and opportunities. We look forward to a rewarding 2017, and wish the same for you and your family.

Summer Camp Week Offers Unique Opportunity for Individuals

With campfires, arts & crafts, wild animals, a carnival, Olympic games and pool parties, the 1st Annual Arc of Yates Summer Camp was a huge success! The entire Agency relocated to Camp Whitman on the shores of Seneca Lake for a week-long camp experience in August.

Approximately thirty individuals spent the week sleeping overnight while an additional hundred and fifty traveled to the camp each day.

From the hardworking kitchen crew who prepared meals to the volunteers who manned the arts and crafts stations, it was a memorable week in the fresh air for staff and individuals alike.



Arc of Yates Achieves CQL Accreditation

The Arc of Yates received formal notification in August that the Agency received accreditation from the Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL).

CQL has been the preeminent organization for more than 40 years in defining, measuring and improving the quality of life for all people, including those with developmental and intellectual disabilities. The Arc of Yates is the only human services Agency within Yates County to receive the CQL Quality Assurances Accreditation.



The accreditation came after a four day onsite visit by CQL reviewers who met with staff, community members, and Individuals supported by the Agency. The person-centered philosophy ensures that with guidance, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities make decisions based on their interests, passions, dreams and desires.



"This process was a great opportunity for our Agency to examine every program and every procedure, ensuring that we continue to be person-centered in the work we do," Arc of Yates President & CEO Daniele Lyman said. "It was an excellent opportunity to take an in-depth look at the work we do, with the help of the individuals we serve and their families, and see how we can raise the bar even higher to succeed in our goal of providing a Lifetime of Opportunities."

Arc of Yates President & CEO Recognized

Daniele Lyman-Torres, President and CEO of the Arc of Yates, was selected as one of four inductees into the MCC Alumni Hall of Fame as part of MCC's 2016 Salute to Excellence event. Lyman-Torres joined fellow MCC graduates honored for having made exemplary contributions to their professions and communities.

Lyman-Torres has been the President and CEO of the Arc of Yates since June of 2015. Prior to joining the Arc, Ms. Lyman-Torres served as Chief Operating Officer for Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority, Chief Operating Officer for Trillium Health and held key leadership positions for United Way of Greater Rochester and Heritage Christian Services. Daniele serves on the Board of Directors for Lakeview Health Services, The Collaborative of the Finger Lakes, and as Chair of the Greater Rochester American Heart Association Circle of Red.

"Under her leadership and strategic vision the Arc of Yates has experienced tremendous growth and new opportunities for the individuals we support over the past year and a half," said Arc of Yates Board Chair James Blackburn.

Outside of the Arc of Yates she shares her expertise with aspiring young professionals as an adjunct professor of

business at Roberts Wesleyan College. She also serves as a member of the Nazareth College HR Management Advisory Council. Daniele is a 2011 recipient of the Rochester Business Journal Forty Under 40 Award and the 2012 Emerging Leader Honoree of Roc City Rising. She is currently a doctoral candidate at St. John Fisher College in the Executive Leadership program. Several members of Daniele's executive staff and the Board of Directors were at the event to celebrate her induction into the Alumni Hall of Fame.





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Keuka Lake Relay Rally a Success in 2nd Year

Clear blue skies and crisp fall temperatures greeted nearly one hundred runners from across the state on September 25th as they traveled to Keuka Lake State Park to take part in the 2nd Annual Keuka Lake Relay Rally. Teams of runners split up the roughly 47-mile trek around the lake, where unlike traditional races participants set their own route, stopping at five checkpoints along the way.

Runners came as far as New York City and Pennsylvania to participate in the event. Many teams created their own theme and dressed in costume. Fun was had by all, with local teams “Everything Happens for a Riesling” and “Run Now...Wine Later” traveling the course together in an RV.

Checkpoints along the way were manned by Arc of Yates staff and individuals supported by the Agency. Students in the DRIVE program at Keuka College decorated their checkpoint and cheered on the runners as they cleared the final station. Runners were treated to a post-race picnic held at the park following completion of the race.



Several local runners also took part in the 5k Kid’s Fun Run race that was part of this year’s event. Wendy Seely of Wellsville finished first overall.

The event raised over \$26,000 for the Arc of Yates.

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Keuka Lake School Opens New Campus

When school resumed in September, staff at Keuka Lake School welcomed students to a brand new facility. Construction was completed over the summer and resulted in a larger, more accessible and most importantly, permanent facility.

Keuka Lake School first opened its doors in 1985, providing early intervention and specialized services for children aged birth to five with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Since that time the school has been based at various locations, including most recently Penn Yan Elementary School.

“Having the school on the Arc of Yates campus is a great benefit to both Keuka Lake School specifically and the Agency overall,” said Daniele Lyman, President and CEO. “The shared campus allows for the continued cost-sharing of staff, facilities, and equipment within the buildings.”

The new school occupies a much larger footprint than previous locations, and features many benefits to staff and students. Included are larger classrooms, additional space for physical, occupational, and speech therapy, and a brand new playground with adaptive equipment for children of all ability levels. The facility also includes a gymnasium, library, and sensory rooms.

“We were blessed by the generosity of the Tripp Foundation for the creation of the library and media room.” Lyman said. “The grant allowed us to create a unique learning space for our students.”



Sixty children from four counties and nine surrounding school districts attend Keuka Lake School, including twenty Penn Yan School District students who participate in the Universal Pre-Kindergarten program. The new expanded campus also offers expanded daycare services to children ages 18 months to twelve years old.

The official ribbon cutting of the new facility was held on November 16th during an Open House held for the community. Members of the Tripp Foundation were present for the unveiling of a plaque recognizing their contribution.