

Harc Family

STAFF AND FAMILY E-NEWSLETTER

What's New In October?

A message from our President & CEO Russell Coleman



As we enjoy this beautiful October, we mark a significant occasion, Disability Employment Awareness Month. This month, our hearts are steered toward the pursuit of employment opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

The statistics speak volumes, individuals with IDD face higher underemployment and unemployment rates. At Harc we are committed to changing this narrative. We tirelessly empower participants, equipping them with the skills and confidence needed for meaningful employment.

Our dedication to training and development has yielded remarkable success stories. Just last week, one of our participants had an on the spot interview at a job fair and was quickly offered a second interview opportunity at the YWCA in Hartford. We were incredibly impressed with her performance at the job fair and are hopeful for her success! When given such opportunities, the individuals we support thrive in diverse workplaces, showcasing their talents and redefining what's possible. Our staff are more than Harc employees, they serve as mentors, advocates, and friends, making these incredible transformations possible.

This Disability Employment Awareness Month, we celebrate our progress and the lives we have touched. However, we acknowledge that our work is far from over. We remain resolute in creating inclusive workplaces and expanding opportunities for our participants.



We extend our appreciation to our staff for their unwavering commitment and tireless efforts in making a difference in the lives of those we support. Your dedication is the driving force behind all the success stories.

Let's continue breaking down barriers, fostering inclusivity, and championing the cause of those with IDD during Disability Employment Awareness Month and beyond. Together, we can create a brighter future for all.

Thank you for your outstanding work and your unwavering commitment to our mission to provide support for a lifetime to individuals with intellectual and related disabilities and their families so they may enjoy lives of quality, inclusion, and Dignity.

Russell

Celebratory Photos From Sept. 19th Honoring Birth to Three in CT for the past 30 Years!!

Those dedicated to Birth to Three for 30+ years are applauded on stage left while on stage right, Part C Coordinator Nicole Cossette and Commissioner for the CT Office of Early Childhood (OEC) Beth Bye accept a notary certificate from CT Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz (middle) as the day of festivities at the CT science center celebrating Birth to Three commenced.



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Continuing with more about our Steppingstones Birth to Three program:

What are supports and services?

All Birth to Three services are developmental and may include one or more of the following provided by Connecticut licensed or certified professionals as well as supervised trained paraprofessionals:

family/caregiver training/ counseling at home/daycare • service coordination • nutrition services • occupational therapy • physical therapy • special education teaching • social work services • speech and language services • assistive technology devices and services • cued language • sign language • vision and mobility services

How important is family involvement?

Each child's unique support network is a collaborative team composed of the child, family, caregivers, additional professionals, and the primary service provider who is also the service coordinator. Our commitment to a coaching style of interaction, based on adult learning principles, builds confidence and competence in parents and caregivers as they strengthen child learning and development during everyday activities. Achieving the best possible outcomes thrives upon collaborative family and team involvement.

**Let's Spice Things Up This October! Shop our Fall collection at
Sockstarzusa.com today!**



Fall Collection



www.sockstarzusa.com

Shop Now



Upcoming Events

Annual Auction 2023, Our annual fundraising auction is on November 11, 2023



Sparkling Possibilities

Harc's 34th Annual Auction and Gala

Nov. 11th
6 P.M. TO 11 P.M.

Saturday
Hartford Windsor Marriott

THIS YEAR'S THEME IS PROM!



Break out your favorite dress or your flashiest tie as we gather for an evening of glitz and giving to benefit Harc and the people we serve. Enjoy dinner and drinks, while bidding on amazing auction items, enjoy delicious refreshments, and dance the night away — Dr. Stephen Becker, President Emeritus, is the honorary chair.

GET YOUR TICKETS — OR RESERVE A WHOLE TABLE BEFORE THEY SELL OUT!

Scan Me



Register online at www.harc-ct.org or contact
Eloise Mongillo, Chief Philanthropy Officer, at emongillo@harc-ct.org

Disability Employment Awareness Month



1 in 4 Americans has a disability, and over 80% of people with disabilities are unemployed or underemployed. As we bring awareness to National Disability Employment Month, our Supported Employment Program has our individuals create visual resumes. Not only did our folks make their own resumes, but they also have plans for their future careers and have taken the necessary steps to attain those goals.


Recently, we were able to open up a Career Planning Center and a Computer Technology Room on our 5th floor, where our individuals are able to acquire the necessary skills that will help them land the job of their dreams. For instance, they are learning how to build a resume, know the dos and don'ts of a workplace, dressing for success, internet safety skills, mock job interviews, and more. There are sections in the center that have computers, TOPPIT Smart Boards, and even 3-D printers!

To best elaborate on the technologies we have acquired, state-of-the-art computer software, advanced printing capabilities, and interactive communication & learning tools. These technological resources are just the beginning of how we have, and will continue to empower our folks, to develop their skills further and enhance their employability.


Our folks in the career planning rooms have also been developing plans for a variety of micro businesses, from working with pets in the community, not to mention the diverse range of sectors, including retail, crafts, services, and more! Don't forget to keep up with the incredible changes coming to Harc and all the folks from Supportive Employment. Feel free to stop in for a tour!




Supported Employment Visual Resumes!

Harc  **VISUAL RESUME**

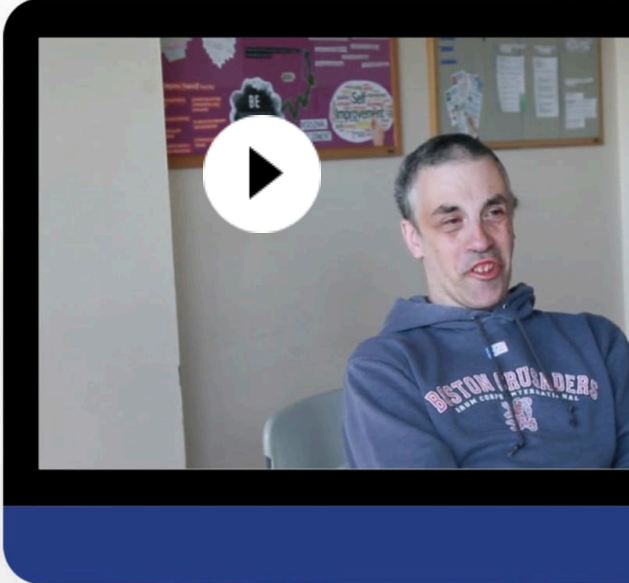
National Disability Employment Awareness Month At Harc



A video player interface with a play button icon. The video shows a woman sitting in a room with a computer monitor behind her. She is wearing a grey long-sleeved shirt with a peace sign graphic and the words 'PEACE HOPE KINDNESS HEALTH' written on it. She is also wearing a blue cap with 'TECHNICAL' written on it.

Harc  **VISUAL RESUME**

National Disability Employment Awareness Month At Harc



A video player interface with a play button icon. The video shows a man sitting in a room with a bulletin board behind him. He is wearing a blue hoodie with 'BOSTON BRUINS' written on it.

Carolyn Chandler

Job Title: Job Coach

When did you get involved with Harc?

Carolyn started working at Harc in 2015.

What attracted you to our mission?

Someone told her about a job opening at Harc. She mentioned, "to never judge a book by its cover"; as she never worked with individuals of different abilities. Carolyn has worked with the elderly in her past position.

What motivates you throughout the day

One individual in particular, "Frannie" gives her motivation everyday. Carolyn explains, " to just know how young she is, gives me more insight of someone who has a disability where their body does not work the way they want it to, but still makes impressive milestones by expressing herself in the best way she can...she truly impresses me. If you really talk to our individuals more, and give them the opportunity to be their true selves; sky's the limit for them!"

Of what contribution or achievement are you most proud?

Carolyn feels overwhelmingly accomplished of how far she has come. Especially, dealing with the intensive personal care our individuals need on a daily basis. She thought she wouldn't be able to do it, but now feels so happy she overcame her fear. She is also proud of being the recipient of the Appleton Award. "I never received anything for my dedication to work before," Carolyn exclaims.



Do you have an anecdote/story about Harc that really moved you?

"Just working with the individuals and knowing what they are capable of doing, is an inspiration in itself," Carolyn says. She is a team player and never thought she would have such a huge impact in our individuals' lives.

Fun Facts about me:

- She may be a Capricorn, but she is a very nice person. " I am JUST like my dad," she mentions proudly.
- She always likes to help people, and does not like to see people struggle.

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