Building ARI’s Future

In 1974, ARI had to expand. This need led to the purchase of 174 Richmond Hill Avenue and the ARI Vocational Training Center was opened. The building was a factory and needed major renovations to accommodate the needs of the 75 or so clients who were being served. Under the leadership of Frederick Bowes, Jr., a building campaign began. The campaign rose well over its $500,000 goal with support from ARI family members, friends, and the community at large.

Fast forward to 2010. It is time to renovate this facility to accommodate the growing needs of our clients. ARI has nearly doubled in size. This growth has brought us a wider variety of individuals with various disabilities. At one point moving to a new facility was considered, but in 2009, the ARI Board of Directors began a process of creating plans to renovate the current facility. After much consideration, a plan was adopted to address many areas of concern including accessibility, efficiency, and environmental issues.

The renovation will create a fully-accessible facility by upgrading the current ramp and adding a second ramp to the lower level. The plan includes the addition of a second elevator/lift inside the building because ARI has seen an influx of clients who either rely on wheelchairs or have difficulty walking.

Our renovation includes energy-saving measures that will create a “green” facility. New windows will be installed that will allow more outside light to enter the building, thus decreasing the need for artificial lighting. Restrooms will be upgraded to include energy-efficient toilets, sinks, and hand dryers.

ARI is proud to announce that the renovations to this building have begun. If you have any questions on the process please feel free to contact Matthew P. Reyher, President & CEO at (203) 324-9258 ext. 3028 or email reyherm@arict.org.

“It is time to renovate this facility to accommodate the growing needs of our clients.”

Please help us by supporting our new building campaign!
ARI has been preparing our Richmond Hill Facility for an upcoming renovation. The transformation of our building will be completed through a five-phase plan, over several years. Improvements will be made inside and out, resulting in a state-of-the-art, 100% accessible facility.

The plans include:
1. Improving and enhancing electrical and heating systems
2. Installing a new ramping system to improve access
3. Renovating the restrooms
4. Replacing windows with energy efficient sealed windows
5. Cleaning and repairing exterior brick and mortar
6. Installing a new wheelchair lift system
7. Redesigning offices and classrooms

An ARI Facilities Committee meets monthly to discuss the progress being made by our dedicated subcontractors. These ambitious plans need the full support of our community, making our fundraising efforts more important than ever. We will be launching a major capital campaign in the immediate future. Please consider a gift to help us make our facility one we can be proud of.

Much has taken place within the economy that directly impacts ARI, challenging our service-delivery systems. I am deeply worried that our most vulnerable citizens are being put at risk by dwindling state resources. Our level of funding continues to be eroded by reductions commensurate with the State of Connecticut’s budget deficit. We cannot continue to just “maintain” services; we must strive to do more than that. I urge each of you to contact your area legislators to let them know about the need for sustainable support of ARI’s clients. Now is the time to stand up and be heard, on their behalf. ARI’s programs are essential to their livelihood, safety, and prosperity.

We thank you for all of your commitment, continued support, and advocacy, as we fulfill our most important mission.

—Matthew P. Reyher
Join us for the 4th Annual Walk for Independence

Sunday, May 2, 2010
Cove Island Park, Stamford

Help us meet our goal of raising $40,000!
Please visit us at www.arict.org to register to walk and/or volunteer, donate or set up a PERSONALIZED FUNDRAISING PAGE!

There is no registration fee for this event but we ask that you solicit at least $100 in support.
Sponsorship opportunities are still available. This is a great way to meet our clients and staff while raising money and awareness for our programs.

TITLE MEDIA SPONSORS

CORPORATE SPONSORS

LUNCH SPONSOR

sponsors as of printing

Your Name__________________________________________________________
Address______________________________________________________________
City__________________________ST____Zip____
Phone (home)______________________ (work)___________________________(cell)______________________ Email________________________
Company__________________________PLEDGE $________________________

(OVER $50 = T-shirt □ Sm □ Med □ Large □ XL)

☐ Sponsor a TEAM ☐ Sponsor an ARI HOUSE TEAM ☐ Sponsor an ARI Client ☐ Be an Event Sponsor

☐ Enclosed is my matching gift form ☐ I can’t participate but wish to make a donation

Please make checks payable to ARI of CT and mail with this completed form to ARI Walk for Independence, 174 Richmond Hill Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902 by or before April 28. You can also make your payment or donation at online at www.arict.org.

☐ Check $_____________________

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard Card Number___________________________CVA___________

Name on Card__________________________________________________________ Exp Date________________________

For more information about the Walk and SPONSORSHIPS please call 203.324.9258, ext. 3023
Day Programs

BRS Job Placement
Beginning in January 2010, ARI expanded services to clients who are in the search of competitive employment through the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services. Job Specialists will be working with these clients on preparing them for interviews and job searching. Some of the services that will be provided include cover letter and resume preparation, video taping of mock job interviews, and review of mock interview to show strengths and weaknesses. ARI plans to develop a business advisory committee that will include professionals to help conduct mock interviews and give feedback to the client that will prepare them for real life situations.

Production Services
ARI continues to work with Production Providers for assembly jobs for our production services. Production Providers provides work for people with disabilities. ARI thanks them for continuing to provide jobs for our clients.

From the Board Chairperson, cont.

(continued from page 1)

Fund. Here is an excellent vehicle for those who can, to include the agency in their long term financial and estate planning. There are many options available to perspective donors and an ARI representative would be happy to meet with you and your financial planner. Leaving a living legacy for good is how we all wish to be remembered and donating to the ARI Endowment Fund is one way to achieve that goal.

Talking about tomorrow is always exciting and opens one’s mind to endless possibilities and dreams. But tomorrow can only come if we survive today. Besides the clients we serve, there are so many people in Connecticut that need our help. Only you can ensure that ARI’s future is bright. In these difficult economic times, action and support is required. Please don’t let us down. WE REALLY DO NEED YOUR HELP.

—Allan Sussman

15th ANNUAL
ARI Lotstein/Martin Golf Tournament
NEW DATE AND TIME:
Thursday Afternoon
August 19, 2010
Sterling Farms Golf Course
Stamford
Registration and lunch begin at noon.
Shotgun Start at 1:45 pm.
Dinner Party at Sterling to follow.

To sign up and/or be a sponsor
please call 203 324-9258 x 3023

Staff News

Employee Feedback Survey
ARI of Connecticut, Inc. has completed its annual Employee Feedback Survey. This survey is an integral part in helping us strengthen our organization and assisting in targeting problem areas. As we continue to improve our organization’s services and culture, we value employee input. This survey gives employees the chance to give feedback on the agency while keeping their responses confidential.

This year’s survey asked employees questions about communication, training opportunities, policies, procedures, systems, supervision, and other areas of importance. ARI values employee feedback and continues to seek input from staff members. We thank all employees for their participation.

Welcome New Staff Member

Takara Whitley, Residential Counselor, In-Home Supports Program
The winter months have been filled with wonderful recreation activities for ARI clients. From bowling, art, and aqua-aerobics to the annual holiday parties and hockey games, clients had lots of choices for fun and socialization. Over the past four months, more than 75 clients have participated in at least one activity each month.

Party time!
A special party was held at ARI to celebrate the holiday season. Thomson Reuters provided the food and beverages and the Stamford Police Department donated over 100 gifts to our clients. Special thanks to Police Officer John “Cowboy” Farrell and to Ed Napolitano, Vice President of Tax at Thomson Reuters for sponsoring and attending the festivities.

Another holiday party was held at the Knights of Columbus, where Michael Powers and his wife donated the catering and cost of the facility. They also hosted the annual Valentine’s Day Party! Their generosity is greatly enjoyed and appreciated by all.

We’d also like to thank our student volunteers from the Westhill High School BuildOn organization and the ARI Youth Corp for their help at these events.

ARI Artists Initiative Calendar
The 3rd Annual ARI Artists Initiative Calendar received positive feedback from the community. In January the Stamford Advocate ran a feature about the art class, showcasing the abilities of the 15 plus artists who participate on a weekly basis. The art class continues to grow and produce art work worthy of recognition. Please keep on the lookout for future shows.

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more information about the recreation program feel free to contact Gerard J. Gasparino, Manager of Development and Recreation at (203) 324-9258 ext. 3023 or email gasparinog@arict.org.
Donations November 1, 2009 to February 28, 2010

Thank you to the following individuals, businesses and organizations for their kind generosity. Please call us at (203) 324-9258, ext. 3023 to find out how you can help by making a donation to ARI or volunteering. You can also find more information at arire.org.

AlphaGraphics of Stamford
2010 Walk for Independence Mileage Sponsor
Mr. Donald Axleroad
2010 Artist’s Initiative Calendar Sponsor
Benefit Planning Services, LLC
2010 Walk for Independence Corporate Sponsor
Bob’s Discount Furniture Charitable Foundation, Inc.
Mr. Gerald R. Bosak
Ms. Holly Bosley
Ms. Judith Bruen
Barbara Aronica-Buck & Peter Buck
In Memory of Selma Brady
2010 Walk for Independence Team Sponsor
Mr. Chris Carlin
Mrs. Kathyline A. Colatrelle
In Memory of Joseph DeFrancesco
Lee Combrinck-Graham, M.D.
Ms. Diane DiChino
Maurice & Carol Feinberg Family Foundation
Ms. Michelle Friedman
Mrs. Noreen Gallagher
Mr. Gerard Garparino
GE Foundation
GE Treasury
Mr. John Gorcynski
In Memory of Adeline Garcia
Mrs. Beatrice Grabell
Harper International
2010 Walk for Independence Mileage Sponsor
Hope Street Pharmacy
2010 Walk for Independence Corporate Sponsor
Hub International Northeast
2010 Walk for Independence Corporate Sponsor
Mrs. Emily Russo Johnson
2010 Walk for Independence Team Sponsor
Mrs. Mary Joyce-McDonough
Ms. Jackie Judge
Ms. Lindsey Lemoine
Ms. Blandine Lewine
John & Margaret Loehr
Vivian & Frank Lucherini
In Memory of Genevieve Otero
Mr. & Mrs. Michael L. Macri
In Memory of Joseph DeFrancesco
Mr. & Mrs. Don A. Macri
In Memory of Joseph DeFrancesco
W. B. Mason
2010 Walk for Independence Team Sponsor
Mrs. Marcie McGuire
Ms. Sheila McCaffrey
Ms. Danette Melchiione
Ms. Jessica Montanaro
Ms. Jill Muller
Mr. Edward J. Napolitano
Mr. & Mrs. Phillips Norgren
The Louis J. Kuriansky Foundation
Mr. Bobby Ojeda
Ms. Emily Papak
Matthew & Valerie Reyher
In Memory of Grace Hannah Bresslour
Ms. Carolyn M. Romanelli
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Russo
2010 Walk for Independence Corporate Sponsor
Stamford Symphony
Mrs. Tina St. Armand
Stamford Police Association, Inc.
Surplus Contractors
Karen & Allan Sussman
In Memory of Adeline Garcia
Target-Stamford
Thomson Reuters
2010 Walk for Independence Corporate Sponsor
United Way of Western Connecticut
Mrs. Marie A. Veit
In Memory of Joseph DeFrancesco

Annual Appeal 2009 – 10

Benefactor - $2,500 – $5,000
Axel Johnson, Inc.
Leader $1,000 – $2,500
Anonymous
Mrs. Mary Churley
Mr. John J. Feighery, Jr.
Supporter $500 – $999
Kamalesh Banerjee
Mr. Richard T. Bruce
Rebecca & Craig Snyder
In Honor of Samantha Downing

Contributor $250 – $499
Ms. Jane K. Arestia
Ms. Janna H. J. Bellwin
Peter & Barbara Buck
John & Karen Campbell
Dr. Robert J. DiDomenico
Mr. John E. Downing
Nancy & David Gluck
In Honor of Mark Combrinck-Hertz
Matthew Klein & Debra Adler-Klein
John & Margaret Loehr
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew P. Reyher
Karen & Allan Sussman

Friend $100 – $249
Advanced Copier Technology Inc.
Advanced Physical Therapy Center of Stamford, LLC
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Alpert
Ms. Irene Ayoub
Bob’s Discount Furniture Charitable Trust
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Brenner
Mr. Michael Bridge
Dr. & Mrs. Donald Case
Ms. Jane Combrinck-Graham on behalf of Mark Combrinck-Hertz
Lewis & Betty Dana
Michael & Marie DeBartolomeo
Ms. Wendy M. Dittrich
In Memory of E. Marie Anderson
Ms. Karen Dolan
In Memory of Ralph Dolan
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Fahim
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Friedman
Greenwich Taxi
Jane & Mark Grein
Dr. Kenneth Grossman
In Honor of Gary Grove
Mr. Scott A. Hill—Middletown Construction Management Corp.
Alan & Sari Jaffe
In Memory of David Jaffe
James & Marguerite Jordan
Mrs. Beatrice Kaminsky
Mrs. Marjorie Kappas
Beth Keenan & Peter Hopkins
Philip Kuecera
Mrs. Corrine Lotstein
Philip & Jane Molstrore
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Moore
Michael & Elizabeth Murdoch
In Memory of Charles Hertz
Mr. Thompson C. Nelson
Wulf & Renate Paulick
Mrs. Elaine C. Reyher
In Memory of Warren Reyher
Daniel & Betty Roberts
Al & Betty Sansenverino
Barbara & Bob Saverine
Ms. Constance Sheppard
Mr. Raymond B. Smyth
Marcia & Mark Staines
In Memory of Hannah Bresslour
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Taber
The Betty T. Iskander Revoc. Trust
In Honor of Sonny Yazami
Mrs. Christel H. Truglia
Kenneth Wirfel & June Eichbaum

Donor $25 – $99
Marc & Lori Adelsberg
Mrs. Elizabeth Alexander
Vincent & Lurana Andrisani
Mrs. Rosalyn A. Arena
In Memory of Nicholas Sr. & Jennifer Rose Arena
Mrs. Mildred A. Beattie
Mr. & Mrs. John Benison
In Honor of Jim Saunders
Mr. Sid Binder
Mr. Harry N. Bloch, II
Ms. Mary E. Brenner
In Memory of Christine Brenner
Ms. Judith Bruen
In Memory of Pauline & Eugene Bruen
Tom & Carol Bunk
In Honor of Michael Tosiolini
The Honorable & Mrs. Robert J. Callahan
In Memory of James Coley
Mr. James J. Chirico
Theresa & Joseph Cipolla
Maureen & Edward Clark
Mrs. Gloria Clark
Mrs. Phyllis Comrie
Continental Coinfluers III
Darrel & Helen Croot
Mr. James Dean
Mrs. Marie DeRubis
In Memory of Lewis DeRubis
Ms. Marjorie DeBlasi
In Honor of Kathy Carretto
Patricia & Richard Douville
Please support ARI of Connecticut!!

Just fill out and mail this form to ARI of CT, 174 Richmond Hill Avenue. Stamford CT 06902.

Thank you!

- Benefactor $2,500 +
- Leader $1,000–$2,500
- Supporter $500–$999
- Contributor $250–$499
- Friend $100–$249
- Donor $25 +
- Other _________
- Enclosed is my check payable to ARI of Connecticut, Inc.
- In honor/memory of_________________________

Mr / Mrs / Ms Name____________________________________________

Address:________________________________________________________

City:_________________________ State: _____ Zip:__________

Tel: (H)_________________________________________________________

Cell___________________________________________________________

Email: _________________________________________________________

For more information, please call 203.324.9258, ext. 3023

- Please let me know about your endowment and other giving opportunities.
- Enclosed is a completed form from my employer's matching gift program.
ARI of Connecticut, Inc.,
174 Richmond Hill Avenue
Stamford, Connecticut 06902
WWW.ARICT.ORG

THANK YOU to the Knights of Columbus!

Kenny D’Andrea (left), Past ARI Board Member and member of the Knights of Columbus, and Grand Knight Anthony Uva (right), presented a check for over $10,000 to Matthew Reyher (center), ARI President and CEO, at their Annual Communion Breakfast on Sunday, February 21, 2010.

The Knights of Columbus support ARI of Connecticut, Inc. each year through the annual Tootsie Roll Drive and Frank J. Robotti Memorial Golf Outing.

ARI thanks the Knights of Columbus for their continued support.

ARI of Connecticut, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS

Allan Sussman,
Chairperson
Christopher M. Foxall,
Chairperson-elect
Gail Malloy,
Vice Chairperson
John Downing,
Secretary
Kamalesh Banerjee, Ph.D.,
Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Donald Axleroad
Bonnie Kim Campbell
Lee Combrinck-Graham, M.D.
Ginny Fox
Vernetta Gallop, M.D.
Amy Grabowski
Candy Knott
Peter J. LaForce, CPA
Clare E. Liberis
Dara L. Rosenbaum
John D. Russo
Neftali Soto
Marcia Bresslour Staines
Matthew W. Tackman
Carmine J. Vaccaro
Scott M. Wich, Esq.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS EMERITI

Barbara Aronica-Buck
Peter Buck
Henry Brenner, Ph.D.
Arlene O. DuBiago
Edward Granelli
Sari Jaffe, Esq.
Louis Lottstein*
Paul G. Macari
Thelma V. Martin*
Philip Molsstre
Dennis Murphy*
Mario Musili, Esq.
Frank D. Rich, III
Richard W. Saunders
Richard E. Taber
Francis White*

Matthew P. Reyher
PRESIDENT AND CEO

*deceased

ARI of Connecticut, Inc. is a non-profit organization under IRS code 501(c)(3).
The ARI News is published for the members, board of directors, family members, people served, staff and friends of ARI of Connecticut, Inc. Edited and designed by Barbara C. Aronica-Buck. Published by ARI of Connecticut, Inc., 174 Richmond Hill Avenue, Stamford, Connecticut, 06902-5696 (203) 324-9258. Fax (203) 324-3949. Email: www.arict.org. ARI of Connecticut, Inc. supports equal opportunity without regard to race, color, sex, marital status, age, disability, religion, ancestry, national origin, citizenship or sexual orientation. ARI of Connecticut, Inc. is accredited by CARF and funded by DDS.