

JRC Foundation

Building a Better Future

This past year, as we have continued to plan for the renovation of our main services building and our ongoing fundraising efforts, I have had the opportunity to bring dozens and dozens of people through the facility for a tour. Some people had a vague idea about what we do and the people we support, others may have known a person who was a program participant at one time. A few had actually been in the building in the past for one reason or another. By and large though, most people had no idea of all we do at The Arc Jefferson – St. Lawrence every day. Every person coming through was astounded to learn of the breadth of services we provide and the impact we have on the lives of the people we support. Like most people living in our community, they had driven past our campus on Gaffney Drive hundreds, if not thousands of times, but the magnitude of what was happening inside was completely unknown to them. They had no idea that Bright Beginnings was so much more than a childcare center and preschool. They never knew the level of clinical services such as PT, OT and Speech, provided to both our children and adults. They had never experienced the compassion and dedication of our day hab staff, ensuring the people we support are engaged in activities which promote independence and encourage involvement in the community. All of these things and so much more were completely new experiences for our guests. They were touched by the many wonderful people they met, they were impressed by the success and growth of our agency, and notably so, they were inspired to give. They saw first-hand the need for this massive renovation to ensure we are able to continue providing vital programs and services at our Gaffney Drive building for years to come. Because of their generosity, and the generosity of many of our families and friends, we have raised over \$1.75

million towards this much needed project.

Although we understand that there are those who may be hesitant to contribute to capital campaigns or construction projects, please know that this is so much more than giving to bricks and mortar. It's giving to completely transform our building to better meet the needs of people we support and the essential services they rely on. It's investing in the future and ensuring we can continue to meet the needs of the next generation.

We hope that those of you whose lives have been touched by our services, or who have personally witnessed the quality support we've provided to a loved one, will be inspired to give. We hope that people from our community who care about the lives of children and adults with disabilities, will be inspired to give. We hope that you will help us spread the word about the work that we do each day at The Arc Jefferson – St. Lawrence, and that you will consider supporting our efforts to enhance the quality of life for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Please join us Wednesday evening, March 4 at 6:00pm as we discuss our plans for renovation and the relocation of programming during construction. Light dinner and refreshment will be provided. Please RSVP at (315) 836-1364 in order for us to have an accurate headcount for food. If you cannot attend but would like to come in for a personal tour and project update, please contact Michelle at (315) 836-1363.

Gratefully yours,



Michelle Carpenter