

Ulster-Greene ARC
Greene County Annual Report - 2012



Ulster-Greene ARC (UGARC) serves one of the largest groups of individuals with intellectual disabilities in Greene County. To ensure each individual is matched appropriately with their skills, interests, and environment; cross county services are provided. Currently, we support more Greene County residents in Ulster County, than the other way around. We serve 19 Greene County residents in Ulster County, versus 11 individuals from Ulster County served in Greene County.

Individuals come to us in order to take advantage of a variety of services. These would include:

- Access to over 25 certified residential settings
- Interest based day services which offers programming in the arts, music, and wellness services
- Career services with the largest pool of assisted employment opportunities in the community
- Special designed clinical services
- Service coordination services skilled at promoting the newest opportunities towards self-determination programming (such as Individualized Support Services (ISS), Portal, and Consolidated Support Services)
- Recreational Services
- Family support Services
- Respite services

Since we are a member of the New York State ARC (NYSARC), we offer the additional advantage of guardianship services through our statewide organization. In addition to court appointed guardian, our guardianship program offers additional personal support and advocacy for individuals who have little attention in the way of family and friends. This support often ranges from the simple ways (a gift or card for special occasions) to the more complex ways (assistance with healthcare or end of life decisions) if needed.

Because UGARC strives to support a person's individual needs and choices, several specialty programs have been developed to enhance a person's quality of life and promote independence. We offer a full range of cognitive support technology through our technology partner known as AbleLink. This technology is designed to further enhance an individual's existing independence. It helps enhance an individual's ability to complete a series of routine tasks (for average daily living skills) or further their independent traveling skills for the purpose of making people more independent.

If a better career or job was desired, UGARC has one of the largest assisted employment services in the region. Whether employment is offered at McDonalds, Price Chopper, Roy Rogers (New Baltimore rest area), Tip Top Furniture, Wal-Mart, Windham-Valero Gas Station, Curves, United Stationers, or

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UGARC, our Pilot Industries program is there to help train and place the people we serve.

In addition to employment with host companies, UGARC also supports employment outcomes for Greene County residents through our Work Center located in Catskill, and at enclaves for competitive employment with various local businesses. UGARC uses local and state funds to support employment outcomes of Greene County residents; specifically Greene County funds are utilized to transport County residents to and from the various employment sites (which Medicaid will not pay for).

Work Center: (Pilot Industries, 311 West Bridge Street, Catskill):

In 2012, Our Work Center provided employment to 57 (total enrollment) individuals with development disabilities. They performed 35,195 hours of work and earned \$91,793.43. The average wage for 2012 was \$2.61 per hour. For individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, our work center is often the first opportunity to experience meaningful work. Work is set up in a large open environment with individuals sitting around small tables or operating sealing machines. In the Work Center we complete light assembly work, packing and re-packing of various items including magnets, make-up, batteries and office supplies. We have done work for local companies such as Sullivan Industries, Milecrest, Paperhouse, A&W Worldwide, Qosina and Funworld. The rate of pay is determined by their ability to perform the assigned tasks.

Our Work Center business in Greene County is significant and in 2012 we provided a total of \$81,800.00 in gross sales.

Supported Employment:

Supported Employment is a service for an individual with intellectual and developmentally disabilities where he or she is able to obtain community based employment. There are two distinct types of opportunities; enclaves and competitive employment.

Enclaves:

In 2012, our Enclaves in Greene County employed 34 individuals. They performed 24,994.00 hours of work and earned \$122,483.63. The average wage for 2012 was \$4.90 per hour.

The enclaves consist of one staff member along with 4-6 individuals who provide a contracted service for a host company. Individuals work 2-5 six hour shifts per week. The rate of pay is determined by their ability to perform the assigned tasks. We had two large enclaves (NYS Thruway rest area and United Stationers) and two small enclaves (Catskill School district and a lawn crew).

In June 2012, we opened our newest enclave the **Bottle and Can Redemption Center.** The redemption center is located at our 311 West Bridge street facility and employs 4-7 individuals per day. The redemption center is open 5 days a

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week and has grown from a few thousand bottles and cans per week to an average of 3-5000 thousand a day. We have collaborated with Greene county solid waste to keep Greene county green by processing the bottles and cans. The individuals sort, count and redeem the bottles and cans. We processed in 6 months 84,881 bottles and cans from county residents. The individual's rate of pay is determined by their ability to perform the assigned tasks. The average wage for 2012 was \$3.50 per hour.

Competitive Employment

Competitive Employment is when an individual is placed at a host company and earns typically at least minimum wage. Currently we have 16 individuals employed and another 5 individuals in job development. Ulster-Greene ARC provides the initial job training and then continues to support the individual through bi-weekly visits. Work ranges from part-time to full-time and the average wage for all individuals competitively employed is \$7.25 per hour. The employers in Greene County include the following: McDonalds, Price Chopper, Roy Rogers (New Baltimore rest area), Tip Top Furniture, Wal-Mart, Windham Valero gas station, Curves and UGARC.

By highlighting the abilities of those we serve and finding a niche that was needed, new partnerships were built and employment opportunities were found in 2012. Our priority always remains that the individuals supported by Ulster-Greene ARC feel a sense of true wealth of working. In order to provide the level of support needed to safeguard individuals, train them in areas that match their interests, and concurrently ensure that the community stakeholders who employ them have the appropriate education, a significant amount of resources are required.

Transportation Costs (Medicaid does not cover these expenses):

Our continued concern is the total cost associated with providing transportation to the employment sites where our individuals work. There is the natural assumption that those who are capable of working are inherently capable of getting themselves to and from work. Unfortunately, the majority of Greene County area can be categorized as rural and is lacking the necessary mass transportation systems to allow many of our individuals to accomplish this simple task. In order to accommodate our individuals in their pursuit of employment, Ulster-Greene ARC provides this support by either having a job coach pick them up at their home or enlisting the help of the Agency's Transportation Department.

The Transportation department for Ulster-Greene ARC operates 7 vehicles per day, Monday through Friday, and 1 vehicle on Saturday and Sunday. Transportation is provided to the following Greene county locations: Athens, Cairo, Catskill, Coxsackie, Earleton, East Durham, Greenville, Kiskatom, New Baltimore, Norton Hill, and Round Top. The total miles annually are approximately 45,840 in 2012.

Ulster-Greene ARC
Greene County Services
Profit/(Loss) Statement

| | Amount |
|---|---------------------|
| <u>REVENUE:</u> | |
| Greene County Funding | \$ 234,739 |
| <u>EXPENSE:</u> | |
| Salary - Transportation Drivers | \$ 196,482 |
| Salary - Guardianship | 8,198 |
| Salary - In-Take | 14,738 |
| Fringe Benefits | 95,927 |
| Total Salary & Fringe Expense: | \$ 315,344 |
| Other Expense: | |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$ 31,194 |
| Gasoline | 57,676 |
| Vehicle Depreciation | 37,235 |
| Vehicle Interest | 970 |
| Tolls | 171 |
| Insurance | 13,460 |
| Vehicle Registration | 2,122 |
| Total Other Expense: | \$ 142,829 |
| Total Expense: | \$ 458,173 |
| Net Profit/(Loss): | \$ (223,434) |