

## Workforce Directions



ARC Broward  
Workforce Development

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### MISSION STATEMENT

To help people achieve their fullest potential by providing educational, employment, behavioral, health care, social and residential supports



Jerry Motter, Director

## What changes can you expect in 2005?

The Workforce Development Division has a number of goals that we will be pursuing in 2005 in order to improve the quality of our services. As we move to become more of a community-based organization, that is offering more of our services in integrated work environments in the community, we will be working to build partnerships with area businesses. ARC Broward, Inc. represents many people who are capable of working at least part time in the community. Area businesses have needs for more workers. Therefore, it would seem that we should be able to establish a mutually beneficial relationship.

Through out the year, we will be working to identify business leaders that are willing to serve on a Business Advisory Council (BAC) for ARC, working with us to ensure our programs really are preparing our consumers for the "real world" of work. If you know of a business that might be interested in serving on our BAC, please contact either Jerry Motter or Ghada Aly.

During 2005 we are going to be writing numerous proposals for grants and foundation assistance to help us become more community-based. Throughout the year, we will keep you informed of our progress in generating new sources of revenue for existing and new initiatives. One of the first will be an application to be a "Ticket To Work" provider within the Social Security system.

We will also grow more business related income from our Electronics Recycling Services as well as explore other off-site possibilities that will increase ARC's ability to serve more consumers, based upon their needs and desires.

While we are very pleased with the growth of Calypso Grill, we have more work to do in order for it to be a profitable operation. Manager Michelle Culmer, Chef Nancy and staff will be brainstorming ways to increase the volume of business as well as creating "signature menu items" that will draw more business from the community.

Spic N Span is in the process of developing a contract to clean not only the whole ARC campus, but BARC as well. This will occur as soon as the appropriate staff can be hired. Thanks to the hard work of Denise Brown, crew leader, Spic N Span has opportunities for not only consumers learning housekeeping,

### Workforce Development

- Electronics Recycling
- Supported Employment
- Skill Center
- Van Washing
- Calypso Grill
- Spic 'N Span

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## Wow! 3 students graduated



Congratulations to the students that have completed and graduated the **Post Secondary Adult Vocational** course at Broward Community College. ARC Broward (Supported Employment), Vocational Rehabilitation, and Broward Community College have collaborated on this great mission to provide these students with an opportunity to prepare themselves for employment in customer care service positions. The following students Zachary Larkin,

Kai Gordon and Scott Baker have successfully completed the 14-week course in Business Communication, Word and Keyboarding.

It is a great achievement and each graduate will be awarded a certificate. They were also offered jobs at the college. We would like to congratulate these students for doing a job well done. Also Congrats also to the Supported Employment team.

## Employee of the Month



Marcia Wright wins the Workforce Development Division's first "Employee of the Month" award. Nominated by one of her peers, Marcia is recognized for both her commitment to ARC Broward, Inc and to the consumers she serves in her classes each day. Over the past year, you have surely seen Marcia and her crew pulling weeds, planting flowers and plants, watering and weeding their gardens. This is being done to not only make ARC campus much more attractive, but to give her consumers a positive and meaningful experience of watching the miracle of plants growing from seeds to beautiful flowering plants. Marcia has gone far beyond what is expected of staff, even in the heat of summer taking care of her plants and teaching her consumers.

In addition to her certificate, Marcia receives a \$25 gift card. **Congratulations Marcia!!!** Your work and commitment to ARC is appreciated not only by your peers, but all who visit our campus.

## Electronics Recycling

Electronics Recycling is moving forward with additional space here at ARC both in Skill Center area and in room 312. The added area in 312 will be utilized for computer repair and resale. We look forward in the near future to selling computers and accessories to the general public.

We are targeting large corporations to join us in our recycling efforts; so far Comcast, Princess Cruises and the Sarah Lee are participating with us to make a difference in our community.

Visibility in Broward County is important and with that we have made an improved effort to be seen. New magnetic signs on the ARC vans as well as banners and signs have been placed strategically throughout the community. Help us spread the word about Electronics Recycling in our community!

"The time is always right to do what is right".

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

## Lessons in Safety

December's Consumer Meeting focused on Safety Issues. Mathias Louis led a discussion with the support of several staff members who participated in skits demonstrating the "do's and don'ts" of safety.

Additional lessons focused on the safe usage of spray bottles, for example, cleaning solutions.



The meeting was a good opportunity for consumers to ask questions and share tips with each other.

On the left, you see Denise Brown, Spic N Span Crew Leader, demonstrating the correct way to use "Wet Floor Signs".

On the right, is what happens when someone either ignores or remove the "Wet Floor Signs".



## The Calypso Grill

The Calypso Grill catered both Consumer and staff holiday parties. The food was delicious and an assortment of dessert was also served. The tropical staff party also featured Chef Nancy's award winning wings, which was a big hit and will become a new menu item.

We are still in search of the next guest Chef. Anyone with an interest in sharing their specialty dish is welcomed to contact Michelle Culmer @ 954-724-9176.



The above picture shows Julian Robinson serving mouth-watering pieces of ham at the staff party.



**The Calypso Grill has an awesome salad bar!**

## What changes can you expect in 2005? *cont.*

but full time work as an ARC employee for those who demonstrate housekeeping proficiencies.

Last, but certainly not least, Russell Giles is about ready to begin expanding the van washing crew into doing staff vehicles as well. Again, this initiative well be providing more employment for people with disabilities.

2005 promises to be a GREAT year! We are excited about the future and appreciate your support.

*"Forget about all the reasons why something may not work. You only need to find one good reason why it will".*



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**WORKFORCE  
DIRECTIONS**

Ideas, suggestions?  
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**Happy Birthday!**

Leondra Harrell January 13  
Gesta Momprevil January 13  
Racquel Henry January 17  
Vernett Studdard January 18  
Roxana Razi January 24

*Congratulations!*



Michelle Culmer, Calypso Grill Manager and her husband Steven are expecting twins.

*Let's welcome to the Skill Center*

Jeff W.  
Kenny S.

## Where there's a will there's a way

Once there was a farmer who owned an old mule. One day the mule fell into the farmer's well and the farmer heard the mule 'braying' or whatever mules do when they fall into wells. After carefully assessing the situation, the farmer sympathized with the mule, but decided that neither the mule nor the well was worth the trouble of saving. Instead, he called his neighbors together, told them what had happened and enlisted them to help haul dirt to bury the old mule in the well and put him out of his misery. Initially, the old mule was hysterical! But as the farmer and his neighbors continued shoveling and the dirt hit his back, a thought struck him. It dawned on him that every time a shovel load of dirt landed on his back he could shake it off and step up! This he did, blow after blow! "Shake it off and step up...shake it off and step up...shake it off and step up!" He repeated this to encourage himself. No matter how painful the blows, or how distressing the situation seemed, the old mule fought "panic" and just kept right on shaking it off and stepping up! It wasn't long before the old mule, battered and exhausted, stepped triumphantly over the wall of that well! What seemed like it would bury him actually helped him...all because of the manner in which he handled his adversity. That's life! If we face our problems and respond to them positively, and refuse to give in to panic, bitterness, or self-pity ...the adversities that we encounter, usually have within them, the very real potential to benefit us!

"Never be afraid to try something new. remember that amateurs built the ark. professionals built the titanic."



## The buzz on the Plaza



- ◆ Plans are underway for Consumers with entrepreneurial skills to sell their crafts in the Great Room.
- ◆ Good to Great by 2008 Campaign, more info soon.
- ◆ The much anticipated Electronic Recycle retail store is open, tell your friends and families.
- ◆ The Spic 'N Span Crew has a night crew that works from 3 pm to 7 pm, they are taking over BARC housing on February 1, 2005.
- ◆ Valentines Day Special, the Calypso Grill will be offering "Sweetheart Cookie" pick one up for your valentine.