

# *Fall 2023* NEWSLETTER

**ADVOCACY • RESOURCES • COMMUNITY** 

## **Our Mission & Vision**

Our mission is to advocate for the right of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to be regarded as valued citizens with the same entitlements as non-disabled individuals, including the right to lifelong opportunities for personal growth and full participation in the community.

**ARC is celebrating 65 years** serving individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities I/DD (and their families) in Rutland County! We provide advocacy, local and state resources along with opportunities for community inclusion to this population. Watch for an article very soon in the Rutland Herald about our history!



...is a movement that reimagines a world built upon shared humanity and radical generosity. We believe, and we are sure you do too, in the importance of empowering all people, especially those with I/DD to live a fulfilling, and independent life as possible. <u>Your support of</u> <u>ARC helps its members develop life skills and social skills so</u> <u>they can experience their best life, just as you do!</u>

Beginning November 28<sup>th</sup>, please support ARC Rutland Area by donating through our website at https://www.arcrutlandarea.org/donate/ or by mail to: ARC Rutland Area, 128 Merchants Row Ste. 401, Rutland, VT 05701. All GivingTuesday donations to ARC will be matched 100% up to \$1,000 by an anonymous donor!

## Member Happenings...

## AKTION CLUB & SELF-ADVOCATES CAR WASH & BAKE SALE

On August 19<sup>th</sup>, the AKtion Club AND the Self-Advocates held their own Car Wash and Bake Sale. Seven of our members participated, along with the help of nine volunteers. This successful and fun day raised \$238.50! A big thank you to the Bank of Bennington who hosted the event, those who donated baked goods and supplies, and all of our enthusiastic members and volunteers!







We had a great learning experience when Come Alive Outside sponsored a VINS reptile event on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. We followed up with a Raptor experience at the Rutland Library. We will be planning a day trip for next Spring so keep a look out for it!



## THE DUFFY FAMILY BARN PICNIC



This annual event on Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, was a HUGE success, thanks to the sponsorship of the Duffy Family and the Poultney Rotary Club! Hotdogs, beans, snacks, games, music and friends!

#### ARC RUTLAND AREA MASQUERADE DANCE

On Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, we had a great time at our Masquerade Dance



at the American Legion in Rutland. Great costumes, food, music, and company. A crowd of about eighty people attended the event!

### SPECIAL CASE MANAGERS



#### Karen Topper from GMSA

recently met with our Self-Advocates to discuss the state's proposal to add special case managers in 2025 and the

importance of sharing their thoughts about what our Self-Advocates wanted in a case manager. These are important changes and your voices are needed now! Learn more about this proposal by visiting this link: https://tinyurl.com/zx4keuf4

### 30 YEARS!



2023 marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the closing of the Brandon Training School, Vermont's only public institution for

people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. I/DD Find out about the history of this facility and what it took to find more person-centered alternatives by the link below to the book, "Closing the Doors of the Institution – Opening the Hearts of Our Communities": <u>https://tinyurl.com/yb5h57kt</u>

#### NEW STAFF AT ARC RUTLAND AREA



We welcome a new staff member to our offices – Leona Roberts. She answers the phone, does spread sheets, takes the RSVP calls, and keeps us on our toes! Welcome Leona!



We also want to share a farewell to our dear friend Christy Clark who left us too soon. She passed away Saturday, October 14, 2023, and will be missed by all her friends at ARC Rutland Area!

## ARC Rutland Area Event Calendar

## November – December 2023

Date	Time	Event	Location
Tuesday November 14th	6 PM – 8 PM	SABE-R & AKtion Club Meetings	ARC Office
Wednesday November 15th	6 PM – 7:30 PM	ARC Board Meeting	ARC Office
Thursday November 23rd	Office Closed	Happy Thanksgiving!	ARC Office Closed
Tuesday	Giving Tuesday		
November 28th	Please support ARC Rutland Area by donating at		
	https://www.arcrutlandarea.org/donate		
	All GivingTuesday donations to ARC will be MATCHED		
	100% up to \$1,000 by an anonymous donor!		
Sunday	12 PM – 4 PM	ARC Rutland Area	Elks Club
December 10th		Annual Meeting and	Rutland
		Holiday Dance	
Tuesday	6 PM – 8 PM	SABE-R &	ARC Office
December 12 <sup>th</sup>		AKtion Club Meetings	
Monday December 25 <sup>th</sup>	Office Closed	Happy Holiday!	Office Closed



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Here are some ways you can support ARC Rutland Area!

- Become a Member today! Join our AKtion Club and SABE-R Self-Advocacy group!
- Hit the donate button on our website at www.arcrutlandarea.org
- Patronize our Sponsors and thank them for helping ARC Rutland Area!
- Volunteer your time to support our activities.

There are so many more ways that you can help us! Please reach out to:

### Diane Drake 802-775-1370

execdirector@arcrutlandarea.org.

ARC Rutland Area is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.