



Paxton Campus

601 Catoctin Circle NE
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www.paxtoncampus.org

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Board, Members and Employees

SUBJECT: Annual Report, 2010 – 2011

In accordance with our by-laws, I am pleased to submit our Annual Report for The Arc of Loudoun (dba the Paxton Campus) covering the period from July 2010 through June 2011.

This has been a year characterized by **sustained growth, mission expansion and strong financial accountability**. While we have been affected by the poor economy, mostly in terms of late payments by county school districts, the impact was less than it might have been were it not for the precautionary measures taken by our executive staff. We fared much better than most non-profits. In fact, by reducing expenses and with the help of our exceptionally successful Haunted House event in October, we were able to meet the rising demand for our services, pay-off our line of credit and launch new and needed programs focused on children with disabilities and their families. Even without the challenges we faced, this was a remarkably successful year by any measure.

Some of the highlights from the year were:

The Aurora School:

- We have expanded our services beyond Virginia to include children from West Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia
- In response to demand, requested and received VA Department of Education approval to increase student capacity from 25 to 30 students
- We expanded our Education and Behavior Analysis internship program opportunities to include Penn State, Virginia Tech, Highpoint College, Pensacola Christian College, and Mary Baldwin in addition to our existing George Mason University collaboration.
- Attended and presented at national conferences (e.g., Association of Behavior Analysis International Conference in Denver Colorado; Organizational Behavior Management Network Conference in Tampa, Fl, etc.), including partnering with Commonwealth Autism Services to present research

Paxton Campus...

*...supports families and maximizes the potential of children of all abilities so that they may **thrive** in the community.*



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- Hosted Dr. Peter Gerhardt in presenting on “Transition at Any Age” which focused on teaching Young Adults with disabilities independence in living and working in the community with an emphasis in Assistive Technology such as cell phones, IPADs and Bluetooth devices
- Partnered with the Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired to ensure that we can better serve all of our students
- Completed Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) testing and Virginia Alternative Assessment Portfolio (VAAP) compilation with our students at Aurora with a pass rate of 100% for VAAP
- Conducted independent research presented nationally for peer review to add to the academic body of knowledge and supported broader research projects at George Mason University
- Entertainer Maddy Curtis of American Idol fame gave a free concert to our students
- Collaborated with “A Place To Be” Art center to provide drama and music therapy enrichment for students
- Awarded a \$700 grant for field trips by the Target Foundation
- Awarded \$1200 grant for assistive technology through ArgonST

Open Door Learning Center:

- Fiscally managed Open Door Learning Center (ODLC), an inclusion-model preschool for children of all abilities with an emphasis in providing opportunities to the underserved
- Presented on best practice for including children with disabilities in a preschool setting at The Arc of the United States National Conference, Orlando, FL
- Partnered with Loudoun County Head Start to help serve children not currently enrolled because of the County wait-list
- Awarded a \$25,000 grant through 100 Women Strong Foundation

ALLY (A Life Like Yours) Advocacy Center

- Provided legal advocacy services to 120 individuals and families
- Hosted numerous successful community and fundraising events (e.g., April Autism Awareness Walk, Inclusion Walk, 8K Run for Independence, Paxton Manor Haunted House, etc.)
- Supported parent and community outreach with groups such as the Parent Network and Loudoun Abused Woman’s Services (LAWS) and delivered advocacy training
- Awarded a \$40,000 grant through the Claude Moore Foundation

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Around the Campus:

- Updated aging infrastructure (targeted, more to be done)
- Welcomed the larger community to tour the campus and share in our mission. These included the Rotary Club, 100 Women Strong, etc.
- Actively partnered with the community to support our mission e.g., Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Every Citizen has Opportunities (ECHO), Blossom & Bloom, Junior Women's League of Loudoun, St. James Youth Outreach Camp, Kids with Purpose, etc.)
- Installed a new playground for The Aurora School
- Joined the Leesburg Downtown Business Association
- Partnered with Virginia Institute of Autism to host "Thinking Person Centered" training
- Published an opinion piece in the Loudoun Times-Mirror on Autism during April for Autism Awareness Month

Program Expansion:

- Provided handy-man services to particularly needy clients and partners such as Blossom & Bloom Thrift Shop via our Campus Superintendent
- Partnered with Modern Concepts Salon and stylist Alexa Zagorites to provide haircuts to children on campus who have trouble visiting a typical salon
- Awarded a \$35,000 grant with The Arc of the United States used to expand the vocational training services offered to students 16-22 through the creation of STEP Up (Supported Training and Employment Program). STEP Up will focus on teaching independent living and job skills needed to help adults with disabilities live and work in the community.

Through direct service, professional development, awareness events, fundraising efforts, information and referral, and in serving as a community resource, we impacted approximately 4000 families last year alone, all while maintaining administrative overhead to 5.4% or less. We look forward to continuing our expansion of services in the coming year, and thank our community for your support.

//Original Signed//

Scott D. Billigmeier
President, Board of Directors
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