THE CONNECTOR NEWSLETTER

November 2026



The Arc Buffalo County

GRATEFUL FOR INCLUSION

As November arrives and we begin preparing for the holiday season, it is a wonderful time to reflect on what makes a community strong. At The Arc of Buffalo County, we believe that everyone deserves to be included, respected, and have the opportunity to live a meaningful life.

One of the most important parts of disability advocacy is making sure people with disabilities have a voice in decisions that affect their lives.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3. Voting is one of the most powerful ways to advocate, and everyone deserves a polling place and a ballot they can use.

- Polling places must be physically accessible, and every location should offer accessible voting equipment.
- Voters with disabilities have the right to bring a person of their choice to help them vote. That person can't be their employer or a union representative.
- Not sure where to vote or what your options are? Check the **Buffalo County Election Commissioner's website** or call: 308-236-1233

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Self-advocacy means having the opportunity to express preferences, make choices, set goals, and participate in decisions about home, work, relationships, and community activities. We can support self-advocacy by listening, offering choices, respecting individual decisions, and making sure people have the information and support they need to speak up for themselves.

With gratitude,
The Arc of Buffalo County Board & Staff

Arc Board of Directors

Grace Thomsen
Penny Warford
Jordyn Ihle Robinson
Chelsea Jensen
Janet Anderson
Christine Fisher
Angela Klaus
Lori Cody
Judy Trent
Hunter Conner, Self Advocate
Jessica Walker, Self Advocate

Office Manager

Joyce Linner

Help us Celebrate these member November Birthdays!

Jayeden Crocker
Spencer Schultz
Allie Moore
Wally Howard
Josh Mashak
Matthew Wright
Christina Beck



UPCOMING EVENTS

We have a lot of great upcoming events. We'd love to see you. If you have questions or suggestions, give us a call at 308-237-4343 or email ArcofBuffaloCounty@gmail.com. Some events below are not Arc organized but are open to our members and their families.

November

Arc Night Out - at 5:00 pm-8:00pm
Tuesday, 11/10 : at Runza North
Please plan to pay for your own meals and drinks. And provide your own transportation.

Honey Sunday
11/8
This year we will have tables set up at Diva's Floral on Saturday and Sunday.

Kitt's Coffee: we will have a table set up on Sunday morning.



Save the Date for these future events:

Give Where You Live 12/3
Christmas Tree Walk 12/5-12/13
Christmas Dance 12/7
Santa's Workshop 12/12

Do you have an event or activity coming up? Let us know, and we will add it to our newsletter for you!

Free Community Events

Family of Christ Free Supper
11/4 and 11/18 at 5:30 pm

Footloose at World Theatre
11/4 Free Movie: Showing at 7:00 PM

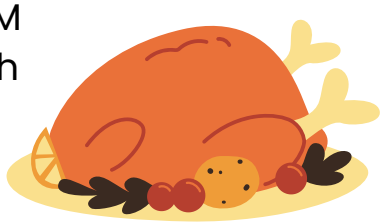
Jubilee at St. Luke's Church
11/12 Community Supper at 5:30 PM

JAZZ at the World Theatre
11/9 Free Jazz Concert at 7:00pm

Veterans Day Parade
11/7 at 11:00 am on the Bricks

Princess Bride at World Theatre
11/12 Free Movie: Showing at 7pm

Thanksgiving Day Lunch
at Olde Town Hall 1900 Central Ave
11:30Am-2:30PM
November 26th



RUNZA® FUNDRAISER NIGHT

10% OF SALES

from **5:00-8:00 PM at the West 39th Kearney Runza®**
on Tuesday, November 10th will be donated to
The Arc of Buffalo County!



All sales from the drive-thru, dine-in, carry-out or
order ahead will support The Arc of Buffalo County.



HOLIDAY MEAL SIGN UP

November 9th, 2026 - 3pm to 7pm
December 7th, 2026 - 3pm to 7pm

1719 Central Ave
Kearney, Nebraska 68847
308-234-9998

Signups for our Holiday Meal Certificate are on the above days. You can sign up **ONCE**.

You must be a resident of Buffalo or Kearney County with an ID to show residency.

THE SALVATION ARMY

❤️ What Are You Thankful For?

November is a great time to think about the people and things that make us happy. Maybe you are thankful for your friends, family, pets, job, home, favorite activities, or the people who make you smile. You might also be proud of something you have learned or a goal you have reached this year.

Take a moment to think about this question:
What is one thing you are proud of yourself for doing this year?

Maybe you got a job, tried something new, made a new friend, learned a new skill, or asked for help when you needed it.
No accomplishment is too small to celebrate. Be proud of yourself and all the things that make you YOU!

🌟 Your November Challenge: Make a Difference!

You can help make your community a better place for everyone!

Here are five things you can try this month:
Say hello to someone new.
Invite someone to join an activity.
Tell someone about something you are good at.
Speak up when you have an idea.
Learn something new about disability rights.

You do not have to do all five.
Just pick one that sounds good to you!

Remember: Small actions can make a big difference.
You have something special to share with the world!!



Honey Sunday Sales are live!

We're excited to share that our 62nd Annual Honey Sunday Fundraiser is open through the end of the year!

We invite you to support The Arc by purchasing locally sourced Nebraska honey that's as good for our community as it is delicious. Whether you buy by the bottle or the case, **it makes a thoughtful employee gift, a cozy addition to tea time, or a sweet holiday stocking stuffer.**

Local purchases will enjoy **complimentary delivery** through November.

A single bottle is $7.
A case of 24 is $160



Purchase a Single Bottle Here:
https://square.link/u/hEWDtb3H

Purchase a Case Here:
https://square.link/u/2ORu8kly

Give Where You Live



This fall, we are proud to be part of the Give Where You Live campaign, a powerful reminder that local giving makes a local difference.

When you give to The Arc of Buffalo County, your dollars stay right here, supporting programs, events, and advocacy for individuals with disabilities and their families in our own backyard.

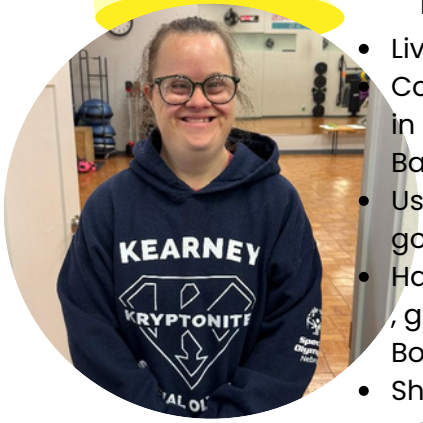
Use this link to give to The Arc of Buffalo County:
https://www.givewhereyoulive.net/organization/ArcofBuffalo

Early Giving: November 5
Live Event: December 3

Every gift, big or small, means the world to us.

Thank You

Member Spotlight



Robin Anderson

- Lives independently Competes in Special Olympics in Bowling, Bocce, Soccer, Basketball and powerlifting
- Uses Public transportation to go places
- Has participated in Arc Dances, , girls fitness class, Buddy Bowling.
- She has lost over 80lbs on a weight loss Journey
- Has 7 siblings and loves dogs.
- She is very thoughtful and caring
- Goes to the YMCA 4 days a week



Resource Corner

Finding the right support for yourself or a loved one can sometimes feel overwhelming. Fortunately, there are organizations throughout Nebraska that provide information, guidance, and resources for people with disabilities and their families.
This month, we encourage you to explore these helpful resources:

- The Arc of Nebraska: Information about disability services, advocacy, education, and family support.
- Nebraska DHHS: Information about developmental disability services, community supports, and assistive technology.
- Disability Rights Nebraska: Resources to help individuals understand and protect their rights.

You don't have to navigate everything alone!
We encourage individuals and families to reach out, ask questions, and learn about the supports available to them.

Know of a helpful resource you'd like us to feature in a future newsletter? Let us know!

UPDATE

Disability Policy Update
What Families Should Know

Federal disability policy continues to be an important issue for individuals with disabilities, their families, and the organizations that support them.

One issue to watch is Medicaid. Federal changes scheduled for 2027 include new requirements for certain adult enrollees, along with exemptions for eligible individuals. These changes make it important for families to pay attention to official notices and seek reliable information about their benefits.

Lawmakers are also considering legislation that could provide additional federal funding to support community-based services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Stay informed: Families can follow policy updates through Medicaid.gov and **The Arc of the United States**

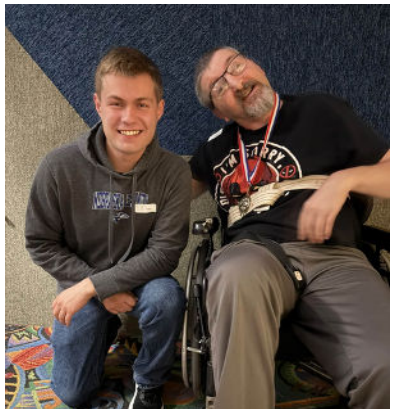
Click Here to
See Nebraska's Fact Sheet Here

Note: Policies and implementation details may change. Families should check current official guidance to understand how any changes apply to their individual circumstances.

October Highlights

We want to thank EVERYONE who made our October events so special! From the Halloween Dance, to Craft Class, Arc Night Out, our Practical Magic 2 Movie showing, and our Buddy Bowling sessions - we had so much fun!



















How You Can Help This Month

- Volunteer our upcoming Santa's Workshop or Christmas Dinner & Dance Contact us at 308-237-4343
- Buy or share Honey Sunday pre-sale information with a local business
- We're looking for new office computers. If you have a lead or a good used laptop; please let us know.
- Give Where You Live donate at ttps://www.givewhereyoulive.net/organization/ArcofBuffalo

The Arc
Buffalo County

4511 6th Avenue, Suite 204
Kearney, NE 68845

The Arc relies on fundraising and donations to make our events and programs possible. Ways to Donate: Cash, Check, or Card. Scan the QR Code to donate at our Website.

EVENTS REGISTRATION FORM

Participant Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Parent or Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Wheelchair Walker

Crutches

Other

Events:

___Christmas Dance

Additional limitations and/or information that will benefit the staff helping you or your person:

_____

_____

Does the participant have any food/drug allergies? If yes, please list:

_____

_____

Card Payments can be accepted over the phone. **Please make checks payable to:**

Arc of Buffalo County
4511 6th Avenue, Suite 204
Kearney, NE 68845