



NEWSLETTER

Spring 2020

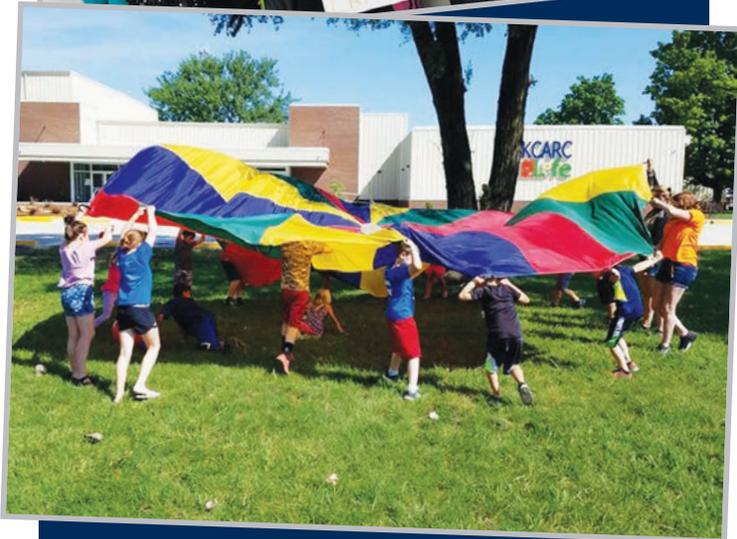
Summer Camp

Planning for Summer Camp 2020 has wrapped up and we are excited about this year's adventures! This is the third year for the camp and we expect the largest group of campers to date! Camp Counselors have been busy over the winter formulating a curriculum which will include games, STEM activities, outings, arts & crafts and combined with all the amenities of 1972 Community Center its sure to be a fun-filled summer!!

You spoke and we listened! New this year to the 11-week Summer Camp is part-time availability and new pricing structure. You now have the choice of sending your child all week OR you can choose the number of days per week they will attend! Also available is a paid-in-full pre-pay discount for the 11-week program.

We are very excited to welcome all of the area kids for another summer of fun and adventure! Get your child registered to hold their slot as limited spots are available!

Be sure to follow us on  Facebook to stay up to date on Summer Camp 2020 meeting dates, pricing and ALL the great things we do at 1972!



OUR MISSION

To advocate and provide opportunities in a dignified and respectful manner for the total well-being of individuals and families with special needs.

BOARD ADOPTED 1999



Improving the lives of individuals with disabilities since 1972.
www.knoxcountyarcc.com

President's Message:

Relationships

Nearby to this letter is a picture of Jim and Anne Larsen of Corvallis, Oregon along with Anne's letter dated December 2019. As you can see they are standing by the 1972 Volkswagon bus located in KCARC's 1972 facility. The relationship seems distant and difficult to understand.

Many years ago Charley and Mary Baker were the parents of Jim Baker. Jim was very severely injured in a car-train accident at Bell crossing in Vincennes several years prior to the founding of KCARC. In 1968 Gary Hammelman was similarly injured in a car accident. Again, prior to the founding of KCARC.

Jim passed away several years ago. Charley Baker had been on the KCARC Board of Directors and along with Mary they were staunch supporters of KCARC. Gary died February 14, 2020. I had the honor of offering a few words at Gary's funeral services. Today, at KCARC's Baker Center pastor and KCARC employee John Stidham conducted a memorial service for Gary. Edgar, Gary's father, was on KCARC's board and, like the Bakers was a longtime supporter of KCARC.

As I sat beside Edgar today it occurred to me that the most important thing KCARC does is not providing services to individuals with disabilities and their families. While that is hugely important and cannot be overstated, the

real value is the relationships that are created through and because of those services.

As I watched individuals in our programs who were friends of Gary give testimony to Gary's persona, it became clear to me that the relationship they had with Gary and he had with them was and is paramount in all that KCARC does. The connection and kinship forged by years of working, living, playing, loving, hurting, healing, and being together is of understated importance. As a matter of course and with repeated proclamation, I frequently posit the significance of KCARC programs.

Today I believe, more than ever, KCARC is a relationship building activity. I think the letter from Anne Larsen and the comments from Edgar today would attest.

Mike Carney



...Did You Know...

KCARC rents warehouse space? KCARC has 150,000 square feet of warehouse available for long or short term use! The locations also have docks and fork lifts to use as well!

If your business needs space, contact Jennifer Parker at 812-886-4312.

1150 NW Alder Creek Dr.
Corvallis, OR 97330
Dec. 10, 2019

Dear Mike,

I just wanted to let you know how much I appreciated the time you spent with my husband, Jim and me in October sharing your memories of Charles (my Uncle Bud) and Mary Baker and Jimmy. The tours you arranged for us opened our eyes and hearts to all the possibilities for people like Jimmy who can benefit from a program like yours at KCARC. We truly were awed by all the love and joy and caring, respect and opportunities we saw that were being provided there. I've realized that I now view every person with special needs through a different lens. Thinking this could have been Jimmy - and they each deserve to be acknowledged and appreciated as individuals by me.

I hope this check to the Dee Montgomery Fund helps bring some happiness to someone at KARC. I hope to get involved at our local ARC in 2020.

Thank you so very much!

Anne (McCaskin) Larsen
(Joy McCaskin's sister)

P.S. We loved the 1972 VW!

Jim & Anne Larson, from
Corvallis, OR, visit 1972.



LAM-ily

The 11th Annual LAM Banquet started with Life After Meth (LAM) Director Marsha Bishop welcoming everyone to the evening's event. Local officials, pastors, church members, KCARC employees and past and present LAM members heard several personal stories and enjoyed a panel discussion from two LAM residents, Anthony Lovellette and Wendy Robinson. We were blessed for Tony Burkhart's willingness to facilitate that portion of the evening!

The crowd was brought to tears on several occasions, each person sharing the heartfelt stories about how they have battled and

continue to battle addiction every day. LAM Board Member Chris Sanders shared with us his "Why", why he feels LAM is important for our Community to support LAM! He lost a childhood friend due to addiction. His friend left behind 2 young sons, the same ages as his own children, and which fuels Chris's passion to grow the LAM Ministry in order to reach and serve more people seeking help.

LAM graduate Ashley Thacker bravely told her story from addiction to recovery with brutal

truth and a little humor! A story of struggle and many roadblocks, but as she stood there with her husband by her side she told the crowd of her successes. A full time job, a car, money in the bank and a solid relationship with her husband.

During the panel discussion Tony asked LAM member Anthony Lovellette "How did you get here? What was it that made you decide you were ready to come to LAM?" Anthony stated "I have been in trouble, big trouble. Spent time alone in solitary confinement in the jail. All I had was a Bible. I read it, and I read it more. Every day. And I just knew that it was time."

The LAM Ministry is solely funded on donations and grants. We hope others will feel led to get involved, reduce the stigma traditionally surrounding addiction and invest in our recovery effort that begins in the Knox County Jail with incarcerated addicts....known as: Life After Meth, Inc.—LAM! If you would like to donate to the LAM Ministry, please go to knoxcountylifeaftermeth.com/donations and click on the "Donate Now" button. If you would like to hear about additional opportunities to help the LAM Ministry and the latest happenings of this great group, request to be added to the e-Newsletter by emailing your name to twillis@knoxcountycarc.com. You can also follow the LAM Ministry on Facebook at facebook.com/life-after-meth-inc and on Instagram [life_aftermeth](https://instagram.com/life_aftermeth).





WHY WORK FOR KCARC?

KCARC has been employing people of Knox and surrounding counties for 48 years. Why do people choose to work for KCARC? There are many great reasons, like rewarding work, a free wellness clinic, great pay, excellent benefits, incredible friendships and generous paid time off to name a few!! But its things like what is happening right now that draws people to work for KCARC.

KCARC has provided child care during the corona virus situation so employees can come to work; implemented an e-learning location including computers and internet for the children of our employees allowing them to stay on track with their curriculum while out of school at no cost to the employee, provided bonuses to full and part-time employees for their dedication and working their scheduled hours. KCARC is sewing protective face masks to be used in our residential housing units to protect the health of our individuals, employees and their families.

KCARC works hard at finding innovative solutions to concerns as they arise and allows KCARC to protect its employees and their families while providing a healthy work-life balance.



Employee Spotlight:

Jodie Chesser



We are excited to introduce Jodie Chesser as our new Director of Youth and Community Services. This position oversees our Civitan Children's Center, 1972 Community Center, The Shop Life Services Education and our Behavioral Clinicians. Jodie was previously employed in the banking industry for 30 years working in several areas; most recently setting the strategic direction and vision for residential mortgage lending for a large, local bank. Maintaining a highly effective and efficient business unit as well as maintaining great customer service was very important to Jodie. Bringing those skills to KCARC will allow her areas of responsibility to work more efficiently and continue to bridge the gap of our youth services and adult services to complete the vision of KCARC for Life.

"I want to grow 1972's activities and bring awareness to our youth by increasing the day to day use of our facility. There are needs for different services in Knox County and I know our programs at 1972 and Civitan Children's Center will bring fun and educational opportunities to our youth for years to come."

One of the programs is currently underway, Spring Break Camp. Jodie and her staff at 1972 were able to identify improvements to the existing program that were needed, address those concerns and have revamped the program. A more structured curriculum was created and has already proven to show an increase in attendance as well as satisfied campers and parents.

"There are more great things coming at 1972, and I cannot wait to share them with everyone" said Chesser. To stay up to date on 1972 visit the website www.1972kcarc.com or "Like" them on Facebook.

Jodie lives in Knox County with her husband Steve and daughters Nicole and Kourtney and has extensive training in leadership and business planning as well as community affiliations. She brings with her a passion for improving our community and makes a great addition to the KCARC Family!



UPDATE

Due to current health concerns and restrictions we are postponing the Ms Marvelous Pageant until a later date. Please watch our future newsletter, website and Facebook page for updated information.

Our Busy February

We had a busy February! Many of our individuals participated in the Annual Night to Shine prom. They had a tremendous time dressing up and dancing the night away! We also had our annual basketball season and tournament. New this year, some of our students from the Civitan Children's Center joined our individuals at The Shop and had a Valentine's party. They had a great time coloring, playing BINGO, having snacks and making friendship necklaces. LOTS of smiles were happening at this great event!





2525 North 6th Street
Vincennes, IN 47591

KCARC is certified to provide many services under the Medicaid Home and Community Based Waiver system in Indiana.

For more information about any of KCARC's services, contact:

Nash Dunn

Vice President of Program Services
812.886.4312
nash.dunn@knoxcountyar.com



SUCCEED WITH US!
Our employees come from all walks of life, but they all have one thing in common...KCARC. Browse our various career opportunities, and then consider joining our team.



Check us out!
www.knoxcountyar.com

Healthy Information

Spring is here but that doesn't mean the sickies are gone!! We've learned a new word this year, Coronavirus. What does Coronavirus and all the other illnesses have in common? Medication does not kill the virus, but it will help reduce the symptoms. What can you do to protect yourself from viruses including Coronavirus, the flu or even the common cold? The CDC recommends:

- If you have a fever, do not go to school or work. Stay home and avoid contact with people until you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- Do not come in close contact with people who are running a fever or showing symptoms.
- Sneeze and cough into a tissue, shirt sleeve or elbow.



- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. Pat them dry with a towel.
- Wash your hands after blowing your nose, using the restroom and before eating.
- Only use hand sanitizer if you do not have the ability to wash your hands with soap and warm water.
- Avoid touching your face, eyes, nose and mouth as germs are spread easily through contact.
- Wipe down surfaces, objects and common areas such as counters, light switches, door handles with disinfectant daily.

