

News Release: Every Tuesday night is BINGO night at ARC Broward - January 2001

SUNRISE, Florida - ARC Broward, a private not-for-profit organization assisting and supporting children and adults with developmental disabilities will be hosting a weekly Bingo Charity Night every Wednesday at their complex located at: 10250 NW 53 Street in Sunrise. Located off Nob Hill Road, just south of Commercial Boulevard, ARC Broward boasts an easily accessible facility free from traffic and a hot and cold menu from their kitchen for those who like to eat and play.

The Inaugural Bingo Charity Night is scheduled for Wednesday January 24, 2001 with Early Bird play beginning at 6:30 pm and regular session to follow. There will be lots of door prizes given away throughout the night for anyone participating in ARC Broward's newly created fundraiser. "We want everyone to have a great time, says Keith Muniz, VP Marketing and Development for ARC Broward. "We have the support of some corporations and other friends that have donated some nice prizes for us to give away. We want as many people as possible to feel like a winner at the end of the night, but also to feel like they contributed to a worthy cause."

100% of the proceeds generated from the Charity Bingo Night will benefit the children and adults with disabilities that ARC Broward supports. "There is a great need within our community to expand the scope of our services for people with disabilities. To do that we need to generate capital," says Dennis Haas, President and CEO of ARC Broward. ARC Broward was looking for an event that could provide a steady source of income to assist them with meeting those additional needs within the community without sacrificing the high quality standards for which they have become known. "Bingo seemed like a good fit for our needs", says Haas. "We have a beautiful facility that can accommodate up to 350 people. Many people in the surrounding area that have visited us have expressed an interest in attending a social activity/event, such as Bingo that would get them out of the house during the week."

ARC Broward provides a full array of supports for children and adults with disabilities and their families. They have a preschool program supporting special needs children birth through five years old, a school for children with autism in kindergarten through the 5th grade, a vocational work center for adults with disabilities who are developing their job skills, a special program for children and adults who are Deaf and hard of hearing and many others.

In addition to supporting their outreach efforts, some of the money raised from Bingo Nights will go to offset expenses in several programs that ARC Broward is currently operating. One of the more expensive programs to operate is the Children's Preschool program. "We're currently operating at a small deficit level in the preschool program. In an effort to continue to provide above and beyond the quality education we believe all children should receive, we are developing a series of charitable events that will offset the deficits we're forecasting in that program," says Muniz, "Bingo is the first of our planned events to get started. In addition to raising revenue our events will help us to promote awareness for people with disabilities and their incredible potential"

Incorporated in 1956, ARC Broward is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization providing supports and assistance to children and adults with mental retardation, autism, Down's syndrome, cerebral palsy and various other types of special needs. ARC Broward's mission is to "help people help themselves by providing opportunities for achieving their fullest potential." ARC Broward provides supports and assistance to over 600 children and adults with disabilities and employs over 300 health care, education and other professionals to accomplish their mission. ARC Broward has received numerous awards for their programs in assisting people with disabilities and they are accredited by CARF, The Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission.