



Mission: The Arc of Quinebaug Valley, Inc. is a nonprofit human service agency committed to supporting individuals (and their families) with intellectual, developmental and other life affecting disabilities.

The Arc provides opportunities through advocacy and supports for work, play, and education so each person experiences personal growth, dignity, respect, choice, and greater independence to live life to its fullest.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

Did you know?

Core Values: G.R.O.W.T.H.

Guidance, Respect, Opportunity, With Community, Team, Heart

The Education Department opened in 2006, since then we have grown in leaps and bounds.

In the beginning we shared an office on the first floor of our Cook Hill Road building. We have since grown into the entire second floor. We have two classrooms, an awesome sensory room to relax in and we are in the process of creating a second sensory area that will be more hands on and interactive. We also have a 19' x 41' recreation area which is equipped with table games, board games, books, a Wii system, and a music system. We have an exercise room with equipment donated to us from family and friends and access to a full kitchen.

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Statements of Beliefs: (we believe...)

- All children/students have the right to be included and respected
- All children/students have the potential to learn
- All parents are essential to our team
- In a Positive attitude and Cohesive team approach
- In embracing the community and striving for reciprocal relationships

We are fortunate to have many professionals working closely with us. In addition to our well trained direct support professionals, we have a certified teacher on staff everyday, we have access to an Educational Consultant with 30 years of experience and we also contract with a Behavioral Consultant on a regular basis. We work closely with the parents and school systems that have students in our programs. We attend PPTs and follow the requirements of the Individual Education Plan (IEP). In fact, it is typical for the Arc program to develop goals and objectives in conjunction with the support team.

Guiding Principles:

- To practice inclusion and interdependence
- To value worthiness, capacity and gifts
- To communicate respectfully
- To build strong community partnerships
- To promote self advocacy, awareness, and individuality

We have three young adults in our Transition program and 12 students in our Extended Day Program. We also offer Extended Year Programs, Circles of Support development, and Awareness Training. We have in the past and continue to develop specialized programs with local school districts. These unique individualized programs have been seen as a priceless resource to the districts. We are often seen supporting students at their extra-curricular functions, including but not limited to music lessons, clubs, sports, and dances. These are essential components to the programs offered through the Educational Services Department.

Peers can be the best teachers and our volunteers are highly valued in the Education Department. We have developed a relationship with the Pomfret Prep school. Every semester a group of students come once a week to spend Wednesday afternoons with the students. Other volunteers graciously donate their time on school vacations.

Every community has a wealth of opportunities that we tap into on a daily basis. It's important that our students are familiar with their community and also that they are recognized members of the community they live in.

With the support of our local schools and our community we continue to grow. Our students continue to reach the goals set by us, their schools, and their families. We always welcome visitors to our department.

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