

## Dear Arc Family Member,

In light of the shelter in place order being extended through the month of May, our three locations in San Francisco, San Mateo County and Marin County will remain closed until Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. We will reassess during the week of May 25<sup>th</sup> whether that will still be the opening date.

We continue to be part of the conversation at both the local and state levels on what is happening now, what is to come, and what reopening will look like. Service providers and Golden Gate Regional Center are collaborating on plans for a safe and responsible reintegration of our programs for when that day arrives.

In the meantime, staff at The Arc San Francisco are showing incredible commitment and ingenuity to keep our services going and participants supported under these challenging circumstances. Our remote learning site, The Arc SF Hub, which we shared with you earlier this month, has been thriving. We have also instated the "Friendship Line" (415-480-1097) to keep people connected, especially if there are barriers to getting online.

Here is a small sampling of good things we have experienced since we last updated you, courtesy of our staff:

ArtReach now has three weekly classes hosted by Lead Art Teacher, Mim! Attendance keeps growing, and we are especially appreciative of how online classes have brought together our San Francisco and San Mateo artists. We have sent out 11 orders of art supplies to our Artists to keep them going and will continue to send more. Check out ArtReach's Instagram page

https://www.instagram.com/artreach\_studios/ to see what we've been creating at home! - Alex Williams

**Enrichment** is shouting out to **Arc Karaoke**, which is on its 5th week and more successful than ever. We had 16 participants last Wednesday, and a whopping 24 folks the prior Wednesday! Last week, for the second week in a row, a small group from The Arc New York (via staff Lauren T.) joined us as well. Patrick Hunt is an engaging host, giving everyone a chance to truly shine! - *Erin Lyons* 

**Employment** If there is one word to describe Employment Services right

now it is **teamwork!** Our job developers are busier than ever with assessments to prepare new participants for the job search. Job coaches have jumped in to help conduct these assessments. We have also had coaches volunteer to cross-train at different worksites, particularly Amazon, where hiring remains strong. In a very challenging time, it is remarkable to see how we unite for the good of everyone. - *Christa Preston* 

Thank you for being part of The Arc San Francisco community. The participants of our programs appreciate and need your continued support.

Be well,

Matthew Tarver-Wahlquist

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**Executive Director** 

Kristen Pedersen

Interim Executive Director

P.S. Our main office number is open to answer any questions during office closure, 415-255-7200.

**The mission** of The Arc San Francisco is to transform the lives of adults with developmental disabilities by advancing lifelong learning, personal achievement and independence.

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