ARISE
2020 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

DOING BUSINESS
In a new way!
ARISE 2020 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

For more than 40 years, ARISE has embraced change, whether it was adding programs, moving locations, working with new partners or anticipating a different business environment. But no one could have guessed the changes in store in 2020, as the COVID-19 pandemic first unfolded and continues to dominate our lives. Adapting to a changing environment is nothing new for the people we serve. Adapting is what ARISE does best.

At ARISE, our mission is to work with people of all abilities to create a fair and just community in which everyone can fully participate. All ARISE services and programs depend upon the human touch; the person who comes to ARISE is in charge of the services and supports he receives. As an Independent Living Center, we meet people where they are literally and figuratively, and everything we do is community-based.

But what to do when the mandate is to stay at home, stay out of the community, and keep a social distance?

As an essential business, ARISE never stopped serving. In the space of a week, we transitioned our mental health, Independent Living and other services to telehealth and remote platforms. Our staff largely worked from home, but they stayed in close contact with their individuals and clients, meeting their needs in creative ways. Mental health therapists delivered counseling sessions in off-hours as families worked and schooled at home during the day. Advocates delivered necessary items to homes when our Personal Care Bank was closed to the public. ARISE kept its doors open in its main Syracuse location.

What makes ARISE special is that we are organized and directed by people with disabilities; we inhabit the disability community that we serve. The pandemic is making the logistics of our work challenging, without a doubt, but our fundamental connection to the community is strong.

Stress from dealing with a deadly pandemic resulted in a significant increase in demand for our mental health services. NewsChannel 9 was quick to report on ARISE’s ramped up services.

Click on the picture to watch.
93Q, the popular Central New York radio station, also picked up the story of how ARISE was quickly responding to a community need.

ARISE Director of Clinical Services Kristen Miguel was featured in newscasts during the first week in April and on 93Q’s “Street Talk” program.

Click on the picture to hear Street Talk
(Miguel’s interview can be found 8:10 into the program)
(https://soundcloud.com/93qsyracuse/street-talk-41020)

While staff at ARISE were teleconferencing with Central New Yorkers in need of services ranging from mental health counseling to employment to consumer-directed personal assistance, the needs of the community’s first responders and caregivers were also on their minds. Shortages in personal protective equipment (PPE) spurred ARISE Adaptive Design (AAD) into action. AAD’s fabricator Tracy Fleming wasted no time in helping out these heroes with face shields produced at ARISE.

Click on Tracy’s picture to get the full story
(https://ariseinc.org/addresponse/)
At the start of the fiscal year, in June 2019, we unveiled the ARISE Adaptive Design Center. The Adaptive Design Center creates tools that people with disabilities can use to improve their independence. Using technology to facilitate independent living is nothing new for people with disabilities.

The current pandemic underscores the importance and versatility of accessibility. For example, people appreciate the fact that they do not have to touch a doorknob when the door opens automatically. People now use sinks and toilets that are fully automatic. More and more people are using the accessibility features on their smart phones to make communications, shopping and work easier. These inventions were designed to meet the needs of people with disabilities. Many were adopted after the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) became law in 1990. ARISE participates in celebrations to mark the anniversary of the ADA. The celebration also reminds people that more is needed to ensure the rights of those with disabilities.

ARISE Advocacy

To mark the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) anniversary in Central New York, proclamations are issued, parades are organized and issues are raised. July 2019 was no different. In 2020, those celebrations became virtual.
ARISE Ombudsman Program

The effects of COVID-19 are especially profound for people who live in skilled nursing facilities. The ARISE Ombudsman program helps resolve complaints, provides information about rights, and advocates for high standards of quality care. When families and friends were banned from visiting, the Ombudsman program stepped up its services.

ARISE at the Farm

Physical fitness and recreation are important ingredients of an independent life. Horseback riding, animal husbandry, crafts, fishing, nature walks and making lifelong friends are what makes ARISE at the Farm a gem in our community. Two cherished events at the Farm were the Horse Show and the Fall Barn Dance!
ARISE Changes

As we packed moving boxes and scheduled construction, ARISE remained fully open for business in 2019 as we completed major projects. The move of the Oswego offices resulted in a new, bigger and more visible location. Major renovations at ARISE’s main offices in Syracuse were completed thanks to a $1 million New York State Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Program Grant. The newly renovated offices make room for more services and programs to offer our community. In the coming year, look for change in Madison County as we consolidate our operations in an interdisciplinary Independent Living Center at ARISE at the Farm.

Eliza Johnson and Mary Kate Menges at ARISE Open House

ARISE Oswego moves to Creekside Plaza, 293 State Route 104.

Renovations at the ARISE offices at 635 James Street, Syracuse.
A Message from the CEO

So, how did the agency come through this year of change and what is ahead? Tania Anderson is the CEO of ARISE.

In the 2019 ARISE Annual Report, I wrote about serendipity and the hard work we do to be in the right place at the right time. Writing this mid-way through 2020, in a world rocked by a pandemic, economic downturns and racial protests, it seems as though we all are in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Not so fast.

This time of crisis will teach us many things, and as time passes we will learn more. Even in the middle of it, however, ARISE is thinking fast and acting quickly to do business in a new way and provide essential services. When the “right place” for many of us was at home, ARISE transitioned to telehealth and remote services. Our mental health clinic set up telephone and internet platforms in the space of a week to provide continued counseling and meet increased demand for mental health supports. Nearly all of our staff shifted to working from home, creatively delivering the same high-quality services as they had from an office. Our outreach to people with disabilities became even more deliberate and frequent, so we could be in the right place at the right time for them.

The COVID crisis is further exposing stark realities that only underscore the importance of Independent Living, the bedrock of all we do at ARISE. We know the pandemic disproportionately hurt people living in institutions. For more than 40 years, ARISE has worked to keep people in the community and out of institutions. We know that the pandemic disproportionately hurt communities marginalized because of age, race or disability. For more than 40 years, ARISE has worked as a civil rights organization to give equal access to all people.

We always knew we were essential. And now the world better knows it is essential to respect the power of every person’s voice, every person’s value, here in the community.

Tania Anderson
ARISE CEO
For 34 years, I’ve been part of ARISE and its Board President for the past 6 months. ARISE’s mission is about success, independence, and self-sufficiency for the participants that we serve. ARISE has always been on the cutting edge and the forefront with its services and programs. ARISE continues to evolve and create new programs such as Adaptive Design and After-School Respite.

Due to COVID-19, the agency has had to operate in new ways. For example, although this year’s dinner was postponed, through the outstanding work of our dinner committee, we created our “non-dinner” event to post on social media. Next year, the committee hopes to surpass 2019’s highest grossing event!

Our employees, Board, and CEO Tania Anderson have continued to work tirelessly through the COVID crisis to maintain a quality of service that is unmatched and ensure ARISE is always in a place to succeed.

Please join me in supporting the ARISE family! Visit ariseinc.org.
2019 Fiscal Year

**BALANCE SHEET**

**ASSETS**
- Current Assets $5,676,652
- Property & Equipment $2,325,704
- Endowment Investments $51,424
- Investment in LIFEPan CCO, NY, LLC $100,000

**Total Assets** $8,153,780

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**
- Current Liabilities $3,136,037
- Long-Term Liabilities $602,994
- Net Assets $4,414,749

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets** $8,153,780

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

**REVENUE**
- Advocacy & Accessibility $1,699,754
- Basic Needs & Assistance $10,885,185
- Education, Employment, & Skill Building $5,266,370
- Health & Wellness $4,363,775
- Recreation & Art $535,232
- Miscellaneous $1,418,191

**Total Revenue** $24,168,507

**EXPENSES**
- Advocacy & Accessibility $1,606,610
- Basic Needs & Assistance $9,803,322
- Education, Employment, & Skill Building $4,894,369
- Health & Wellness $3,359,117
- Recreation & Art $621,713
- General & Administration $2,066,002
- Miscellaneous $1,551,934

**Total Expenses** $23,903,067
ARISE and the ARISE Foundation are deeply grateful for the generosity of the individuals, organizations and businesses who support our mission in Onondaga, Oswego, Madison, Cayuga and Seneca counties. The following is a list of some of our donors who gave between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019. Thank You!

**$10,000 to $25,000**
- Tania S. Anderson
- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- G & C Food Distributors and Brokers, Inc.
- Novels Corporation
- Rural Health Network of Oswego
- New York
- Dr. Selma Sheridan
- Compass Credit Union
- Michael & Laura Cook
- Eaton Corporation
- Jacqueline Fish
- David Gates
- Gutches Lumber Co., Inc.
- Al & Cecile Harnois
- Maurie Heins
- Hillside Park Real Estate, LLC
- Hill-Rom, Inc.
- Thomas & Lynne McKeown
- Mediacom Communications Corporation
- Jane Murphy
- Gerald & Ann Marie Myers
- Network For Good
- Operation Northern Comfort
- Syracuse University Division of Public Affairs
- Ara & Laura Tadevossian
- James V. Tesoriero Charitable Fund
- Maria A. Visco
- Janice & Giovanni Vitale
- Westminster Presbyterian Church
- Mary Pham
- Jim A Stagnitta Electric, Inc.
- The Leading Element
- United Way Of Central New York
- Anonymous & Designating Donors
- Heather Vitale
- Whelan and Curry Construction Services, Inc.
- YourCause

**$5,000 to $9,999**
- P. Drescher Co. Inc.
- Susan & Edward Judge
- Exelon Generation
- Anthony Malavenda & Martine Burat Fund
- The M&T Charitable Foundation
- PPC Broadband, Inc.
- Utopia Club Charity Golf Tournament
- Pathfinder Bank
- P. Drescher Co. Inc.
- Susan & Edward Judge
- Exelon Generation
- Anthony Malavenda & Martine Burat Fund
- The M&T Charitable Foundation
- PPC Broadband, Inc.
- Utopia Club Charity Golf Tournament
- Pathfinder Bank

**$2,000 to $4,999**
- Mary Anne Agan
- BNY Mellon Corporation's Community Partnership
- The Bonadio Group
- Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC
- Bottar Law, PLLC
- Bousquet Holstein PLLC
- Brown & Brown Empire State
- DeWitt Community Church
- Fifth Generation, Inc. (Tito's Handmade Vodka)
- Haylor, Freyer & Coon
- Ronald Jaeger
- Bettina & Timothy Lipphardt
- Kathleen M. and Peter E. Naktenis Family Foundation, Inc.
- Reefer Compressor and Parts, Inc.
- SEFCU
- Karen A. Stanley
- Wegmans Food Markets, Inc.
- Richard Worrell General Agency, LLC
- Mary Pham
- Jim A Stagnitta Electric, Inc.
- The Leading Element
- United Way Of Central New York
- Anonymous & Designating Donors
- Heather Vitale
- Whelan and Curry Construction Services, Inc.
- YourCause

**$500 to $999**
- Frank Albanese
- Alexander & Catalano
- AXA Foundation
- Sharon & Joseph Bennett
- Central Square Masonic Lodge #622
- Betty DeFazio
- William DeLapp
- David & Nicole Dreverman
- Fidelity Charitable
- Sheila & Richard Fraser
- FrontStream (formerly TRUiST)
- Grace Ghezzi
- Giovanni's Tuxedos, LLC
- Dr. Thomas S. & Melanie Hartzheim
- HR Works
- JSD Associates
- James & Patricia Karasek
- LIFEPlan CCO NY
- Candace & John Marsellus Fund
- Jim Marshall Farms Foundation, Inc.
- Doc Jim & Ruth Marshall
- Merrill Lynch Wealth Management
- The Towers/Capron Group
- Andrew Needle
- Oswego County Opportunities, Inc.
- Mary Pham
- Jim A Stagnitta Electric, Inc.
- The Leading Element
- United Way Of Central New York
- Anonymous & Designating Donors
- Heather Vitale
- Whelan and Curry Construction Services, Inc.
- YourCause

**$200 to $499**
- Arc of Onondaga
- Chris Arnold
- Horace & Doris Backus
- Black Button Distilling
- Central New York Community Foundation
- Adam Chehovich
- Jeff Chin
- William & Carol Crist
- Ceme & James Curley
- Dr. Nienke Dosa
- Holly Earl
- Susan Eldred
- Scott & Linda English
- Brett & Lisa Fingland
- Sue Finkelstein
- Daniel & Deborah Gardner
- Mr. & Mrs. Dale Gates
- Winston E. Gaum
- Shayna Gersch
- The Gifford Foundation
- The Gorman Foundation
- Gray Wolves Hockey
- Grimshaw Elementary School
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- Hansen’s Advisory Services, Inc.
- Therese Howington
- INFICON, Inc.
- Josall Syracuse, Inc.
- Arlene Kanter
- Claire Kennedy
- Laura & Paul Little
- Susan M. Loevenguth
- Arlene Marko
- Mary J. Mastriano
- Lori & Gerard McCrohan
- Daniel McGough
- Colleen M. McKeon
- Rebecca Mehkic
$200 to $499 continued
Kristen Miguel
Patricia Morgan
Nascentia Health
Nickels Energy Solutions
Lucy Oakes
Onondaga Cycling Club
Oswego Rotary Club
Andrea & Robert Pagano
Joanne M. Paino
Paradigm Solutions, LLC
Piccolo Properties LLC
Jay A. & Kimberly Posenauer
Marvin & JoAnn Reed
Margaret Romer
Betty & Louis Roy
Steven & Kathleen Schill
Amy Schiminske
Marilyn & John Skopek
SUNY Upstate Medical University
Ronald & Cynthia Tascarella
Edmond Theobald
Katy Turner
Allen Tuttle
Upstate Shredding/Weitsman
  Shredding
Cheryl Widay
United Way of Greater St. Louis, Inc.
United Way of Broome County, Inc.
Weedsport Central School District

GRANTS

The City of Auburn Community Development Block Grant – Freedom Camp and Home Access
The Jim and Juli Boeheim Foundation – After School Respite
Central New York Care Collaborative - Innovation Fund FOOD Project with 28 partner agencies
Central New York Community Foundation – Staff Training Grants
D. E. French Foundation – Freedom Camp
Stanley W. Metcalf Foundation – Freedom Camp
Craig H. Neilsen Foundation – Adaptive Design
New York State Council on the Arts - UNIQUE
Onondaga County Community Development Block Grant – Home Referral and Advocacy
Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation – Adaptive Design
The John Ben Snow Foundation – Adaptive Design
United Community Chest of Cazenovia, Fenner & Nelson - ARISE at the Farm
United Way of Cayuga County – Freedom Camp
United Way of Central New York – Adult Career & Continuing Education Services, Independent Living & Rehabilitation, Crisis Management & Prevention
United Way of Greater Oswego County – Advocacy

MEMORIALS

We would especially like to remember two friends of ARISE:

Matteo Lester
October 13, 2014 – October 2, 2018
During Matteo’s far too short life, he benefitted from the Adaptive Design Program. ARISE was honored to be the recipient of numerous generous gifts in his memory.

Marian Miller
August 5, 1932 to February 3, 2019
Marian worked at ARISE for 30 years. She was the “face” of the ARISE Loan Closet that is now named in her honor. Marian was a fierce advocate of Independent Living and always had a smile and story to share.
Our Locations

**Main & Onondaga County Office**
635 James Street
Syracuse, NY 13203
Office: (315) 472-3171

**Oswego County Office**
Creekside Plaza
293 State Rt. 104
Oswego, NY 13126
Office: (315)342-4088

**Fulton Mental Health Office**
113 Schuyler Street, Suite 2
Fulton, NY 13069
Office: (315) 887-5156

**ARISE at the Farm/Madison County Office**
1972 New Boston Rd
Chittenango, NY 13037
Farm: (315) 687-6727
Office: (315) 363-4672

**Cayuga/Seneca County Office**
21 Lincoln Street
Auburn, NY 13021
Office: (315) 255-3447

Visit our website at:
www.ARISEInc.org

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