



Mission Statement: To enhance the quality of life and create opportunities for people with disabilities.

Welcome to the **Highlights Newsletter** for Desert Arc families and caregivers! Intended to be a monthly publication, **Highlights** will share news and updates from Desert Arc. Thank you, parent-advocate **Renee Griffin**, for recommending content and designing the format of this Newsletter!

<p>STAFF PROMOTIONS Congratulations!</p> <p><u>Palm Desert</u> Donnya Villarreal Director of Vocational Programs</p> <p>Lynn De Anda Director of Licensed Programs</p> <p><u>Morongo Basin</u> Dianna Anderson Director of Morongo Basin Programs</p> <p>Kimberly Bohannon Case Manager</p>	<p>PARTNER NEWS</p> <p>The Houston Family Foundation has awarded Desert Arc \$100,000 to help underwrite the work of our Licensed Vocational Nurse team!</p> <p>SoCal Adaptive Sports and the Desert Recreation District have teamed up with Desert Arc to provide enhanced in-person and virtual activities.</p> <p>Thank you to these partners!</p>	<p>EVENTS</p> <p>Mario’s Italian Kitchen and Southwest Community Church will be sponsoring a food-fest to benefit Desert Arc on Saturday, November 18 (on the campus of the Church in Indian Wells). Food options will include Italian, Mexican, and BBQ! Mark your calendars and spread the word!</p>
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Carlos M. Cafeteria Services
Carlos has worked with Desert Arc for 22 years. He has spent the majority of that time as a Cafeteria Services Attendant. His sons are scheduled to graduate from high school this year. When Carlos is not working, he spends time with them shopping or at the movies. He also enjoys working out at the gym.

JULY NEW HIRES:
Ashley Bojorquez – Palm Desert ADC
Gloria Lira – For Your Independence
Janice Hodge – For Your Independence
Javier Palomino – Landscape
Justin Anger – Administrative Intern
Maura Robles – For Your Independence
Thelma Wingate – Morongo Basin ADC
Valeria Perez – Licensed Vocational Nurse

The full range of client-made jewelry, arts & crafts are on display and for sale in the lobby of the Administration building in Palm Desert. Stop by and see the selection and do a bit of shopping!



Thank you to 41% of families and caregivers that responded to Desert Arc's 2023 Satisfaction Survey! Here is what was learned:

95% of you report your family member/participant **benefits** from services at Desert Arc.

92% of you believe your family member/participant's services at Desert Arc are **person-centered**.

94.5% of you feel your family member/participant is provided a **safe environment** while at Desert Arc.

92% of you feel there is **consistent communication** between you and Desert Arc.

70% of you want **more information about other programs** at Desert Arc that might benefit your family member/participant.

87% of you feel your family member/participant receives the **right programs/services** at Desert Arc.

95% of you feel your family member/participant's Desert Arc case manager makes every attempt to **resolve concerns and answer your questions**.

Crisis Prevention Institute certified trainers, **Emoke Fox** and **Lynn De Anda**, have started training staff on CPI de-escalation techniques. The goal is to bring this education to all staff with direct client interaction before the end of 2023.

Summer heat is here! Plans are being formulated to help ensure the health & safety of clients and staff during days where temperatures go above 115 degrees. When schedules need to be adjusted, please be on the lookout for calls from case managers and text or email messages.

The **Grocery Outlet** in La Quinta conducted a food and cash drive during the month of July and Desert Arc was one of three local charities selected as beneficiaries.

Desert Arc celebrated employee tenure with food and festivities on July 26, 2023 and July 28, 2023. Those with 5 or more years of service include...

Twenty-Five Years

Jo Ann Avery
Elizabeth Burns
Camerina Corrales
Ruth Goodsell

Twenty Years

Maria Farias
Donnya Villarreal

Fifteen Years

Christina Aroz
Concepción Ledezma
Gabriel Maciel
Lisa Moreno
Arturo Ponce
Dulce Velazquez

Ten Years

Fatima Arias
Kurt Ballance
Dawn Donelson
Belinda Jaurez
Edith Lascola
David Palacio
Claudia Parra
Christine Rios
Daylen Velasquez
Karina Angulo Velasquez
Daniel Villegas

Five Years

Claudette Brewer
Sydney Cooper
Raúl Esquivel
Randy Fernandez
Emoke Fox
Monique Gonzalez
Gerardo Hernandez
Lenox Lopez Taleno
Esteban Martinez
Diana Valadez
Angelica Vasquez
Rosa Villalobos
Katherine Wales

Desert Arc has been working with a consultant for the past four months to develop a new, **multi-year strategic plan**. Thank you to the families who joined the consultant for an in-person focus group!

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH DURING AUGUST?

Thank you to Desert Arc clients for helping the Cafeteria Staff to choose new menu items each month!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
TBLT Sandwich, w/Turkey, Bacon, Lettuce, Tomato, Yogurt, & Fruit	Mirka's Salad w/Chicken, Lettuce, Cucumber, Tomato, Cheddar Cheese & Ranch Dressing, Saltine Crackers & Fruit	Ham & Cheese Croissant w/Lettuce, Tomato, Sun Chips & Fruit	Chicken Cesar Salad w/Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumber, Parmesan Cheese, Croutons, Pretzels & Fruit	Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich w/Mozzarella Stick, Cucumber Slices & Fruit

Staff Directory – (760) 346-1611

Name	Extension
Angelique Ontiveros – Director Business Svcs. & Facilities	232
April Mora – Case Manager - Behavioral Programs	242
Camerina (Came) Corrales – Enclave Field Supervisor	489
Christine Rios – Senior Case Manager - Vocational Programs	238
Dawn Donelson – Case Manager - ADC	240
Dianna Anderson – Director of Morongo Basin Programs	341
Donnya Villarreal – Director of Vocational Programs	403
Elliott Darden – Shredding & Recycling Manager	122
Emoke Fox – Senior Case Manager – B-MOD	241
Eugene Clomera – Nursing Supervisor	128
Isabel Rojo – Assistant Manager of Licensed Programs	410
Janay Trevino – Case Manager - Vocational Programs	412
Jessica Ponce – Case Manager – ADC	415
JoAnn Avery – FYI/Respite Program Manager	223
Joseph Perez – Case Manager - Morongo Basin	344
Karina Velasquez – Case Manager – ADC	233
Kimberly Bohannon – Case Manager - Morongo Basin	337
Kurt Parish – Chief Financial Officer	216
Lailani De La O – Program Manager-ILS/Senior Case Manager-FYI	225
Lisa Lester – Assistant Director of Employment & Cafeteria Svcs.	409
Lynn De Anda – Director of Licensed Programs	411
Mark Bratrud – Assistant Case Manager - Vocational Programs	210
Monique Gonzalez – Case Manager – FYI	220
Nallely Rodriguez – Program/case Management Assistant	417
Nancy Fernandez – Assistant Manager - FYI	420
Ray Gosnell – Case Manager – Vocational Programs	407
Reggie Davis – Employment Clerical Assistant	288
Rigo Mariscal – Transportation Manager	221
Richard Balocco – President/CEO	207
Ronald Stewart – Executive Vice president	227
Soledad Arguilez – Director of Human Resources	235
Vanessa Lopez – Transportation Dispatch/Training Coordinator	231



**SHRED IT
AND FORGET IT**

**August 14, 2023
Shred It and
Forget It Mondays!**
Yucca Valley
9:00am to 12:00pm

**August 18, 2023
Shred It and
Forget It Fridays!**
Palm Desert
9:00am to 12:00pm

**Newsletter
Feedback**

Content and/or Format

Send Message to:
info@desertarc.org