



### Executive Director Updates!

The Arc of Frederick County is very excited to announce two position changes that were effective October 10, 2017.

Matt Morgan will serve as the Executive Director. Matt has served as Associate Executive Director at The Arc of Frederick County for the past four years and we anticipate a seamless transition to his new role. Many of you know Matt, and we are confident that his experience and expertise in the field of developmental disabilities will continue The Arc of Frederick County's innovative and valuable work.

Joanna Pierson will move to the position of Senior Vice President. This will allow an administrative transition while she works on training, research, and innovation, including at The Arc at Market Street. Joanna has served as Executive Director of The Arc of Frederick County for over 38 years, and we are thrilled that she will continue to serve our agency in this new leadership position.

Please join us in congratulating Matt and Joanna on their new positions. We will be holding a celebration later this year and we will share information about that as soon as the details are available.

### *A Look Back, and a Look Ahead...*

Joanna Pierson was hired as The Arc of Frederick County's Executive Director in June 1979. She was an energetic 20-something, with a recently-earned Master's Degree and several years' experience working at provider agencies in Maryland and Massachusetts. She returned to her native Maryland to start this new adventure, and was faced with a small agency (she was the only employee) and an even smaller budget, but with grand ideas of how to provide services to people with developmental disabilities in Frederick County. She met with many of the agency's founding family members and quickly understood the importance of tailoring the services to each individual's specific needs, promoting inclusion in the community, and helping people live enviable lives. Joanna understood the value of research and educational growth, and while still working full-time, she earned a Ph.D. Her dissertation was "Leadership that Leads to Innovation in Nonprofit Human Service Organizations."

Through the next 38 years under Joanna's leadership, The Arc of Frederick County continued to provide individual support services and also received the state's contract to provide service coordination in Central and Western Maryland, where we served over 10,000 people with 300 staff and a \$14 million budget. By 2005, Joanna realized we needed to concentrate more on providing support services in Frederick County, so we spun-off our service coordination division. In the years since, we continued to grow locally and expanded to an office in Allegany County, and in 2013, we purchased the building at 555 South Market Street where we are growing again by providing an innovative day program and culinary training program. This building also allows us to host large events and bring the community in to our shops, café, and other activities (see page 2 for more on our upcoming holiday events!).

Joanna said, "I'm very excited about this new position."

We look forward to seeing what exciting initiatives Joanna and Matt will lead The Arc through, and we know that their continuing leadership and guidance will help us grow and thrive in the years to come.

*Look for the next issue of The Link to learn more about our new Executive Director, Matt Morgan!*

thank  
you!

Thank you to volunteers from the United Way Day of Caring, 4-H Valley Urbanites, and Frederick County Bank for helping with landscaping projects at our Market Street building. We appreciate your hard work!

## The Arc at Market Street Updates



### The Shops at Market Street

The third holiday shopping season opens on Thursday, November 30th. Our shops are open on Thursdays from 8-2, Fridays 8-4, and Saturdays 10-4 through 12/22. We offer a variety of one-of-a-kind items. We will have cookie decorating for children; the creations will be boxed and ready to give (or eat). Our Charlotte's Coffee House will be serving breakfast pastries and lunch items.



#### **Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> 10-4** *Artisans of The Arc*

Our first Art Show in August was a sell-out event; every piece on display was purchased. We are excited about our second show in December. People who are served by The Arc will once-again be selling their paintings and other media.

#### **January 20th and 21st 10-6** *A Puzzling Weekend*

Join us in our event room for a day of unplugged, non-internet ready, throw-back fun. The room will be filled with puzzles of all levels, and we invite you to stay as long as you like. We will be selling snacks and beverages, so please, no outside food. Bring your puzzle skills, make some new friends or sit and enjoy the solitude and be reminded of a time when WIFI and cell phones were not a part of our lives.

# Development

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## Please Remember The Arc of Frederick County In Your Workplace Giving



Maryland State Employees can designate #526055211 on their giving forms and Federal employees can use #87793. Employees of Frederick County Government, Frederick City Government, and Frederick County Public Schools use #0104. For the United Way of Frederick County, you can designate us on your employer's United Way campaign form by writing in "The Arc of Frederick County".

Thank you for supporting The Arc!

# Thanks To Our Contributors

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*Thank  
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See our website for a listing  
of upcoming events



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