

The Arc Effect

Partnering for People™

The Arc of Midland is partnering with like-minded organizations who through their supportive actions, desire to make a difference on behalf of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Partnering for People™ is essential for our community!

First Quarter partnering includes: Disability Network of Mid-Michigan, Dow- GLBI, Northwood University, Blessed Sacrament Outreach Team, Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, Hidden Harvest, The Arnold Center, Humane Society of Midland County, Midland County Emergency Food Pantry Network. Eiger Management, Corteva Agriscience, Great Lakes Loons, Midland Baseball Foundation, Midland Mall, United Way of Midland County, Remnant Field, Great Lakes Bay Pride, Midland County Inclusion Alliance.



250 We delivered 250 bags of our Inclusive Blend™ coffee



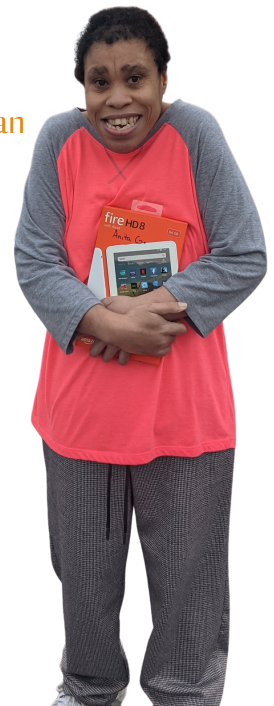
86 cents of every dollar is spent on programming

125 We engaged with 125 partners



200 We delivered 200 Valentines packages

48 We delivered 48 tablets so people can connect virtually



What's on Laurel's Mind...

Just after the holidays The Arc of Midland hit the ground running. The new year started with office changes, professional development, and new ideas. In February we registered two trademarks both with exciting potential. Our focus in 2021 is to make the lives of the people we serve even better, seeking inclusive opportunities, building relationships, raising awareness around our mission, and expanding our partnerships and programs.

Perspectives by Shana

How does a person find transportation when going to and from scheduled doctors/specialized medical appointments? Within Midland County, Michigan Medicaid is widely used by individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The residents of Midland County who qualify for Medicaid have a plan assigned to them. Among these are: McLaren, Meridian, and Molina healthcare plans. This vital free resource is only a phone call away! McLaren Health Plan Customer Service is available to schedule transportation Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call (888) 327-0671. Meridian Transportation (nonemergency) 800-821-9369 regular business hours are Monday - Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Molina Please call Member Services at (888) 898-7969, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (TTY: 711).

When calling for non-emergency medical transportation you should have the member ID of the person utilizing the service, their birthday, home address, phone number of the patient, the day, time, location and type of doctor the person is going to be seeing. Also, know if anyone will be traveling with the person and if any mobility devices are being used, for example, a wheelchair. A pharmacy stop is usually permitted, if when scheduling the transportation, this need is indicated. The name and location of the pharmacy will also be needed.

I have used the McLaren Medicaid Medical Transportation for several years. I have monthly infusions that are at a rheumatologist office located in Lansing. Once I know the date, time, and location of my next appointment I call my health care plan for transportation. This service has allowed me to go to a specialist of my choosing outside of where public transportation cannot take me. This service has allowed for access to quality-care while being a non-driver and living with a chronic health condition. When calling to schedule my medical transportation, I know I will have to listen to prompts within an automated-system. When the option for transportation is reached, a live person answers the call asking me the questions necessary to setting up my ride. It is important to have all information ready when making the call in order to prevent from having to call back a second time. When scheduling, I have had the experience of waiting two minutes to 30 minutes in order for my call to be answered. I highly recommend this service if it is available and if getting to and from medical appointments has its challenges.

10 We created ten new
Ambassador positions



163 person to person contacts

15 Hospital visits



9,471 In three months we
had 9,471 phone
conversations



10% of Michigan's population are reliant on Direct Support Professionals

Friends having coffee...

Photo by Renee' Deckrow, Captured Photography

Tim and Gary have been
roommates since 2014



- Partnering for People™ on the Patio is starting soon! This is our time to engage more with
- people, safely on our patio. We meet several times a week with community partners.
- 2020 presented some challenges for all of us in how we would do our business. For the
- first time, we made use of our outdoor space. Last year we were able to have our last
- meeting on the patio November 6, 2020. If you have lived in Michigan any length of time
- you know November is late in the year, as we sometimes have snow by then! We didn't
- complain, we loved it, but we want to be more prepared.
- We are so excited this year, expanding what we have already been doing, but we will now
- have the ability to stretch the season, we will have a roof, and maybe even a heater!
- Eric White chose The Arc of Midland as his Eagle Scout Project. Eric has a personal
- connection to The Arc of Midland, so this project is near and dear to his heart. We
- understand from Eric, this is one of the more complex projects. Eric is currently raising the
- funds for the Gazebo kit, that he will purchase from Costco as he is eager to get his project
- underway. He and his team will start this spring. He and a group of volunteers have
- scheduled two weeks to complete it!
- We look forward to putting our great new space to use very soon, as we kick off our
- Partnering for People™ on the Patio season!
- Thank you Eric!!!!



Visit www.thearcofmidland.org to learn more about our fun summer events!



The Arc of Midland Partners for our MLK Day of Service



MIDLAND COUNTY
EMERGENCY
FOOD
PANTRY
NETWORK



1,500+ Community
Members Served

53,000+ lbs
of food
distributed



130
Volunteers



Employee Spotlight Malorie Bovee

Court Liaison and Reporting Specialist



I handle a few different types of reporting at The Arc of Midland. Reporting to The Midland Probate Court is one of them. I report the numbers for each individual's fiduciary accounts and working with the Community Connectors to fill out the rest of the report. On a day to day basis, I call Social Security often and fill out any necessary reports. I also work closely with Social Security in monitoring individual's asset level and also working with each individual's team to help them get what they need or want in case they have extra money. Usually, you can find me counting, recounting, and double checking all the numbers!

Your WHY?

Growing up, I had two cousins that had severe disabilities. One passed away when I was little but I was able to grow up with the other, Candy. I watched my Grannie help my Aunt and Uncle care for Candy; feeding, bathing and loving her. Neither of them had a diagnosis and the doctors couldn't explain why this had occurred. I remember Candy would tell "stories" even though she couldn't talk. If it was a sad story, she would tear up and a big ol' alligator tear would fall down her face. To which you say, "Candy, tell me a happy story!" Usually with some sweet words and comfort, you could help her feel better. I remember the connection my dad had with her and how she would light up when she heard or saw him. But even deeper than growing up with my cousins who had disabilities, my dad was in a serious construction accident when I was very young which left him with a broken back. I grew up assisting him after surgeries and taking care of him how a little girl could. I've experienced the struggles with the doctors and the support that's needed at home and the stress of learning through it all. I've seen different "disabilities" my whole life. Whether it's genetic or an accident causing the disability, I learned very quickly that everyone is alike. We all want connection, love, and to feel supported.

Fun Fact:

I am a member of our local SCCA and Autocross my Hyundai Veloster N! I love the sound of a spooling turbo, back-fire, and squealing tires. Learning the course at each track and knowing when to turn or accelerate or shift all goes into having the best competitive time for your Class; and that is thrilling to me!



The Arc®

Midland

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Capitol Hill Insider

Governor Whitmer Signs Pay Extension for Direct Care Workers

More than 100,000 Michigan residents experiencing developmental disabilities or mental illness are supported today, thanks to key actions by the Michigan Legislature and Governor. State lawmakers adopted a measure that includes a \$2.25 per hour wage supplemental for qualifying Direct Care Workers through Sep. 30, 2021. The supplemental is retroactive to Mar. 1. Residential and vocational Direct Care Workers provide much-needed personal care, training, emotional support and respite to vulnerable people and their families.

President Signs COVID Relief Reconciliation Bill

On March 11, President Biden signed the COVID relief reconciliation package. Notable provisions include:

- Funding for HCBS: 10% FMAP increase for HCBS for one year.
- Extension of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit increase through September
- Economic Impact Payments of \$1,400 per person, including for adult dependents
- Temporary increase in premium tax credits under the Affordable Care Act
- Extension and expansion of tax credits for business that provide COVID leave
- Expansion of Earned Income Tax Credit for childless adults
- Expansion of and refundability for the Child Tax Credit for low-income families

Senators Introduce Disability Employment Incentives Act

On March 9, Senator Bob Casey (D-PA) and seven other Senators introduced the Disability Employment Incentives Act (S.630). This bill increases three tax credits for employers. The Work Opportunity Tax Credit, which provides incentives for businesses that hire people referred by vocational rehabilitation or who are on Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability Insurance, would be increased from \$2,400 to \$5,000. The Disability Access Expenditures Tax Credit would be increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000. The Architectural and Transportation Barrier Tax Credit would be increased from \$15,000 to \$30,000.

