

# WE LOVE OUR DSPs

The week of September 8th, The Arc Allegany-Steuben celebrated National Direct Support Professionals Week.

The Arc Allegany-Steuben is dedicated to supporting and respecting people's choices on their journey to independence. Our Direct Support Professionals (DSPs), often referred to as personal assistants or care aides, maintain trusted relationships with hundreds of people with disabilities throughout Allegany and Steuben counties. They enable people with developmental and intellectual disabilities by assisting them with their daily affairs and intimate needs: medications, meals, dressing, mobility, vocational training, respite care and other services. The success of our programs can be attributed to the unfailing devotion and commitment to providing quality services by our team of Direct Support Professionals.

The Arc Allegany-Steuben would like to thank all of its DSPs; the value of this important work cannot be underestimated and it provides a benefit to not only the people we serve, but our entire community as a whole. THANK YOU!



*Achieve with us.®*



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## Tom Golisano Makes \$5 Million Gift to The Arc Allegany-Steuben

The Arc Allegany-Steuben is thrilled to announce it has received a gift of \$5 million from Paychex founder and philanthropist Tom Golisano.

“The Arc Allegany-Steuben is filled with gratitude for this extraordinary gift. Mr. Golisano's longstanding commitment to building opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and supporting their inclusion has improved the lives of people, the agencies that support them, and their communities for many years,” said The Arc Allegany-Steuben's Executive Director Michael Damiano. “Mr. Golisano's dedication to securing the dignity, health, and quality of life for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities is truly awe-inspiring.”

Golisano announced he was donating \$360 million to 82 non-profit organizations in education, health, intellectual and developmental disability services, general community, and animal welfare across Upstate New York. The Arc Allegany-Steuben was one of several Arcs that received a gift on September 17th.

“The gifts were a well-kept secret in the Golisano organization and recipients were invited to the meeting without knowing what the agenda would include,” said Damiano. “There were a lot of people in the room, me included, who were in a state of shock when Mr. Golisano made the announcements.”



Congratulations to the Arc Allegany-Steuben team who became repeat Kickin' It Kickball Tournament Champions! Tournament participants included The Arc Chemung-Schuyler, Pathways Inc., and The Arc Allegany-Steuben.



### Recovery Through Employment

National Recovery Month (Recovery Month) is a national observance held every September to educate Americans that substance use treatment and mental health services can enable those with a mental and/or substance use disorder to live a healthy and rewarding life. Recovery Month celebrates the gains made by those in recovery and reinforces the positive message that behavioral health is essential to overall health, prevention works, treatment is effective, people can and do recover, and gainful employment is obtainable.

The Arc Allegany-Steuben's ACHIEVE Career Consultants offer an Assisted Competitive Employment (ACE) program for people in Allegany and Steuben counties that is designed to assist people diagnosed with severe and persistent mental illnesses with choosing, finding, and maintaining satisfying jobs in the competitive employment market.

ACE Employment Specialists prepare people for employment, assist in placing them in competitive jobs and provide extensive follow-up support to ensure a smooth transition into the work environment. The services also provide qualified individuals with job-related skills training as well as supervision and support services, both on and off a job-site.

If you would like additional information on ACE services, please contact Amber Parker, Director for Vocational Services, at [amber.parker@thearcas.org](mailto:amber.parker@thearcas.org) or 585-808-2856.

### Summer Scramble Results

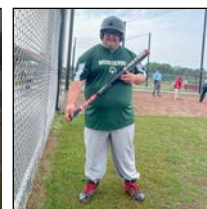
Thank you to everyone who joined us for the 20th annual Summer Scramble at the Wellsville Country Club. Congratulations to the winning teams!

- 1st Place Mens - E.R.'s Team
- 1st Place Womens - Cindy Haas, Judy Clark, Myrna Adderly, and Marie Simons
- 1st Place Mixed - Cindy Potter, Jim Potter, Amy Black, and Kent Black
- Longest Drive - Women's - Myrna Adderly / Men's - Anthony Merlo
- Closest to the Pin - Michael Ainsworth



### 3rd Annual Fishing Derby

A giant Thank You to the Whitesville Rod And Gun Club for hosting another awesome Special Needs Fishing Derby. Over 25 people participated; catching a couple fish.



Congratulations to the Green Machine softball team who participated in the Special Olympics Western Region Softball Competition in Williamsville August 3rd and brought home gold.

## See You at the County Fair



**Allegany County Fair Booth**



**Steuben County Fair Booth**

The Arc Allegany-Steuben spent a week at the Allegany County Fair (July 15th - 20th) and the Steuben County Fair (August 13th - 18th) this summer. Associates from various departments across the agency signed up to work the booth and share all the great things the Arc does.

Lots of familiar and new faces stopped by the booths; giving The Arc Allegany-Steuben a chance to catch up with long time friends, reconnect with those we have lost touch with, and educate those who were not familiar with the work of the Arc.

An advertisement for the new website, stitchedink.org. It features a desktop monitor and a smartphone both displaying the website. The website has a dark background with the text "CHANGING LIVES ONE SHIRT AT A TIME" and "THE stitched... SOLUTION". A green search bar at the top shows "stitchedink.org". To the left, a green box says "SAY HELLO! TO OUR NEW WEBSITE!". To the right, the "stitched INK." logo is shown. At the bottom, it says "NOW LAUNCHED! WE'VE GOT A NEW WEBSITE TO MEET ALL OF YOUR GARMENT DECORATING NEEDS!".

Need custom apparel for your business, organization or sports team backed by a 100% satisfaction guarantee? Stitched INK provides screen printing, embroidery, and vinyl services as well as fundraising stores, company and team stores, and package per person.

Located in Bath, New York, Stitched INK is committed to providing high-quality, customized apparel solutions to a diverse clientele, including individuals, businesses, government, and community organizations. No matter your branded apparel challenge, Stitched INK will work with you to find a solution that exceeds your expectations; offering anything you can imagine when it comes to apparel - tee shirts, polos, hoodies, pull-overs, jerseys, hats - if you can wear it, Stitched INK can screen-print or embroider on it!

Contact Stitched INK today at [customer.service@stitchedink.org](mailto:customer.service@stitchedink.org) or 607-776-4147. Visit their new website ([www.stitchedink.org](http://www.stitchedink.org)) and like their Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/StitchedINK](http://www.facebook.com/StitchedINK)) to keep up with all the behind-the-scenes pictures and videos and see all the cool new designs they are creating.

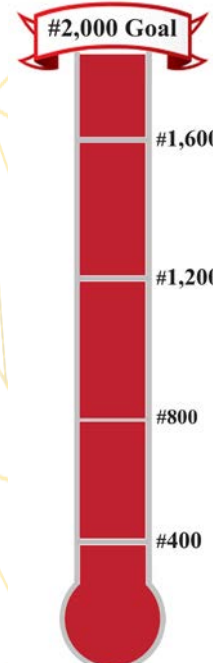
## Membership Campaign Recap

Thank you to the #1,983 people who showed their support for The Arc Allegany-Steuben and those we serve by becoming 2024 Arc Allegany-Steuben Members.

2024 was a great year for Membership; entitling the Arc Allegany-Steuben to 40 Delegate Votes pertaining to issues directly affecting the positions and platforms essential to the agency's long-term survival and growth.

If you became a Member in 2024 – Thank You! Your support is a reflection of your belief in the agency's mission and your dedication to those we serve.

2025's Membership Campaign will kick-off in March with the goal of reaching #2,000 Members and growing The Arc Allegany-Steuben's life-touching footprint. Together we are making a difference.



*Achieve with us.*