



ARISE



2016 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

ALL AGES. ALL DISABILITIES. ALWAYS BY YOUR SIDE.





Our mission is to work with **people of all abilities** to create a fair and just community in which **everyone** can fully participate.

ARISE

A MESSAGE TO OUR FRIENDS



Finding an organization that puts the person first, and the disability second, was my highest priority as the parent of someone with disabilities. I found a home for us all when I connected with ARISE.

ARISE has always made sure my son's needs were met with the highest quality services. Everyone at ARISE is concerned about my son as a whole person, not just as a person with disabilities. We have seen our son grow, learn, and thrive with support from terrific ARISE staff members. He has experienced the benefits and joy of horseback riding and time at ARISE at the Farm, and has achieved goals in his work with direct support professionals in community habilitation.

As a volunteer with ARISE & Ski, I join in celebrating the 20th anniversary of this awesome program! I am so impressed by the expertise of the lead instructors

and by the terrific volunteers who want to make it possible for people of all ages and abilities to fly down the mountain.

As a member of the ARISE Board of Directors for the past nine years, I have gained an understanding of the breadth and depth of the organization. The management team is second to none, receiving excellent outside audits and program reviews. We are grateful to Tom McKeown for his 14 years of leadership, and thrilled to have Tania Anderson leading us into the future.

We are proud to share with you stories of a few of the more than 7,000 people who connected with ARISE last year. As anyone who is familiar with ARISE knows, we believe that every person is a unique individual who should be able to determine his or her own goals and ambitions. Working together, we want to help every person make his or her dreams come true.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Judge".

Susan Judge, Board President



Sometimes a life's journey takes you in directions you never could have planned but nonetheless intersect perfectly. I am an attorney by profession, and since 1998 I have been a proud volunteer on the Board of Directors of ARISE and its predecessor, Child and Family Service. Advocacy is at the core of both roles. My connection to ARISE changed dramatically in 2006, when my daughter Eliza was diagnosed with a disability. I then joined the ranks of people who deal directly with the complications – and joys – of living with a disability.

And it is with joy that I once again change my connection with ARISE. Assuming the Chief Executive Officer role in 2016 is the greatest challenge and opportunity in my career because the work of ARISE is the most important and rewarding work that I can imagine. ARISE is a community of passionate, engaged, intelligent, humorous and dedicated staff and individuals. I am honored to assume the leadership role that Tom McKeown filled so expertly. I am honored to be part of the ARISE community.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tania S. Anderson".

Tania S. Anderson, CEO



Achieving Independence

For the majority of his life, Bobby has been receiving services from ARISE, and he's been actively involved in making his own decisions. So it was no surprise that Bobby chose to switch over to being the one who is completely in charge of his life. This independence allows him to hire his own staff, his own personal care assistants, and budget his money.

"Bobby knows what he wants and he's not afraid to say it," says Bobby's Medicaid Service Coordinator, Ron Sharp. "Even though Bobby comes from a very loving and supportive family, he doesn't want them to make choices that he can make for himself. Bobby's very determined and he always puts in 110%."

Bobby has used many different kinds of services from the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD). His most recent job is working as a Peer Specialist for Self-Advocates of New York State (SANYS). Bobby goes to nursing homes and speaks about the services that OPWDD offers, providing first-hand accounts of the way those services work.

Bobby loves this part of his life. He wants to continue to do more public speaking and more advocacy work. Bobby's goal is to help others and to give back so that his peers can experience the independence that he enjoys.



Achieving Access

Jim Oldenburg was stunned to learn there was a waiting list of people in Oswego County who needed a ramp. Being a member of Elks Club #271 in Oswego, he reached out to his fellow members. They immediately agreed to help. After all, that's what Elks members do – Elks care and Elks share.

“While some may take for granted the ability to go to the grocery store, doctor, or be out in the community, people with mobility issues are denied those very things,” says Jim. He and his fellow Elks members knew they could make a difference. Their goal is to make sure people don't miss out on the opportunity to be part of the community.

Not only have the Elks members built several ramps over the past two years, they also obtained funds through an Elks Beacon grant. And they plan to do much more, according to Jim. “We are going to get that waiting list down!”

“Imagine a child looking out the window and not being able to go out with other kids,” says Jim. “Or a grandparent missing out on a family event. It must feel like being a prisoner in your own home.”

Jim hopes that others will become involved, so people do not have to wait any longer.

When asked what it's like when someone sees their ramp for the first time, Jim smiles. “You can tell they are thinking, ‘wow, I've been waiting so long.’ They are thrilled to test it out. Our little bit of labor is nothing compared to the joy we bring. It's heartwarming to see the smiles on their faces. We provide a lifeline for the household, which is absolutely wonderful.”



Achieving Health

Accessing services, especially those involving mental health, isn't always easy. Katie Mahoney, Director of Special Education at Lyncourt School, knew that integrating mental health care into schools would benefit children and their parents. There are many roadblocks when it comes to obtaining mental health care: stigma surrounding the idea of mental health, trying to schedule time outside of school and work to visit with a provider, and not knowing what to expect.

With support from Onondaga County, Katie established a partnership to bring an ARISE mental health professional into the school. The ARISE therapist is available to the students, their families, and teachers.

A document known as the Pediatric Symptom Checklist, or screen, is sent home for parents to complete. While not mandated, it is offered to all parents. According to Katie, the most surprising thing is how many parents were receptive and open to the idea.

The screening program helps identify students who need assistance. "It all falls apart if mental health issues aren't addressed," says Katie. She finds children are coming in at younger ages with social and emotional problems that are hindering their learning. Kids with anger management issues can be resistant and shut down, or they can be aggressive and act out. "Working with the ARISE therapist, the kids are able to develop strategies that they can use in school and throughout their lives. It's great for families to see their children empowered by the strategies they have developed and achieving success in school. I know these tools will serve them as adults as well."



Achieving Advocacy

"It's an honor that I'm able to go and give people assistance," says Judy, a volunteer with our Ombudsman Program in Cayuga County. Judy has been a volunteer all her life, beginning when she was sixteen. She has always had a desire to be involved in the community and has given her time to causes that are close to her heart. In addition to volunteering with Easter Seals, Girl Scouts, teaching English as a Second Language, and being a child care advocate for the Auburn City Schools, she has also been involved in serving veterans. Judy had been interested in being an Ombudsman for a while, and when her kids went off to college three years ago, she was finally able to make it happen.

The Ombudsman Program is a national initiative established through the Elder Americans Act. Advocacy-based, the purpose is to have volunteers checking in on residents in facilities. Volunteers are there to socialize, listen, and act on any of the concerns raised by residents. Many residents don't have local family that can visit them as often as needed, or at all. Trained Ombudsman volunteers spend a few hours each week in the facilities. The program is built on confidentiality. The residents are free to share their concerns with the Ombudsman. Residents then choose whether they want their concerns brought to the administration.

Judy visits the residents at her designated facility twice a week, and more if she can. She's a social person and tries to brighten everyone's day. "When someone sees you smile, they want to do the same. You might be the highlight of their day," she says. "The best thing I can do for someone is to give them my time and my patience."

ARISE has overseen the Ombudsman Program in Cayuga County for several years and now oversees the program in Onondaga, Oswego, and Cortland counties as well. If you are interested in learning more, call (315) 671-5108.



Achieving Dreams

“ARISE means a lot to me with all the help they’ve given me over the years,” shares Donna Day. Fourteen years ago, Donna wanted a job, and the job she wanted involved working with flowers. At the Department of Labor, Donna was told to call ARISE. She spoke with our Employment Department, who connected her with a local flower shop in Oswego. She was assigned a job coach, and began her on-the-job training.

In January of 2016, Donna celebrated her fourteenth anniversary with Maida’s Floral Shop. Donna works two days a week, with more at holiday times. According to Donna, she has her “dream job.”

With one major goal accomplished, Donna set out in the fall of 2015 to fulfill another longtime wish. Having lived with her parents her entire life, Donna felt it was time to experience the freedom and responsibilities of being on her own. She called ARISE once again, and we helped her find an apartment. After working it through with her parents, Donna moved into her own place in September of 2015. Having saved money, she was able to furnish her whole apartment.

“It’s been wonderful,” she says of the freedom to come and go as she pleases. Not only is she able to do everything on her own, including learn how to cook, she also has a very active social life! She can walk to work, take a bus to visit her family, go to church, call Bingo two nights a week, and has made many friends. Donna is incredibly proud of her accomplishments and cherishes her independence. She looks forward to what the future holds, including helping with the floral arrangements for her niece’s wedding this summer!



Achieving Creativity

"It was like Hollywood to me," says Joseph Rufo, a 22-year old artist, of walking into the Everson Museum of Art and realizing his work was featured on the cover of UNIQUE Art and Literary Magazine.

Joseph began taking art classes in high school, and has continued at Onondaga Community College. He submitted to UNIQUE for the first time in 2010, and his work has been featured every year since then. UNIQUE is published every year by ARISE. Submissions are accepted in the spring and about 60 pieces are chosen for the publication. While artists are told if their work will be featured in the magazine, the piece that will appear on the cover remains a mystery until the opening night at the Everson.

In 2015, we received over 100 submissions; 58 were selected for the magazine, and Joseph's "Fox at Night" mixed media drawing graces the cover.

A crowd gathered near the entrance of the Everson on opening night, anxious to see Joseph's reaction to the cover. After realizing the crowd and applause were for him, Joseph didn't stop smiling the entire night. "Everyone was taking pictures and clapping," he says. "The icing on the cake was that I got to give a speech. I couldn't sleep that night thinking about what an exciting day it had been." In his speech, Joseph spoke about his art and what UNIQUE means to him. "I love creating art. It gives me the chance to express myself in many different ways by the subjects that I paint or draw and the colors that I use. It makes me happy when I see what I've done and even happier when I see other people enjoying it." Everyone in the crowd was captivated by this terrific artist, and we are honored to provide a way for Joseph to share his creative voice.

The Enterprise Way
**A family owned
business that
treats you
like family.**

Family owned and run for more than 55 years.



Achieving Success

For an employer, the most important consideration when hiring someone is whether they can do the tasks the position requires. AJ Claflin, an executive with Enterprise Holdings Company, had no preconceived notions about hiring someone with a disability. AJ quotes the old saying: never judge a book by its cover. People applying for jobs might have a disability; it may be visible or invisible. For AJ, it's pretty straightforward. "We are looking to hire the right person to fit the position. Everyone deserves an opportunity, regardless of disability," he says.

AJ's branch has hired two people through the ARISE Employment Department. The first employee started four years ago as a part-time service worker after a member of the ARISE team contacted Enterprise. A job coach shadowed him for a few weeks (though AJ says that it really wasn't necessary). The employee was able to do the job from the very first day, and he fit in extremely well with the entire team. In fact, he has done such a fantastic job that he is now a full-time employee!

The second person was hired when ARISE approached Enterprise with another candidate, who has been successfully working as a part-time employee for about a year. No accommodations were required for either employee and they both continue to give above and beyond what is asked of them.

When asked what he would say to other companies about hiring people with disabilities, AJ responds, "I would encourage other employers to contact ARISE. The candidates they sent were well-qualified and ready to do the work, which is what we all seek. Call ARISE and do it now."



Achieving Goals

When Randy started working with ARISE in 2014, one of his goals was to work with his Direct Support Professional (DSP) on identifying his emotions. As a shy person who avoided contact and drew into himself in certain situations, Randy chose to use creativity to accomplish that goal.

Randy's DSP, Shannon Morrell, began taking him to the Fulton campus of Cayuga Community College so that he could work. It was quiet, which helped Randy to focus. He decided to display his emotions through drawing and even hoped one day to exhibit his work at an art show.

The manager of the Barnes and Noble on campus, where Randy and Shannon would sit and work, took notice. As they got to know each other, Randy shared with the manager his hope to have his work in an exhibit. That dream came true in August of 2015, when family, friends, ARISE staff, and local business owners joined Randy as he proudly stood by his work on display at Barnes and Noble.

Another dream came true when the manager at Barnes and Noble offered Randy a job. He was thrilled to accept, and started work in January. We can't wait to see what Randy will accomplish next!



Achieving Change

Since its inception in 1979, ARISE has been committed to ending the housing crisis confronting people with disabilities in our region. There is a one-to-four year wait for accessible, affordable, and inclusive housing. People with disabilities often find themselves in shelters, staying with friends or relatives, or homeless because they cannot find appropriate housing. Some give up on their dream of independent living and end up in institutions.

For several years, ARISE has been working to advance the concept of “visitability” as a strategy to increase the availability of housing that meets the needs of people with disabilities, as well as seniors who would like to age in place. “Visitability” refers to a single-family home that is designed so that it can be lived in or visited by people with disabilities, featuring such elements as a no-step entrance, doorways wide enough to maneuver a wheelchair, and a first-floor bathroom.

The Visitability Tax Credit bill could provide a credit up to \$2,750 for the purchase, construction, or retrofitting of a principle residence to achieve universal visitability. ARISE has been a supporter of this bill for many years. In 2015, Senator John DeFrancisco sponsored the bill and secured support from a member of the Assembly. While the bill had failed to pass in the Assembly in the past, it passed both the Senate and the Assembly in 2015.

Unfortunately, Governor Cuomo vetoed the bill. While he supports the concept and importance of the bill, he wants to sit down and discuss budget issues. Despite the fact that it was vetoed, getting the bill passed by the Assembly was a great success and we hope to work with Governor Cuomo to get a Visitability Tax Credit bill in place soon!



Achieving Strength

Diana Pelletier shares: On June 16, 2007, when my kids were 22 months and 3½ weeks old, I sustained a spinal cord injury. In a moment, my life changed forever. A few years later, I decided to choose a new 'life-affirming' event to try on the anniversary of the accident. "Reclaiming the Day" began. My friend Heather suggested ARISE at the Farm, where Laura Little instantly agreed to make it possible.

When the day arrived, I was excited – and scared. While I did pretty well sitting up in my wheelchair, I wasn't sure how I would do on the horse. I kept Laura's #1 rule in mind: ALWAYS keep the horse between you and the ground. I managed to stay on the horse, and it was thrilling. I felt like a kid again. The following spring, I began taking lessons.

Before the Farm, the progress I had made was the result of exercises I had to do alone. It was hard, rarely fun, and felt like work. In therapeutic riding, I am getting stronger and it doesn't feel like work. The horse and I have a special bond. We're a team, figuring this out together. It's therapy for the body and soul.

When I began taking lessons, I couldn't have imagined I would be able to ride independently within just a few months. Riding has helped me to become the strongest I've been since the accident. I have greater core strength and my balance has improved significantly. It also does wonders for my spirit.

My whole family has been able to be a part of this with me. One of the best gifts was riding with my daughter at the Farm. She's been riding for a few years and I never thought I'd be able to share it with her. It had a powerful impact on the bond we share.

Horseback riding gives me a feeling of freedom I don't feel at any other time. I describe it as 360° freedom; being on the horse is the only time I am not in a box. I am stronger, more confident, and better able to move around in the world thanks to the Farm. ARISE at the Farm is truly a magical place.



ARISE AT THE FARM

PLAYGROUND FOR ALL COMPLETE

ARISE at the Farm is a place that offers people of all abilities the chance to enjoy recreation, fun, and adventure. In addition to our wonderful horses, we have a paved path, accessible fishing pond, high and low ropes courses, and a petting zoo. What would make this amazing place even better? A playground!

We knew building an accessible playground would require a great deal of support. Thankfully, many people in the community shared our belief in the importance of play, and our dream of a playground for all became a reality in July of 2015.

With tremendous leadership from Ed Cook and Dan Schafran, we worked through a complex process of getting input, selecting a playground firm, creating a design, preparing the site, and raising the necessary funds to make it possible.

Ours is truly a playground for all. It features a 2-5 year old and 5-12 year old play structure for children of all abilities. The design features a treehouse theme, and each play structure is completely ramped, barrier-free, and accessible. Each deck on both of the play structures is accessible by a ramp, a crawl tunnel, or a bridge so everyone, young and old alike, can join in the fun. There are 57 different play activities which will accommodate up to 375 children (or adults) at one time. The 16,000 square foot rubberized surface means that everyone can move independently.

From the moment it was finished, the playground has been a very popular place for people from all over.

We believe that every child should be able to play, and every playground should have a rubberized surface. You wouldn't build a house without a foundation, and no one should build a playground without a surface that is accessible. All kids matter.

We are grateful to each and every person who shared their time, energy, and resources to make our dream come true. Your efforts will touch the lives of children and their families for decades to come.



**Thank you to our
Partners in Play
who each gave 5,000 or more!**

Anonymous

Bottar Leone, PLLC

The Allyn Foundation, Inc.

NBT Bank

Central New York Community Foundation, Inc.

The Gorman Foundation

The Dorothy & Marshall M. Reisman Foundation

The John Ben Snow Foundation, Inc.

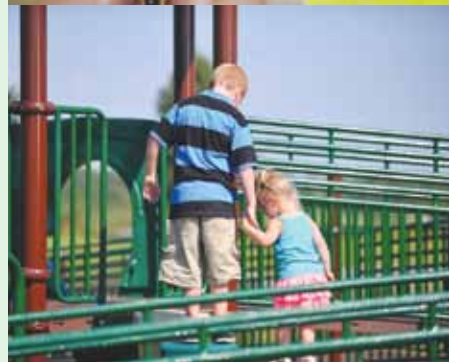
Jim and Juli Boeheim Foundation

Wegmans Food Markets, Inc.

Lockheed Martin Employees Federated Fund

Tania S. Anderson

J. W. Burns & Company Investment Counsel



Looking Back... 2015 Highlights

BNY Mellon employees
again volunteered and
raised money for the Farm



UNIQUE poet Ben Kellogg with his parents at the
exhibit opening at the CNY Arts Center in Fulton



Champion of
Independence Honoree,
Brian McLane,
speaks at the 2nd
Annual Celebrating
Inclusion & Achieving
Independence Dinner



Jonathan, a rider at the
Farm, and his mom enjoying
the new playground!



Kayla McKeon
delivering the keynote
address at our Auburn
Annual Conference



Jim Karasek and Joanne
Gardner representing ARISE
at Harborfest in Oswego



The Richard S. Shineman
Foundation awarded
a grant for ARISE's
Oswego Ramp Program

Leo True-Frost skiing with
the Co-Founder of ARISE &
Ski, Christopher Weiss

Champion of Independence
Honoree, Jim Hickey, with
friends at the 2nd Annual
Celebrating Inclusion &
Achieving Independence Dinner

ARISE Foundation
Board President,
Edward W. Cook, Jr.,
turning the reigns over
to Kristen Smith

Pathfinder Bank supports the Oswego Ramp Program and sponsors ARISE & Ride for Ramps

Bryan Roberts delivers the keynote address at the 2nd Annual Celebrating Inclusion & Achieving Independence Dinner

Michelle Godin organized the 1st Annual Forever 66 Ride to benefit the Ramp & Home Modification Programs in memory of her father

AXA volunteers spent a day helping out at ARISE at the Farm



Citi students help with the Ramp Program in Oswego

Team Loving Landon at the start of the Walk & Wheel-a-Thon at the ARISE & Ride at the Farm event

Novelis employees built ramps and repaired sheds at the Farm and the company donated funds

Haylor, Freyer & Coon volunteers spent three days at the Farm creating rain gardens around the new playground and repairing sheds for the horses

Time Warner Cable employees spent a day working hard at the Farm



Celebrating 20 Years of

In October of 1996, ARISE began providing services in Oswego County. Since that time, we have grown from a small team with a budget of \$100,000 to a team of over 150 Oswego-based employees with a budget of almost \$2.9 million. We are proud to partner with others to change lives in Oswego County.

1996-97

- Visited migrant worker camps
- Education Advocacy work
- Served 153 people

1997-98

- Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP) begins

1999-2000

- Held transition conference
- Medicaid Service Coordination began
- Designed "Yield to the Blind" sign

2000-01

- Large print menus for restaurants
- United Way funding for two ramps
- 63 individuals enrolled in CDPAP
- Served 190 people

2001-02

- Transition grant: Central Square and Mexico
- Supported Employment placed seven people
- Built 13 ramps
- Received John Ben Snow Foundation grant for outreach

2005-2006

- Oswego Advisory Committee created
- ARISE awarded Non-for-Profit Business of the Year
- Built 22 ramps
- Served 630 people

2007-2008

- Sibshops started – first in CNY
- Served 736 people

"ARISE is all about exceeding expectations and is an inspiration to other organizations throughout central New York. ARISE is an integral partner in Oswego County, has an impact in so many areas, and is vital to our growth."

**- Joseph Rotella, SUNY Oswego Office of Bus. & Comm. Relations
Workforce Development Board of Oswego County**





Services in Oswego County!

“ARISE provides opportunities for kids and adults so they can be successful. ARISE has great people who have the talent and skills to change a person’s life. They partner with the other service providers and are tied in to local health efforts. I am especially pleased that ARISE is in the schools. It’s really great for kids to be connected to opportunities.”

- Ernest Wheeler, Former Mayor of Pulaski



2009-2010

- In-Home Respite began
- Lowe’s selected ARISE for their Heroes project
- Built 10 ramps

2010-2011

- DSS gave ARISE grant for mental health services
- Funding for ramps from National Grid and Entergy
- Constellation awarded grant for Call-N-Ride

2011-2012

- First Audible Pedestrian Signals (APS) installed in Oswego
- Built 28 ramps
- Grant for Autism Peer Counseling

2012-2013

- Ramp Program featured in United Way video
- Richard S. Shineman Foundation grant awarded
- OPWDD grant for Education Advocacy and Access to Services

2013-2014

- Elk’s Club built ramps and provided funding
- APS installed in Fulton

2014-2015

- 10th anniversary of ARISE in Pulaski
- G & C Foods donated \$20,000 for Ramp Program
- Started TBI Peer Support Group
- Celebrated 25th ADA Anniversary

“When I joined the ARISE Advisory Committee representing Oswego Hospital, I didn’t know much about the organization. I was amazed to learn how much they did, all they did, and the magnitude of their impact in the community. My passion for ARISE has grown over the years, as I have seen the tremendous commitment to the rights and dignity of every person.”

- Joanne Gardner





ARISE & Ski Celebrates 20 Years

The Early Years

The idea for ARISE & Ski emerged in the mid-90s when an individual, injured in an auto accident, inquired at ARISE about the possibility of skiing. He had skied prior to the accident that left him using a wheelchair. Melissa (Hall) Glisson, then executive director of ARISE, and I, a Toggenburg Ski Instructor, asked Pat Crowley from Greek Peak Adaptive for some advice. We recruited skiers, raised funds, bought equipment and ARISE & Ski was born. Toggenburg has supported us from day one and ARISE & Ski would not be the program it is today without the Hickey family, owners of Toggenburg.

ARISE & Ski focuses on fun, safety, and education. We started out with 20 participants and by 2004, we were serving 70. We formed an educational staff and began attending Professional Ski Instructors of America events.

The Past 16 Years

ARISE & Ski owes a great deal of its excellence to the work of Richelle Maki, Jeremy Holden, Eric Kuersteiner, Tyson Gorman, Jeff Shaw, Liz Levatino and Chris Arnold – these instructors took on the responsibility of recruiting and training volunteers as well as teaching. In 2005, the creation of a wonderful adaptive instructional tool called the “ski frame” was designed and built by Richelle Maki and her husband, Loren. ARISE & Ski has been nationally recognized for the development of this tool (Weiss, C., Winter 2008, The Professional Skier) and for providing the first instructional article on tethering a bi-ski (Weiss, C., Winter 2005, The Professional Skier). In 2006, Jeff Shaw utilized his sail-making skills and created waist belts and arm bands for our volunteers to wear while teaching. With the addition of exceptionally talented and wonderful people such as Corey Williams, Jes Sudol, Autum Elliott, Jeff Roney and Dick Scheutzow to our educational staff, we now have a comprehensive array of dry land trainings, informational sessions, community building experiences and on-snow clinics for our volunteers.

2016

ARISE & Ski is one example of how accessibility and inclusion can provide life-changing experiences. Toggenburg, under new ownership (Marc Stemerman and John Meier), with general manager Daryn Hickey, continues to welcome ARISE & Ski. This season approximately 80 participants were served with the assistance of over 130 volunteers. We are looking forward to another 20 years of adaptive snow sports at Toggenburg Mountain.

Christopher Weiss

Founder & Technical Director, ARISE & Ski





"The ARISE & Ski Program gives so many the opportunity to enjoy our sport. Toggenburg is proud to share our slopes with the ARISE Family, participants, and volunteers alike."
- Daryn Hickey and Jessie Novak (Toggenburg)



"When you take the ski lift up you see the world from another perspective. This program did the same for me, on a higher level."
- Danushka Bandara (Volunteer)



"ARISE & Ski has given me the ability to ski like everybody else."
- Nicole Hastings (Participant)



"ARISE & Ski is a thriving, living community of people who all dare to do the unexpected and we do it together."
- Richelle Maki (Program Coordinator)



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



It is often true that a new group takes time to get organized and gain momentum. So it is with great pleasure that I share the tremendous results achieved by the ARISE Foundation since its inception in 2011. We are very grateful to members of

the community who are making it possible for ARISE to be there for more people in more ways. It's all about impact, and together we are making great outcomes possible. It is thrilling to see the momentum we've gained in a relatively short time.

Every person involved with the Foundation refers with confidence to ARISE's solid fiscal policies and management. As evidenced by very favorable external auditors' reports year after year, this is an organization that knows how to use resources wisely and with greatest impact. What inspires us to be ambassadors for ARISE is seeing people achieve their dreams.

We are fortunate to have a talented and diverse group of people serving on our Foundation Board. Their collective insight, counsel, and support have been instrumental in increasing awareness and reaching people in new and exciting ways.

The impact of those efforts led to significant growth in 2014 and 2015. Our first and second annual dinner events were terrific, and we loved bringing together friends who celebrate inclusion and independence.

With strong support from the community, our dream of an inclusive playground at ARISE at the Farm came true. In July of 2015, our 16,000 square foot state of the art playground, with a rubberized surface, was completed. Children of all ages and abilities, and their families, are sharing in the fun.

There is still much we want to do, and there are many ways you can join us in making a difference for people within our community. In a world that is constantly changing, ARISE has been proactive in planning how services will be provided in the future and is ready.

This year the ARISE Foundation is launching an effort to grow our endowment to increase ARISE's financial strength and build resources that will continue to grow. We are blessed by generous contributors who believe in inclusion, access, and independence. We appreciate the gifts you make during the year and hope you will consider making a gift to our endowment that will last forever.

Your efforts have the power to change lives, right here in central New York. Imagine a world where people of all abilities have the opportunity to fully participate and thrive. That's what we are all working to create, and we are glad to have you on this journey with us. Together, we are enhancing what ARISE can do today and ensuring that this great organization will always be here to help people achieve their dreams.

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large 'K' and 'S' followed by a horizontal line.

Kristen Smith
Chair of the ARISE Foundation

WAYS TO GIVE

TARGET YOUR GIVING

SUPPORT THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE

You can direct your gift to one of our core focus areas, a specific initiative (like the 21-Day Challenge), or you can designate your gift to a specific program.

CORE FOCUS AREAS:

- Advocacy & Accessibility
- Basic Needs & Assistance
- Education, Employment & Skill-Building
- Health & Wellness
- Recreation & Art

LEAVE YOUR LEGACY

MAKE A GIFT THAT LASTS BEYOND YOUR LIFETIME

A gift to our endowment, naming ARISE in your will, and gifts of stock are some of the most important investments you can make to ensure the future of our services. Your impact will multiply in perpetuity and continue to touch lives for generations to come.

HONOR YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY

MAKE A GIFT THAT GIVES TWICE

Memorial and tribute gifts are a wonderful way to honor the special people and occasions in your life while making a difference for others.

SUPPORT A SPECIAL EVENT

PARTICIPATE OR BECOME A SPONSOR

Touch the lives of people throughout the region! Choose our Celebrating Inclusion & Achieving Independence Dinner, Ride for Ramps, ARISE & Ride at the Farm, or UNIQUE Magazine – or create your own event. There are many ways to get involved.

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

SHARE YOUR TIME & EXPERTISE

Become involved in one of our special events, help out at the Farm, build a ramp, sign up to spread the word about ARISE, or consider becoming a board member. There are many ways to join our mission.



To learn more, contact Nancy Kern Eaton at
(315) 671-2903 or neaton@ariseinc.org





CELEBRATING INCLUSION & ACHIEVING INDEPENDENCE

On April 9, 2014, board members, volunteers, staff, and friends gathered for the inaugural Celebrating Inclusion & Achieving Independence Dinner. We were thrilled to bring together friends who share our commitment to creating a world in which every person has a chance to live a life of his or her choosing.

This annual event is our single largest fundraiser and is vital to providing revenue that we use to enhance our services and respond to emerging needs.

2014 CELEBRATING INCLUSION & ACHIEVING INDEPENDENCE DINNER

Champion of Independence

James O. Marshall, DVM

Keynote Speaker

Cora True-Frost, JD, MPA, LLM

Professor, Syracuse University College of Law

2015 CELEBRATING INCLUSION & ACHIEVING INDEPENDENCE DINNER

Champions of Independence

Jim Hickey, Toggenburg | Brian McLane | Wegmans

Keynote Speaker

Bryan M. Roberts, MA

Assoc. Dean, Roy H. Park School of Communications at Ithaca College

2016 CELEBRATING INCLUSION & ACHIEVING INDEPENDENCE DINNER

Champions of Independence

Nienke Dosa, MD, MPH | Leola Rodgers, MPH

Keynote Speaker

Anjali Forber-Pratt, PhD & Paralympian



ARISE & RIDE FOR RAMPS

RUNNERS & MOTORCYCLISTS RIDE FOR INDEPENDENCE

Every year, motorcyclists, runners, and friends come together to raise funds for our Oswego County Ramp Program. During the construction season, volunteers roll up their sleeves so that neighbors are able to come out of their homes and regain their freedom because of a ramp.

We are so grateful to all of the participants, sponsors, partners, and volunteers who made the 2015 event possible. We are excited for the 2016 event and hope you'll join us Saturday, June 4th at Lighthouse Lanes!



ARISE & RIDE AT THE FARM

SUPPORTING INCLUSIVE RECREATION

The fourth Saturday in July has come to mean time to ride and play at the Farm. Energetic cyclists come out to ride, families come out to play, generous people pledge their support, and many great volunteers share their time to raise funds for the Farm.

The impact of your efforts is felt every day as families come to the Farm and experience true inclusion, joy, and adventure. We hope you'll join us for the 2016 event on Saturday, July 23rd!



UNIQUE ART & LITERARY MAGAZINE

SUPPORTING INCLUSIVE RECREATION

UNIQUE is a publication that shares the artistic visions and voices of individuals with disabilities. UNIQUE represents the power of art to express, educate, and inspire. The magazine is published annually by ARISE and distributed throughout central New York. We will debut the 2016 magazine at the Everson Museum of Art on Thursday, August 18th!

MAJOR SUPPORTERS

DONORS WHO GAVE \$10,000+

Central New York Community Foundation, Inc.
P. Drescher Co., Inc.
G & C Food Distributors Inc.
The Gorman Foundation
Jim and Juli Boeheim Foundation
NBT Bank
Richard S. Shineman Foundation
Wegmans Food Markets, Inc.

ARISE AT THE FARM

We remain forever grateful for the gift of ARISE at the Farm by Dr. James Marshall. Thousands of lives have been and continue to be touched by his vision and dream.

DONORS WHO GAVE \$2,500 - \$9,999

The Allyn Foundation, Inc.
Tania S. Anderson
Jim and Kathy Burns
CENG
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Fidelity Charitable
Gutchess Lumber Co., Inc.

Haylor, Freyer & Coon
Hillside Park Real Estate
Edward and Susan Judge
The M&T Charitable Foundation
Novelis Corporation
NYS Association of School Psychologists

Oneida Wealth Management, Inc.
Pathfinder Bank
Relph Benefit Advisors
Syracuse University Division of Public Affairs

DONORS WHO GAVE \$1,000 - \$2,499

AAA of Western and Central New York
Neal and Nomi Bergman
BNY Mellon
BNY Mellon Corporation's Community Partnership
The Bonadio Group
Bond, Schoeneck & King
Bottar Leone, PLLC
Brackens Financial Solutions Network
Sedalia A. Brown-Harrison

Central New York Golf Course Superintendents Association
Cuddy Law Firm, P.C.
Destiny USA Holdings LLC
For The Care of Animals, Inc.
Forever 66 - Michelle Godin
Tim, Sue, and Robert George
Laurie and Joe Gerardi
Jeffrey Grimshaw
Brian K. Haynes
E. James Hickey
J.W. Burns & Company Investment Council

Tom and Lynne McKeown
Reefer Compressor and Parts, Inc.
Right Coast Inc.
Celinda V. Smith
SUNY Oswego
Syracuse Crunch Hockey Club
United Community Chest of Cazenovia, Fenner & Nelson
UnitedHealthcare
Upstate Medical University
Tom & Karen Vasile
Westminster Presbyterian Church

DONORS WHO GAVE \$500 - \$999

Albert J. Blazey Jr. and Mary C. Dunn
Bosco & Geers Ltd.
Marian and Rick Budnar
Central New York Reining Horse Association
Cicero Mattydale Lions Club, Inc.
Compass Credit Union
Edward and Svea Cook
Tom and Kim Dando
Susan L. Dean
David Dreverman
Food Bank of Central New York
James and Shari Freyer

Susan and Richard Gray
Maurie Heins
INFICON, Inc.
Integrated Marketing
JSD Associates
Nancy Kern-Eaton and Doug Eaton
Kohl's Department Stores, Inc.
Kruising Knights Inc.
Mackenzie Hughes LLP
John and Candace Marsellus
Mark McAnaney
Denise and Owen McGraw
Ann Marie and Gerald Myers
Michael C. Osterhaut

Dan and BrandiLee Schafran
Ted and Patricia Shaw
Syracuse Police PBA
The Selective Insurance Group Foundation
Ben Tupper
United Healthcare Community Plan
Janice and Giovanni Vitale
VNA Homecare
Warthogs of Jefferson County
Stephen C. Weisbrod
Lynn Wesley Taylor

Donations are from 1/1/2015 to 12/31/2015. We are grateful to all donors and apologize if we have made an error or omission.

MAJOR IN-KIND DONORS

AAA of Western and Central New York	Wayne Hamilton	NewsChannel 9 WSYR
Balloons Restaurant & Catering	Integrated Marketing	The Oncenter
Banner Envy	Melinda Kernan	Oswego Speedway
the bikery	Lawrence Lee	Papa's Sports
Business Journal News Network	Logo Incentives	Raby's Ace Home Center
Century Decorations	Lighthouse Lanes	Toggenburg Mountain Winter Sports Center
CNY Central	Lynch Furniture	TOPS Friendly Markets
Denzak Recreation	Maxian & Horst	Tully Building Supply
Dougherty's Party Services	Michael E. Mobile Sound	Upstate Paving
Everson Museum of Art	Patrick Milmoie	WAER
Fastenal	Mallory Wesleyan Church	Word-Wrights Inc.
Bob & Pam Getek	McGowan's Ace Hardware	Zink Shirts
The Gifford Foundation	Murdock's Bicycles & Sports	

COMMUNITY PARTNERS & GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Auburn/Cayuga County Continuum of Care	Human Service Coalition of Cayuga County	Oswego County Office for the Aging
Auburn Public Theater	Hospice of CNY	Oswego County Opportunities
AURORA of CNY	Housing Visions Unlimited, Inc.	Oswego County Workforce Dev. Board
Believer's Chapel Fulton	Huntington Family Centers	Oswego Elks Lodge #271
Boyle and Anderson, P.C.	Jim Marshall Farms Foundation	Oswego First United Methodist Church
Burton Blatt Institute at SU	Leadership Cayuga	Oswego YMCA
Catholic Charities	Literacy Coalition of Oswego County	Parents of Special Children
Cayuga Community College	Morningstar Residential Care Center	Partnership for Results
Cayuga Community Fund	NAMI	Person to Person Citizen Advocacy
Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce	New York Association on Independent Living	PEACE, Inc.
Cayuga County Department of:	NYS Department of:	RSVP of Oswego County
• Emergency Management	• Health	Rural Health Network of Oswego County
• Handicap Education Program	• Transportation	Seaway Lofts
• Health	• Education, Office of ACCES-VR	The Silverhammers
• Planning & Economic Dev.	NYS Dev. Disabilities Planning Council	Social Security Administration
• Social Services	NYSEG Customer Advocate Program	St. Francis Farms
Cayuga County Homesite Dev. Corp.	New York State Fair	SUNY Oswego Office of Business & Community Relations
Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES	NYS Office of:	SUNY Upstate Medical University
Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency	• Aging	Pediatric & Adolescent Center
Cayuga Works Career Center	• Children & Family Services	SUNY Upstate Health Sciences Library
CNY Affiliate of Susan G. Komen	• Mental Health	Syracuse City School District
CNY Arts Center	• People With Dev. Disabilities	Syracuse Community Health Center
CNY Care Collaborative	OCC Pathways to Careers	Syracuse Habitat for Humanity
CNY Fair Housing	Onondaga County Department of:	Syracuse Stage
CNY Home Health Network	• Adult & Long Term Care Services	SU Office of Disability Services
Central Square School District	• Children & Family Services	SU Disability Rights Law Clinic
Chittenango Rotary	• Community Dev.	Toggenburg Mountain
City of Auburn	• Social Services	Winter Sports Center
City of Auburn RSVP	Operation Northern Comfort	US Department of
City of Fulton	Oswego County ARC/OI	• Education, Office of Special Education & Rehabilitative Services, RSA
City of Oswego	Oswego City-County Youth Bureau	• Health & Human Services
City of Syracuse Department of Neighborhood & Business Dev.	Oswego County Autism Task Force	• Housing & Urban Dev.
Conifer Park	Oswego County Child Advocacy Center	United Way of Central New York
Everson Museum of Art	Oswego County Department of:	United Way of Cayuga County
Faatz-Croft Home for the Elderly	• Dev., Tourism, & Planning	United Way of Greater Oneida
Freedom Recreational Services	• Health & Long-Term Care	United Way of Oswego County
Friends of Hospice of Oswego County	• Housing Assistance	Westminster Presbyterian Church
Fulton Art Association	• Mental Hygiene Division	
Fulton First United Methodist Church	• Social Services	
Fulton School District	Oswego County Fair Housing Council	
Hillside Family of Agencies	Oswego County Housing Dev. Council, Inc.	

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Navigating the world of disability services can often be confusing and overwhelming for many families. Whether you have a simple question or have no idea where to start, we're here to help.

Advocacy & Accessibility

Accessibility Resource Center ●

Offering examples of accessible design

ADA Accessibility Evaluations ●■▲★◆

Technical assistance to help you increase the accessibility of your business or space

Advocacy Groups

Join one of our groups to advocate for equal access and opportunities

- **Consumer/Self-Advocates** ●■▲★◆
- **Transportation Task Force** ●■
- **Residential Service Providers** ●
- **Vision Network** ■

Disability Awareness ●■▲★◆

Presentations at schools, businesses, etc. to increase disability awareness

Home Modification Program ★

Interior home modifications to make your home accessible

Kids on the Block ★

Educational puppet shows for children about disability awareness

Medical Equipment Loan Closet ●■▲★◆

Test or borrow durable medical equipment (wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, transfer benches, canes, commodes, etc.) on a temporary basis

Ramp Construction Assistance ●■▲★

Regain your freedom by reclaiming access to your home

(Oswego County, Syracuse, and Auburn)

Systems Advocacy ●■▲★◆

Advocating for policies that ensure the civil rights of people with disabilities

Basic Needs & Assistance

Benefits Assistance ●■▲★◆

Apply for benefits like SSI, SSDI, and food stamps

Consumer-Directed Personal Assistance ●■▲★◆

Hire, train, and schedule your own personal care assistant to help with your home health care needs

Family Support Services Reimbursement ●■

Easing the financial challenges of caring for a family member with a developmental disability

Housing Locating & Advocacy ●■▲★◆

Find accessible housing within the community or receive help with housing discrimination

Information & Referral ●■▲★◆

Get answers to your disability-related questions

Medicaid Service Coordination ●■▲★

Coordinating services to help you reach your goals and live a full and independent life

Nursing Home Education & Outreach ●■▲★◆

Nursing home care is not your only option – receive information about community-based services

Nursing Home Transition & Diversion ●■▲★◆

Supports to help you transition out of or avoid moving into a nursing home

Ombudsman Program ★●■◆

Advocating on behalf of nursing home residents by investigating and resolving problems/complaints

Personal Care Bank ★◆

Providing free toiletries, paper goods, and cleaning supplies to families in need

Representative Payee Program ■◆★◆

Work with an advocate and Rep. Payee to make sure your Social Security money is managed well

Respite ●■▲

Giving parents and care givers a much-needed break to run errands or just recharge

Service Access Coordination ■

Linking families to services and programs

Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver ●■▲★◆

Supports to help people with Traumatic Brain Injuries live independently in the community

Education, Employment, & Skill-Building

Education Advocacy ●■▲★◆

Advocacy and support to help you navigate IEP reviews, special education testing, and more

Employment Programs ●■▲★◆

Individualized career planning to help you find and keep a meaningful job in the community

Habilitation Programs ●■▲

Develop independent living skills and increase your community involvement

Independent Living Skills Training ●■▲★◆

Develop your independent living skills

Parent Education & Training ■

Learn and practice techniques to help your children both at home and in the community

Peer Counseling ●■▲★◆

Talk to a peer with a disability who is living independently in the community

Staffing Services for Businesses ●■▲★◆

Find qualified, job-ready candidates that meet your staffing needs

Health & Wellness

Breast Health Awareness & Outreach ●■▲

Promoting early screening and breast health

Diabetes Self-Management Program ●■

Enhance your skills in managing type 2 diabetes

Early Recognition Program ●

Free mental health screening for children

Health Care Advocacy ●■▲★◆

Individualized advocacy and support to help you access the health care you need

Integrated Care at Upstate Pediatric Center ●

Providing children with comprehensive care that focuses on both physical and emotional wellness

Infant & Early Childhood Program ●

Guidance and information for parents of young children who are medically fragile

Outpatient Mental Health Services ●■

Individual, family, and group therapy for adults, teens, and children

School-Based Mental Health ●■

Mental health services offered in local schools

Recreation & Art

ARISE at the Farm ●■▲★◆◆

Inclusive recreation center that offers year-round recreation and adventure

- Adaptive Cycling
- Horse Cart Driving Lessons
- Horseback Riding Lessons
- Horsemanship Camp
- Inclusive Summer Camp
- Paved Walking Trail
- Ropes Course & Fishing Pond
- School Break Recreation

ARISE & Ski ●■▲★◆◆

One of the longest running premier adaptive winter sports programs in the Central New York Region

Social & Support Groups

With plenty of options to choose from, you're certain to find a social group that catches your interest

- Youth & Teen Groups ■▲
- Young Adult Groups ■▲
- Adult Groups ●■★
- Sibshops ●■
- Social Skills Classes ■
- TBI Peer Group ■

UNIQUE Magazine & Exhibits ●■▲★◆◆

Celebrating the creative spirit and artistic voices of people with disabilities across Central New York

Where is this program available?

- Onondaga County
- Oswego County
- ▲ Madison County
- ★ Cayuga County
- ◆ Seneca County
- ◆ Additional Counties

Some programs have eligibility requirements. Please contact us to learn more.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Judge, President
Susan Gray, Vice President
Michael Cook, Treasurer
Gary Forbes, Secretary

Roger Benn	Linda Erb
Kimberly Brown	Maurie Heins
Cassandra Bulak	Michael Klaehn
Matt Dadey	Agnes McCray
David DeNero	Chad Norton
John Donovan	William Porta

FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kristen Smith, Chair
Kim Brown, Vice Chair
David Dreverman, Treasurer
Connor McGough, Secretary

Michelle Alletzhauer	Lynn Hamilton
Tania S. Anderson	Joseph Hatfield
John Bosco	Courtney Abbott Hill
Michael Bottar	Carol Kranz
AJ Clafin	Sonnet Loftus
Patricia Contant Clary	Agnes McCray
Dee Cobb	Denise McGraw
Edward W. Cook, Jr.	Joseph Rotella
Marianne DiNiro	BrandiLee Schafran
Carol DiOrio	Dan Schafran
Linda Erb	Janice Vitale
Jeffrey Grimshaw	

KEY STAFF

Tania S. Anderson
Chief Executive Officer

Kate Budlong
Director of Cayuga & Seneca Counties Office

Lisa Coggi
Director of Quality Improvement

Nancy Kern Eaton
Director of Development & Public Relations

Jeremy Henderson
Director of Finance

Sabine Ingerson
Director of Oswego County Offices

Nina Lutz
Director of Independent Living Services

Karen Lynch
Director of Human Resources

Lori Zorn
Director of Programs for People with Developmental Disabilities

Sue Rogers
Executive Assistant

Katie Button
Development & Communications Associate

Cynda Penfield
Development & Special Events Associate



2015 FISCAL YEAR

(JULY 1, 2014 – JUNE 30, 2015)

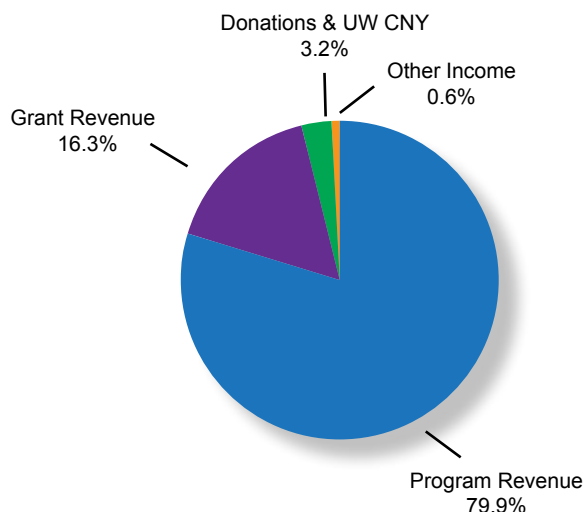
BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

Current Assets	3,780,480
Property & Equipment	2,313,190
Total Assets	6,093,670

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities	1,782,523
Long-Term Liabilities	929,827
Net Assets	3,381,320
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	6,093,670



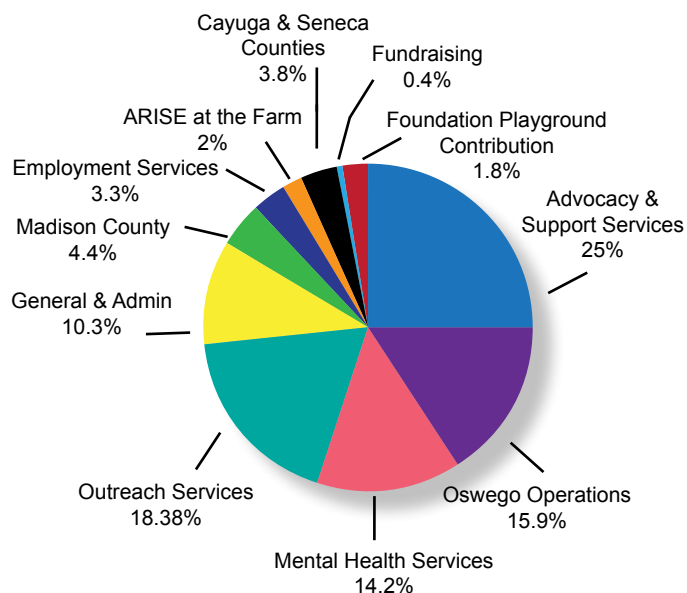
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

SUPPORT & REVENUE

Program Revenue	13,103,000
Grant Revenue	2,670,000
Donations and United Way of CNY	532,000
Other Income	84,000
Total Support and Revenue	16,389,000

EXPENSES

Advocacy & Support Services	4,122,000
Oswego Operations	2,614,000
Mental Health Services	2,343,000
Outreach Services	3,017,000
General and Administrative Services	1,697,000
Madison County Services	736,000
Employment Services	538,000
ARISE at the Farm	323,000
Cayuga & Seneca County Services	618,000
Fundraising	68,000
Contributions from Foundation for the playground	390,000
Total Expenses	16,466,000



Note: Figures in charts are rounded to the nearest thousand.



635 James Street
Syracuse, NY 13203

ariseinc.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Syracuse, NY
Permit No. 1629

Main/Onondaga County

635 James St.
Syracuse, NY 13203
Phone: (315) 472-3171
TTY: (315) 479-6363

Oswego County

9 Fourth Ave.
Oswego, NY 13126
Phone: (315) 342-4088
TTY: (315) 342-8696

Pulaski Satellite

2 Broad St.
Pulaski, NY 13142
Phone: (315) 298-5726

Fulton Mental Health Satellite

113 Schuyler St., Ste 2
Fulton, NY 13069
Phone: (315) 887-5156

Madison County

131 Main St., Ste 102
Oneida, NY 13421
Phone: (315) 363-4672
TTY: (315) 363-2364

Cayuga/Seneca County

75 Genesee St.
Auburn, NY 13021
Phone: (315) 255-3447
TTY: (315) 282-0762

ARISE at the Farm

1972 New Boston Rd.
Chittenango, NY 13037
Phone: (315) 687-6727

WAYS YOU CAN DONATE

Donate Online

Visit our website at ariseinc.org

Donate by Mail

Send your donation (payable to the ARISE Foundation) to:
ARISE Foundation, 635 James Street, Syracuse, NY 13203

CONNECT WITH US



facebook.com/ARISEcny



youtube.com/ARISEcny



facebook.com/ARISEattheFarm



twitter.com/ARISEcny



Report Offered in Alternative Formats

Portions of any ARISE publication designed for distribution are available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact our Information and Referral Specialist at (315) 472-3171.

