Executive Notes

Happy Spring to you all!

I know I speak for us all, that the warmer weather, when it graces us, is ever welcoming!

It was a busy winter at Arc Northland; however, the weather did not stop us. In collaboration with CHOICE unlimited, on February 19th, a bus of 44 people, mostly self-advocates, traveled to the Capitol for “Disability Day”. The group made signs reflecting what people wanted Minnesota’s Legislators to know and pay attention to for people with disabilities.

The 22nd Chocolate After Dark event, with a record breaking 260 people in attendance, was held on February 28th. The local chefs, local breweries and distillery who shared their delicacies, truly added to the event. I want to thank everyone who attended and for their financial support of Arc Northland’s Adult and Family Support Services.

Looking to the future, the Arc Northland Board of Directors and professional staff will be working together to do an organizational plan, which will outline the next three years. Our goal is to assess current services, as well as, through direct input, identify areas of need that we can respond to. If you are interested in being involved in a focus group or being interviewed, please contact the office.

Additionally, there is information in the newsletter about the Annual Meeting, the Self-Advocacy Conference and family picnic. Hope to see you soon.

Take care, Laurie B. Berner
It’s Coming...

Self-Advocacy Conference
May 18
9:30-2:00
At Holiday Inn
(Downtown Duluth)

$20 Registration Fee
(Includes Lunch)

**We will offer scholarships to pay for half of the registration fee for those who cannot afford it. Contact Meredith**

*Registration starts at 9:30 *
Keynote speaker: Ted Schick from Duluth

We’d like to thank the Governor’s Council on Development Disabilities for the grant to help put on this conference.

Chocolate After Dark

Major Sponsors
Midwest Communications
Discount Mattress
Pro Print, Lamar
St. Luke’s Hospital Verso
Fond du Luth Casino
Northshore Bank
Through Laura’s Lens

Local Chefs —
Mid-Coast Catering—Winner
DECC JJ Astor
Ledge Rock Grille
Pizza Luce Bellisio’s
Whole Foods Coop
Canal Park Brewing
Vikre Bent Paddle
South Shore Brewing
Castle Danger

Thank You!!
Arc Northland Team:

PCA Choice:
Jenny Kempfert
Jenny Feehan
Naomi Gordon

Adult and Family Services
Meredith Kujala
Brenda Caya
Sherie Lillie

Housing:
Stacey Nordby

Quality Council
Zoey Leege
Emily Mack

Finance
Rick Sailstad

Reception
Carol Bourdage

Student Intern
Summer Thomas

Executive Director
Laurie Berner

Highlights ~
**Annual Picnic**

Arc Northland’s annual picnic is in the works. The picnic will be held **Tuesday, August 13th, from 5-7**. The location is still being determined, however food and fun will be served for all. The admission fee is $5 and includes a meal and beverage. More updates to follow.