

**A special thanks to the following  
persons and businesses for their  
support during  
2005**

*Tendercare— Mt. Pleasant  
Fazoli's  
United Way of Isabella County  
Mid Michigan Industries  
Community Mental Health for Central Michigan  
The Arc Michigan  
Michigan Council for Executivess  
The Arc US  
The Arc of Midland  
The Morning Sun  
Mark McWilliams, Michigan Protection and Advocacy  
Isabella County Disability Advisory Committee  
Knights of Columbus Council 1297  
Clare VFW Hall  
Listening Ear  
Two Men and a Guitar  
Development Disabilities Council  
Everyone Together Project  
RICC  
Isabella County  
LaBelle Entrepreneurial Group—Charles Fitzpatrick  
Clare Moose  
CMU Student Volunteer Center  
CMU Student Council for Exceptional Children  
Isabella County Community Collaborative  
Isabella County Casual for A Cause  
McBride's Quality Care  
Clare Gladwin RESD  
Griiot Isabellla RESD  
Mount Pleasant Public Schools  
Mr. Ed Barth  
Mrs. Sue R. Richmond  
Jill England, Ph.D  
Margaret Brewer  
Joel Wlber  
Carole Gromaski  
Chris Tait  
Sara Geisert  
Sherry Sponseller,  
Mary Katt  
Michael Freeze*

**The Arc of Central Michigan**  
*Advocating for Resources in the Community  
for Individuals with Disabilities*



**Annual Report  
2005**

*The Arc of Central Michigan is a United Way of Isabella County Partner Agency*

# The Arc of Central Michigan

## Advocating for Resources in the Community for Persons with Disabilities

Dear Friends,

Once again, we unite together to reflect upon this past year and our efforts to assure that persons with disabilities and their families are valued, respected, and involved in their communities.

As we reflect, we can be proud of the work we have participated in and our accomplishments. The presence of our organization and what we stand for is increasingly met with respect and support. We have been referred to as supportive, innovative and a valuable resource. The credibility we have earned this year and the successes of our programs and services are again a direct result of the commitment and dedication of our members and Board of Directors.

As our momentum continues to increase, so do the issues that we must address that prevent people with disabilities from achieving quality lives and inclusion in the communities. We challenge each of you to consider being active in your membership to increase our ability to make a difference, develop creative and inclusive community programs and complement existing resources. We look forward to continuing to work together with each of you in the upcoming year.

Ellen Fuller  
President

Patti Nowak  
Executive Director

### The Arc of Central Michigan Board of Directors 2005-2006

#### Executive Committee

Ellen Fuller, President  
Michele Chapman, Vice President  
Amy Hovey, Secretary  
Mary Lou Schilling, Treasurer

#### Directors

Kim Brown  
Sheryle Dixon  
Marcy Lancaster  
Sharon Quinlan  
Rich Young

Jeremy Dickman  
Sara Geisert  
Marc Nagy  
Debbie Todd

#### Staff

Patti Nowak, Executive Director

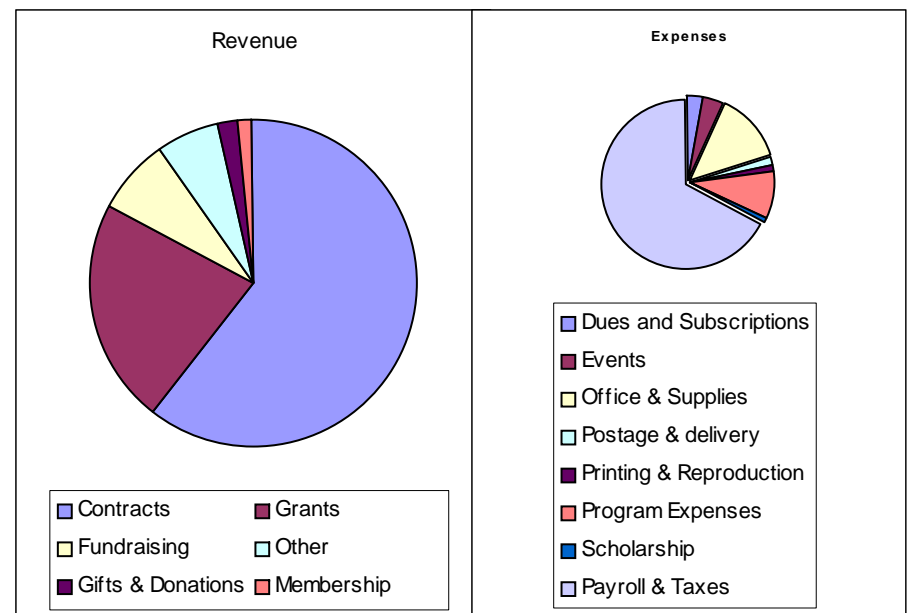
#### Facilitators

Anne Ramirez, Facilitator and Survey Interviewer  
Nancy Hartshorne, Facilitator

Amy Hovey, Facilitator  
Jennifer McNally, Facilitator

## The Arc of Central Michigan Projected Financial Report 2006

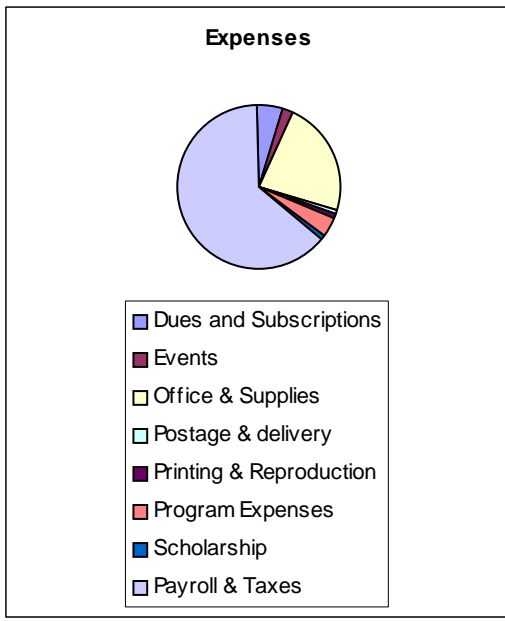
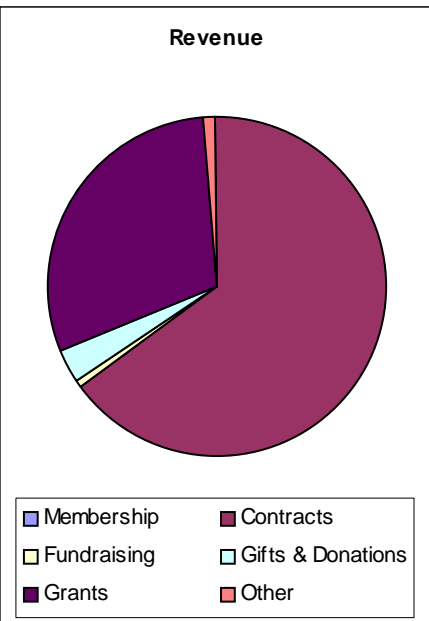
Balance Forward			\$ 18,301
Revenue			
	Contracts	\$	27,000
	Grants	\$	10,200
	Fundraising	\$	3,350
	Other	\$	2,810
	Gifts & Donations	\$	900
	Membership	\$	625
<b>Total Revenue</b>		\$	44,885
Expenses			
	Payroll & Taxes	\$	29,925
	Office & Supplies	\$	6,050
	Program Expenses	\$	4,000
	Events	\$	1,650
	Dues and Subscriptions	\$	1,425
	Postage & Delivery	\$	700
	Printing & Reproduction	\$	500
	Scholarship	\$	500
<b>Total Expenses</b>		\$	44,750
Year End Balance			\$ 135.00
<b>Total</b>			\$ 18,435.94



# The Arc of Central Michigan

## Year End Financial Report 2005

<b>Balance Forward</b>			\$ 12,143
<b>Revenue</b>			
	Contracts	\$ 23,816.76	
	Grants	\$ 11,150.58	
	Gifts & Donations	\$ 1,231.21	
	Other	\$ 394.11	
	Fundraising	\$ 180.51	
	Membership	\$ -	
<b>Total Revenue</b>		\$ 36,773.17	
<b>Expenses</b>			
	Payroll & Taxes	\$ 19,585	
	Office & Supplies	\$ 6,835	
	Dues and Subscriptions	\$ 1,621	
	Program Expenses	\$ 1,125	
	Events	\$ 706	
	Printing & Reproduction	\$ 320	
	Scholarship	\$ 240	
	Postage & Delivery	\$ 183	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		\$ 30,615	
<b>Year End Balance</b>			\$ 6,158
<b>Total</b>			\$ 18,301



## Annual Report of Programs and Services

### Information and Referral

Our commitment to providing information and referral remains constant. Specifically, the Board has prioritized information dissemination through their strategic plans, with an emphasis on the lending library. In addition, the Board and staff are in the process of applying for grants and exploring additional resources to address the growing need to respond to information requests. The number of requests regarding various disability related topics have increased over the year. Staff share their knowledge and expertise, refer to outside resources and experts, and provide written materials (laws, articles, information packages, Arc of Central Michigan lending library loans) to address issues. The following is a list of topics addressed and number of persons served during 2005.

### Education:

*Persons served / requests for information:* 61

*Specific topics addressed:* Individual Educational Plans (IEPs), IDEA & IDEIA 2004, Early Intervention, Transition, Inclusion

### Financial Issues:

*Persons served / requests for information:* 70

*Specific topics addressed:* Estate Planning, Wills & Trusts, Representative Payee information and Referrals, Individual Budget Development, Governmental Benefits

### Employment:

*Persons served / requests for information:* 50

*Specific topics addressed:* Micro-enterprises, Community Employment, Local Vocational Resources

### Leisure / Recreational Activities:

*Persons served / requests for information:* 62

*Specific topics addressed:* Accessible Community Recreation Programs and Local Events, Adaptive Equipment, Camps

### Legal Issues:

*Persons served / requests for information:* 85

*Specific topics addressed:* Guardianship & Alternatives, Trainings, Conference Information, Mediation, Referrals and information regarding attorneys specializing in disability law.

### Residential Issues:

*Persons served / requests for information:* 60

*Specific topics addressed:* Accessibility, Ramps, Community Living Options, Local Agency Resources, Home Ownership,

### **Advocacy and Direct Representation:**

In 2005, approximately 25 families and individuals with a need for advocacy had been represented by The Arc. In addition, The Arc has been requested to promote self-advocacy by supporting individuals and their families to advocate for themselves and have promoted communication, coordination, and cooperation among community members. The Arc of Central Michigan continues to participate in state activities and attend monthly meetings at The Arc Michigan and with The Michigan Council of Executives (MCE) in an effort to remain knowledgeable about governmental affairs and issues impacting citizens with disabilities. In collaboration with The Arc Michigan, The Arc of Central Michigan has been involved in statewide issues including Medicaid and dental coverage, MRS and productivity issues, and the support of returning residents of the Mt. Pleasant Center to their home communities.

### **Consumer Satisfaction Assessments / Surveys**

For the 6th consecutive year, The Arc of Central Michigan has entered into a contractual agreement with Community Mental Health for Central Michigan (CMHCM) to conduct short surveys with persons receiving services in order to gather information about their satisfaction with services. Surveys continue to be administered by Arc staff and volunteers in person, over the phone, or speaking with the person the consumer trusts best to answer the questions. The survey information gathered is directly provided to Community Mental Health for Central Michigan, who in return publishes quarterly and annual results. The Arc of Central Michigan provided 408 hours of service during the fiscal year of 2005. Approximately 240 persons receiving services through CMHCM were interviewed.

### **Independent Facilitation / Person Centered Planning**

In 2005, The Arc of Central Michigan completed one full year of providing Independent Facilitation Services for Person Centered Planning meetings. The role of the facilitator through the Arc of Central Michigan is to make sure the person is heard and understood, in addition to developing an action plan that supports the dreams and needs of the person. The facilitator is responsible to assist in inviting the individuals the person chooses, focus on the topics of the individual's choice, to organize the meeting, connect the person to needed supports in the community, to facilitate the group during the meeting and assure the recording of the meeting. Between October of 2004 and December of 2005, 70 person centered plans were completed.. (Clare -9, Isabella—54, Mecosta—4. Osceola -4) In addition, 2 formal Facilitation Trainings were provided to over 25 people.

### **Arc Expo**

The Annual Arc Expo that is typically held in the fall, was postponed by The Board of Directors and Expo Committee until the Spring of 2006. The purpose of this move was in response to the feedback obtained during the previous year's evaluations and timeline related to other Arc activities occurring in the fall of 2005. The Expo will focus on financial issues and estate planning. More information about The Arc Expo 2006 will be reported in the 2006 Annual Report.

### **Arc Financial Choices**

Arc Financial Choices was created in response to direct and indirect requests made by persons with disabilities, their families, and community services providers who were in need of assistance and advocacy involving financial issues. The Arc Financial Choices offers opportunities and experiences to assist in empowering individuals to exert control in their lives through the making of choices and decisions about important personal financial issues. The program was implemented in 2005 and representative payee services will begin upon the organization becoming insured and bonded,

### **Everyone Together Clare Isabella**

A facilitated parent committee, whose purpose is to ensure that all students receive the necessary supports to be successful and valued members of their neighborhood schools and communities, continues to receive grant funding through Everyone Together, UCP, and The Developmental Disabilities Council. Approximately 27 children have been impacted by this program during 2005, and information about Universal Education was disseminated through mailings, events such as Health Fairs and Clare Family Fun Day in the Park, and public presentations/ parent panels. The group will be hosting an educational series in 2006, with a focus on universal education and inclusion.

### **Social & Recreational Events**

During 2005, social events sponsored included the Annual Fall Harvest Dance and Picnic, that were both held in Clare and were well attended. The Community Living and Outreach Committee, has continued to grow and address the needs of persons with disabilities with a focus on building relationships in the community. The committee is collaborating with city and county parks and recreation departments. With a pilot program expected to be implemented in 2006, the committee hopes to help connect people to their communities, increase participation on inclusive social recreational opportunities and build friendships.