

## **A Brief History of Arc-San Diego**

**Initiated by a group of concerned parents in 1951, The Arc of San Diego has reached many milestones. With the safety, well-being and growth of people with developmental disabilities always in the forefront, Arc can look back and ahead to the accomplishments of and for all consumers.**

- 07/51~Ocean Beach Women's Club undertook to "do something" for children w/ developmental disabilities.**
- 10/51~"Society for Exceptional Children" created.**
- 06/52~Name changed to "San Diego County Association for Retarded Children."**
- 01/53~Riley Street Center opened.**
- 06/53~Papers of Incorporation received.**
- 03/55~Child Development Center opened in Mission Valley (8 children start!)**
- 09/56~ Association acquires first vehicle, a Volkswagen Bus.**
- 06/57~Association becomes a member of United Way.**
- 09/57~Youth activities started in Mission Valley, Saturdays only.**
- 11/57~"North County Chapter" starts in Oceanside.**
- 03/58~First "Value Village Thrift Store" opens on Market Street.**
- 09/58~Second "Value Village Thrift Store" opens in Chula Vista.**
- 11/58~Youth Activities begin full time programming.**
- 01/59~Cherrie Sevick becomes the First Executive Director.**
- 02/59~First Girl Scout Troop for developmentally disabled formed.**
- 05/59~First Annual Dinner held.**
- 06/59~Dept. of HEW deeds property at 44<sup>th</sup> & Market to the Association.**
- 09/59~Association hosts the CCRC convention for the 1<sup>st</sup> time.**
- 09/59~"Teenage Recreation Program for the Mentally Handicapped, Inc," becomes Starlight Center.**
- 11/59~First Boy Scout Troop for developmentally disabled formed.**
- 07/60~2.5 acres & 2 buildings donated for Starlight Center.**
- 10/60~"Sunbeam Center" in El Cajon becomes "East County Chapter."**
- 08/61~North County Chapter dedicates new building in Vista.**
- 07/61~East County Chapter buys the "Storey Ranch" which becomes "Angels Unaware Center."**
- 01/63~"San Diego City Chapter" organized.**
- 03/63~Angels LARC is formed.**
- 05/63~First State Bowling Tournament.**
- 06/63~Major victory as legislature approves Mandatory Public Education for the severely retarded.**
- 10/63~City LARC is formed.**
- 08/64~First Association Camping program.**
- 09/65~North County Chapter becomes a separate association.**
- 12/65~Large anonymous donation of IBM stock funds the first Production Center.**
- 01/66~Loma LARC is formed.**
- 01/69~Association begins participation in Special Olympics.**
- 02/69~San Diego Regional Center opens its doors.**

06/70~Third "Value Village Thrift Store" opens in El Cajon.  
01/71~Receive Parker Grant to initiate first "Infant Stimulation" program.  
06/71~Board of Trustees organized.  
01/72~Starlight's Production Center opened.  
04/73~First Annual "FIESTA" is celebrated.  
01/74~CA Board of Educ. Adopts State Master Plan for Special Education.  
10/74~U.S. Post Office issues stamp commemorating Developmentally Disabled Children.  
01/75~"Project Impact" (Outreach) started.  
05/75~"Sitter Service started."  
06/75~"North Shores Chapter" organized.  
11/75~"Educ. For All Handicapped Children Act" signed by President Ford.  
08/76~Grant received for first Group Home-South Bay Chapter.  
09/76~North Shores Chapter opens its first facility.  
03/77~First CARF accreditation of all SDCAR facilities and programs.  
06/77~Richard Farmer chosen as second Executive Director.  
10/77~Arrow Production Center dedicated and opened.  
11/77~Residential Program expanded  
01/78~Community Awareness & Membership Drive raises membership from 2,000 to 20,000.  
02/78~"Arrow Services Program" started.  
07/78~Program Evaluation is instituted.  
05/79~Project REACH starts.  
10/79~First Federal contract (N.I.S.H.) for Arrow Services at Miramar NAS.  
03/80~First trademark and copyright for our own product line- "Pot Pourri."  
05/80~Second successful 3-year CARF accreditation.  
06/80~Development of our own Computer Program service.  
06/81~Name change to "Association for Retarded Citizens-San Diego."  
07/81~Arrow Services begins Food Service Training Program w/ Host Intl.  
09/81~Second trademark and copyright for our own product line-"Mortimer Bird."  
08/82~First Local Telethon, KGTV, Ch. 6.  
12/82~East County Training Center-John Towers Production Center dedicated.  
03/83~North County "Resale Shop" opens.  
06/83~New Residential Program starts, In-Home Services.  
09/84~Dept. of Rehab. Grant to fund Individual Job Placement Services.  
12/84~Hallelujah Corp. merges w/ Arc bringing innovative vocational programs; Donut Shop, Hotel/Motel Skills, Boat Care/Marina Services, "Café on Fifth."  
12/84~First custom-built group home constructed & owned by Arc, Santee.  
03/85~Parent-Infant staff, Phyllis Mathy selected as "Citizen of the Year, El Cajon."  
06/85~Pilot Program w/ Parkinson's Foundation for Respite-Care.  
06/85~First Pre-Apartment Program (North Park).  
08/85~"Vocational Services" division formed (Includes Arrow Services).  
08/85~Vocational Services opens new Park Operations program at SeaWorld.  
08/85~Print Shop, providing training and small business services-John Towers.  
10/85~Car Washing/Detailing Program opens at Colonial Ford.  
09/86~Food Services Program opens at Nazarene College w/ Marriott Food Corp.

06/87~Warehouse Operations opens in Santee w/ 1<sup>st</sup> fulfillment, 50,000 books.  
11/87~East County Training Center completes new building at Lexington.  
06/87~Pre-Apartment Program opens in North County.  
06/88~North County Association merges w/ Arc-San Diego.  
07/88~Parenting Program at Starlight (For parents w/ developmental disabilities.)  
09/88~"Friends of Handicapped Children" transfers 8 group homes to Arc.  
12/88~Opening of "Archer's Confectionery", gourmet chocolate store in Carlsbad.  
03/89~"Café on Fifth" becomes "Eggies" and moves to University Ave.  
03/89~Dedication of "Helmer House", named after the founder of "Nice Guys, Inc."  
04/89~Dedication of "Micrographics" in Chula Vista.  
06/89~"Kardiff Kitchen" opens in Encinitas.  
11/89~Ground-breaking for North Shores Vocational Center in Serra Mesa.  
02/90~Special Olympians Francisco Villasenor & Diane Hall climb Mt. Kilimanjaro.  
04/90~"Project Child" sponsored w/ Down Syndrome Association-volunteer respite.  
06/90~Arc-San Diego, et al, participate in downtown demonstration protesting Governor Wilson's attempts to cut services.  
03/91~Community Based programs combine classroom work w/ socialization and work in the community.  
05/91~Ground-breaking for "Arc Estates" in Pacific Beach.  
05/91~State Bond issued to Arc (\$8.4 million); 1<sup>st</sup> time a non-profit, social service agency qualifies.  
07/91~"Self-Advocacy" training for staff to organize peer groups for consumers.  
08/91~"Starmakers" perform at The Hahn Theater for John Burnham Co.  
12/91~Vocational Services merges w/ North Shores Vocational center.  
03/92~Grand Opening: Arc Estates, 4 homes & 4 6-unit apartments (2br), open to the community.  
03/92~Vocational Rehabilitation Work Activity Program (VR-WAP) starts at Arc.  
08/92~"Arc Foundation" created to augment funding for new & existing programs.  
11/92~Parent-Infant Program vendorized to provide services in Clairemont area.  
12/92~1<sup>st</sup> Annual "Jon Kurtin Golf Tournament" guaranteeing holiday gifts for all Arc consumers.  
06/93~Special legislation is sponsored by Rep. Lowery and signed by President Bush to attain citizenship for Michael Wu, consumer at North Shores.  
01/94~Group Home redesigned to meet the needs of Prader-Willi Syndrome consumers.  
04/94~North County opens satellite Community Based program in Carlsbad.  
05/94~Arc is awarded 2-year contract for back-up childcare at County's "Hillcrest Receiving Home."  
06/94~Parent-Infant Program participates in "Early Start."  
06/95~Solar Turbines chooses Arc as recipient of their Golf Tournament, garnering \$50,000 for programs.  
08/95~"The Grape Escape", Arc's first Wine and Art fundraiser.  
01/96~Parent-Infant Program works w/ "Interwork Institute" to achieve inclusion for toddlers.  
06/96~Arc adopts "Pathways to Excellence" training for all staff.  
06/96~Membership approves a new name: "The Arc of San Diego."

**05/97~Introduction of “Money Purchase Pension Plan” to benefit all employees.**  
**01/98~Arc partners with the NFL to support Super Bowl events in San Diego.**  
**10/99~1<sup>st</sup> “Annual Community Awards Luncheon” recognizing community supporters.**  
**08/2000~Creation of full integration “Transition Teams” to facilitate Job Placement.**  
**08/2000~Arc fully commits to Person-Centered Planning and Self-Determination as philosophies.**  
**06/2001~Arc initiates a new, major N.I.S.H. contract at The Marine Corps Recruiting depot.**  
**01/2003~Arc partners with the Serra Mesa Community Council.**  
**06/2003~1<sup>st</sup> Annual “Hal Clement Golf Tournament” to benefit Vocational Programs.**  
**07/2003~Arc creates programs to serve Seniors at all Centers.**  
**01/2004~Arc Enterprises, ECTC, initiates grounds maintenance at Gillespie Field Industrial Park.**  
**07/2004~Arc changes Mission Statement to expand services for other disabilities.**