

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.

Member Happenings...

2024 ARC Annual Membership Meeting and Holiday Dinner Dance



We had a wonderful time and turnout at our **2024 ARC Annual Membership Meeting and Holiday Dinner Dance** on Sunday, December 15th at the Rutland Elks Lodge #345 with 114 attending.

At the meeting, the membership re-elected board officers.

Certificates of appreciation for volunteer work at ARC were given to: Jordan Jankus, Stephanie Lovelette, Terry Stevens, Dmitri Beliakov (Photographer). Jasper Kingsley, Kiersten Hanselman (Intern), Marissa Arduca, and CK Zilski. A special Valued Partner Certificate was awarded to the Rutland Elks Lodge #345.

Following the meeting, we enjoyed a delicious pasta meal courtesy of the Rutland Elks Lodge #345. During the meal, Santa and Mrs. Claus gave out gifts to ARC members. After dessert cake, the dance floor was opened.

ARC Board and staff extend our sincere appreciation to the Rutland Elks Lodge #345 for hosting this event and providing the meal.

SABE-R & AKtion Club Activities



ARC Rutland Area's AKtion Club and SABE-R members were honored and pleased to provide a Christmas donation of \$350.00 again this year to a family in need at the Boys and Girls Club of Rutland County. ARC's Executive Director, Diane Drake, presented the check to staff members at the Boys and Girls Club in December on behalf of the two groups.

Funds to make this donation were raised by the two groups selling "8 Bean Soup in a Jar", "Glow Jars", and Snowflake Wreaths as well as holding a Car-Wash last summer.

SABE-R members will be presenting their Disability Acceptance Presentations to legislators at the Vermont State House on March 20th as part of Developmental Disabilities Awareness month. As they continue to work on expanding community awareness. They have been invited back to speak again at VSU- Castleton Campus April 15th and will present to the Vermont Department of Health on April 24th. Due to illness, they were unable to present to Fair Haven and Castleton Police Departments as planned on February 11th but expect to reschedule.

ARC Rutland Area Receives Bouse Health Trust Funding!

ARC Rutland Area is very grateful and excited to receive a very generous grant award from the Bouse Health Trust. Over the next three years, this grant will fund a new series of 5-week life skills courses for our members beginning this spring and taught by professional instructors on topics such as finance/ budgeting, reading for joy, basic cooking, holistic wellness, small tool safety, and other topics members choose.

Members who complete the course will receive a Certificate of Completion. To compliment the life skills courses, this grant will allow ARC to also host 2-4 professional health awareness clinics throughout the year.

See the insert for more details about the life skills courses offered in MAY!

These additional and very necessary services will be delivered through a new part-time program director who will manage these new programs along with our SABE-R and Aktion Clubs, our dances, and outdoor events.

A Remembrance



We want to share a farewell to ARC members and friends Lori-Anna (Dimick) Mason, Halle J. Loomis, Paul Wiggin, and Mrs. Mafalda (Terry) Mangieri who all left us in January. Our condolences to all their families and friends.

ARC Rutland Area Event Calendar

DATE	TIME		LOCATION
Feb. 14 – Feb. 22	-	Come Alive Outside Rutland Winter Fest 2025 https://www.rutlandwinterfest.com/events	Various
Sun. - Feb. 16	1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Valentine’s Day Dance – Cancelled due to weather	Rutland Elks Lodge
Wed. – Feb. 26	6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	ARC Board Meeting	ARC Office

March 2025 Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

Tues. – Mar. 4	VT City/Town ELECTION DAY! Please Vote YES in support of ARC funding.		
Tues. – Mar. 11	6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	SABE-R & Aktion Club Meetings	ARC Office
Thurs. – Mar. 20 or snow date Mar. 27	11:00 AM arrival	SABE-R presentations to committee or Lt. Gov. office; meet with legislators	State House - Montpelier
Sun. – Mar. 23	1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Spring Fling Dance	Amer.Leg. Castleton
Wed. - Mar. 26	6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	ARC Board Meeting	ARC Office



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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 donation 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