

# Message from the Executive Director

## Camp Sertoma: A Place for Transformation

This year we celebrate Camp Sertoma's 50th anniversary. In 1958 the Sertoma Club gave The Arc a tremendous gift. Land was dedicated for use by people with disabilities. Camp Sertoma is a beautiful place with mature trees and a hiking trail. Over the years we've added a swimming pool, green house, cabins and a residential lodge and many more features to make it accessible and equipped for interesting activities. But Camp Sertoma is so much more than land and buildings. It's a place that has transformed generations of people.

To the parents who began the camping tradition in the early 1950s, it was a place to have a vacation with all of their children—a joy many families take for granted.

For parents today, it's a safe place where their children (both young and mature) can get away, enjoy new experiences, develop skills and become more independent. It's a place that allows families to have a break from caregiving.

For consumers, Camp Sertoma is a place to learn skills, have fun and make friends. Many of our campers return year after year and establish bonds that will last a lifetime. They can play, swim, dance and sing. There are experiences unlike anything they'll have at home with visits from professional wrestlers, musicians, wildlife experts, race car drivers, firemen and others who bring their talents to the camp. It's a place to participate.

For the counselors, nurses, special guests and volunteers who join us each year, Camp Sertoma is a place to find your true passion in life, to gain inspiration for a career or a cause that you want to support. It's a place to see and hear (through the smiles and laughter that often fill the camp) the impact you can make by lending a helping hand.

For the individuals and companies that support us with labor to maintain the grounds and facilities by painting, digging, raking or weeding on site, they can see the results of their work first-hand. They enjoy a bonding experience with those working at their side. It's a place to give back.

For those who donate supplies or funds to keep things running or for camperships, there's satisfaction in knowing that they've enriched someone's life by making the camping experience possible. It's a place to make a difference.

For the staff it's a place that reminds us why we're here and who we're serving. It's a place for instant gratification because we can see the success and smiles and hear the laughter that can sometimes get lost in the piles of paperwork on our desks. It's a place to be hands-on.

An amazing transformation occurs when I drive to the mountains just outside of Linglestown and turn onto the curving road that leads to Camp Sertoma. I feel peaceful and relaxed, but at the same time I'm full of excitement.

As we celebrate Camp Sertoma's golden anniversary this year, I'm thrilled by the legacy of Camp Sertoma and looking forward to making sure this very important component of The Arc of Dauphin and Lebanon counties will continue to grow and expand for generations to come.



BARB JUMPER  
Executive Director

## The Arc Offers New Opportunities

The Arc is pleased to announce that its Options program is growing! Options is now providing in-home support services and a school partnership program through Central Dauphin School District. Adding these two facets of service has allowed the Options program to help even more individuals live successful lives. If you would like to learn more about these exciting new opportunities, contact Barb Fruhwirth at 920-2727.

## News Briefs

### Speak Out

The Arc's annual Speak Out Celebration will take place at the Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey on Sunday, March 2, 2008. It will be a fun time to celebrate the accomplishments of all The Arc's consumers over the past year. The program will include dinner, entertainment, and a dance. Watch for your invitation in the mail or contact Ken Seeger at 920-2727 for more information.

### Supports Intensity Scale

The Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) is a rating system that determines the amount of support an individual needs in a variety of categories. Over the next few years, this assessment will be conducted with every individual enrolled in the Person/Family Directed Support or Consolidated Waiver programs as part of developing Individual Support Plans. For more information on the SIS, visit [www.siswebsite.org](http://www.siswebsite.org).

### Educational Tax Credit Donations



The Arc's Executive Director, Barb Jumper hosted employees of First National Bank of PA for a tour of The Harsco Center. They presented The Arc with a \$1,400 check for The Arc's Educational Improvement Tax Credit program.

The Arc's greenhouse programs provide prevocational horticulture training, social time and a creative outlet while helping students and consumers learn practical life skills in a fun, relaxed environment. This important program relies on the generous support of community organizations that make contributions through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program. The Arc extends a big thank you to the following EITC donors:

**Dauphin County:**  
First National Bank of PA - \$1,400  
Fulton Bank - \$1,000  
Graystone Bank - \$1,000  
**Lebanon County:**  
Jonestown Bank - \$5,000

## Annual Appeal Overview

The annual appeal has long been The Arc's main fundraiser. That will still be the case this year, but changes are on the horizon. The Arc has partnered with Chandler Associates to help reorganize and energize the appeal. With their help, this year's appeal promises to give even more donors the opportunity to support The Arc's important programs!

## Activities

### Greenhouse

Monthly program @ Camp Sertoma  
Times vary  
Call Ken Seeger, 717-920-2727, for reservations or information

**Computer Classes** (Group Session)  
Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays  
@ The Arc, Harsco Center, Walnut Street  
1:30-2:30 p.m.  
Individual classes by appointment  
Call Kim Neumyer, 717-920-2727, for reservations or information

**Money Handling** (Group Session)  
Tuesdays @ The Arc, Harsco Center,  
Walnut Street 3:30-4:30 p.m.  
Call Barb Fruhwirth, 717-920-2727,  
for information

**Literacy Classes**  
Individual classes by appointment  
@ The Arc, Harsco Center, Walnut Street  
Call Barb Fruhwirth, 717-920-2727,  
for reservations or information

**Cooking Classes**  
Mondays 11 a.m.-noon  
Wednesdays, 4-5 p.m.  
@ The Arc, Harsco Center, Walnut Street  
Call Barb Fruhwirth, 717-920-2727,  
for reservations or information

**Upper Dauphin Speak Out**  
Second Tuesday of each month  
Locations vary  
6:30-7:30 p.m.  
Call Richard Honeycutt, 717-920-2727,  
to register

**Young Adult Dances**  
First Friday, Monthly @ The Arc,  
Harsco Center, Walnut Street 6-8 p.m.  
Call Richard Honeycutt, 717-920-2727,  
for reservations or information  
Cost is \$5 paid in advance, or \$7  
at the door

**Third Friday Night Party**  
January 18  
February 15  
@ Swatara Township Building 7-9 p.m.  
Call June Diggs, 717-558-9149, for  
reservations or information

**Bowling**  
Coordinated by Dauphin Parents Group  
Every Saturday  
Call 717-920-2727

**Parents' Meetings**  
(Harrisburg)  
1st Friday @ The Peachtree  
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
Call Kathy Gingerich, 717-920-2727,  
for details  
(Lebanon)  
monthly @ Hoss's in Anville Rt. 422  
Call Merari Lopez, 717-270-5307,  
for details.

## A Gift That's Guaranteed to Fit

During the year, The Arc offers more than 1,500 hours of camping and other activities that are enjoyable to consumers and also provide respite for their families. Sometimes the greatest barrier to accessing these programs is financial. Through the "Gift of Time" registry, you can earmark funds for a specific consumer, making it possible for him/her to attend a class, camp, or any of The Arc's activities. It's a gift that helps the whole family! For more information about the "Gift of Time" registry program, contact The Arc at 920-2727.

## Update on Legislative Issues

The U.S. Supreme Court decision that individuals with mental retardation are not eligible for the death penalty in capital cases has been passed. Now, legislation that implements this decision will be heard in the PA Senate. As part of this legislation, Senate Bill 751 includes a provision for "pre-trial determination" of mental retardation.

This would give the judge authority to determine whether or not a person has mental retardation before the trial, and prevent an individual with mental retardation from having to endure a capital trial. The Arc supports this method of pre-trial determination. For more information on this bill, visit [www.thearc.org](http://www.thearc.org) and click on "Federal Legislative Action Center."



## The Advocate

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Executive Director – Barbara Jumper      President – Mike Morrow

The Arc of Dauphin and Lebanon Counties is a non-profit, membership organization whose primary purpose is to provide services and supports to persons of all ages with mental retardation in Dauphin and Lebanon Counties. The Arc provides these services with dignity and respect. To achieve this purpose, The Arc cooperates with other government and private agencies and organizations such as the mental retardation system, education system, religious community and other community organizations that provide services to persons with disabilities, especially mental retardation. Services provided include advocacy emphasizing individual rights, education through the horticultural program, public awareness, resource and referral.

The Arc of Dauphin County and Lebanon Counties • 2569 Walnut Street, Harrisburg, PA 17103  
717-920-2727 • [www.arcofdc.org](http://www.arcofdc.org)