

2008

Annual Report

TARC

No.1 McCord Rd.
Houma, LA 70363
Phone: 985-876-4465
Fax: 985-223-7387
www.terrebonnearc.org

Mission

TARC is committed to securing for all people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities
*the opportunity to enjoy
a meaningful life.*

TARC

Every person with intellectual and other developmental disabilities in Terrebonne Parish will have an array of services and supports available.

Vision

Commitment to Excellence



The TARC fiscal year 2007-2008 has been outstanding both in leadership and creativity.

TARC's Executive Director, Mary Lynn Bisland, has helped lead our organization in many directions, resulting in TARC being named the Outstanding Local Unit by the ARC of Louisiana. This includes staff, as well as families, being honored for being outstanding employees of TARC and family members being recognized for going "above and beyond" for their TARC participant. Mary Lynn received a national award at the 2008 ARC-US National Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where she was honored with the Rising Star Award, given to an Executive Director who has 1-5 years experience as a CEO. TARC is very blessed to have such an individual as its leader, who has so much compassion and understanding for the families and individuals that are served by TARC, and who has the ability to create new programs, activities and businesses that give such credibility to the work of TARC.

Along with strong leadership, TARC has a strong Board of Directors who understand the inner workings of TARC and the needs of the individuals served. TARC said goodbye in 2008 to Kay Stone, a longtime Director of Finance, who retired after 16 years of service. She was an incredible asset to TARC, and we welcome our new Director of Finance, Deanna Zeringue, who is equally outstanding in maintaining the budget and keeping TARC fiscally sound as well as the department directors, who orchestrate the many facets of TARC. We are also well blessed with dedicated supervisors, managers, project coordinators, direct support workers, secretaries and clerks, bus drivers, mechanics, maintenance workers, cooks, full-time and part-time staff, and daycare staff who give tirelessly to TARC and our mission.

Terrebonne Parish residents are to be commended for their support of TARC through the millage that keeps TARC in the forefront, enabling our organization to be an exemplary one in the state and nation. TARC's accreditation, through the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), continues to help in providing the outstanding services offered to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in our parish.

As Board President, let me take this opportunity to thank each and every person involved in making TARC what it is today, and may you be assured that with the community's support, TARC will continue its mission and vision well into the future.

"TARC is committed to securing for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities the opportunity to enjoy a meaningful life."

And to accomplish its vision,

[That] "Every citizen with intellectual or other developmental disabilities in Terrebonne Parish will have an array of services and supports available."

Phyllis Touns

TARC Board of Directors
President

Vision and Inspiration



One of the major initiatives in 2008 was to remove the stigma of using the words "mental retardation" to the "NEW" politically correct term "intellectual disability" when referring to the individuals that receive services from TARC. The mission statement has been changed to: "TARC is committed to securing for all people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities the opportunity to enjoy a meaningful life."

In order to fulfill this mission, TARC held its 1st Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. March in January 2008. The theme, "I Have a Dream," was used to encourage TARC participants to gather and listen to quotes by Dr. King and to express dreams that they have for their own lives. This event was a huge success and will be continued for years to come.

The newly formed "Let's Get Together" social club, began the New Year with a Friday night movie night and enjoyed lots of pizza and popcorn. Other activities of the club included an education and information meeting about safety and respect for authority from the Terrebonne Parish Sheriff's Office. In April, they attended the New Orleans Zephyrs baseball game, and in May they sponsored TARC's first formal dance, "Spring Fling." The club also held a barbecue and held elections for new officers in June. In the fall of 2008, Let's Get Together was busier than ever. They sponsored another movie night, fire and safety education, a costume Harvest/Halloween dance, a fieldtrip to Global Wildlife, and the 2nd Annual Christmas Holiday Party and Gift Exchange. All events had massive participation, and our TARC participants look forward to new events.

With donations received from families and private donors, TARC was able to open a "new" Activities Center equipped with excellent equipment for easy exercising and motivation for both individuals served and staff. All participants and staff utilize this center to increase activity and to relieve stress.

On April 22, 2008, TARC celebrated two grand openings and created new history with its first off-campus businesses, "The Cedar Chest Boutique," and "Creative Employment Opportunities." The Cedar Chest Boutique offers a variety of garments, household items, books, toys, and an array of TARC produced products. The Supported Employment division, Creative Employment Opportunities, is open for those individuals who desire to have job placement in the community. TARC is very excited and proud of these new ventures and looking forward to creating more opportunities for TARC participants.

The NEWEST business opportunity began in late fall of 2008, "BUY-U Beads," which collects donations for Mardi Gras beads from the community. Staff and TARC participants sort, package, and sells back to the community. This has been a huge success and the participants who work in this business are excited and happy when they package and make sales. PLEASE SEND MORE BEADS!

We're very proud to say that 2008 was an award-winning year for TARC! From the ARC of Louisiana, TARC received the Outstanding Local Unit award, the Family of the Year award, and the Professional of the Year award. From the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs, Jonathan Reynolds, his brother, and sister-in-law won the Family of the Year award. From the National Council of Executives, I won the Rising Star Award. From Irwin Siegel, Sarah Jones won the Direct Support Professional- Runner Up award. Michael Lodrigue won the Worker of the Year-Honorable Mention award from EDS.

TARC continues to provide meaningful opportunities to each participant and their families. It is with great pleasure that TARC is able to serve each individual with dignity and with meaningful services provided by fantastic support workers, administration, and a great board of directors.

Mary Lynn Bisland
Executive Director

Directory

Board of Directors 2007-2008

Phyllis Toups
President

Rose Goolsby
Vice President

Mike Allemand
Secretary

Della Hotard
Treasurer

Thomas Collins
Bernadette Dugas
Ruthanne Gallagher
Rowena Marcel
Larry Pete
Directors

Ron Chaisson
Client Representative

Department Directors

Mary Lynn Bisland
Executive Director

Tiffany Brunet
TARC Industries Division 2

Alison Filce
Residential

Gilbert Jones
TARC Industries Division 1

Wayne Sailors
Human Resources/Purchasing

Rodger Shelton
Transportation/Maintenance

Kay Stone
Finance/Accounting

People Behind TARC

TARC is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization employing over 175 staff in various occupational settings. TARC's staff range in diverse educational backgrounds including the following:

- Direct Support Professionals
- Masters of Business Administration
- Masters of Clinical Counseling
- Masters of Education
- Masters of Social Work
- Bachelors of Education
- Bachelors of Music Therapy
- Bachelors of Psychology
- Bachelors of Social Work
- Bachelors of Special Education
- A Registered Nurse
- A Licensed Practical Nurse
- CDL Drivers
- Contract with a Registered Dietician
- Contract with a Certified Public Accountant

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Financial Focus

Statement of Financial Position

Current and other assets	\$ 5,668,850.00
Capital assets	\$ 3,191,547.00
Total assets	<u>\$ 8,860,397.00</u>
Long-term liabilities	\$ 179,894.00
Other liabilities	\$ 291,004.00
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 470,898.00</u>
Net assets:	
Invested in capital assets	\$ 3,191,547.00
Unrestricted	\$ 5,197,952.00
Total net assets	<u>\$ 8,389,499.00</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 8,860,397.00</u>

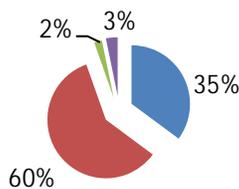
Revenues:	
Intergovernmental	\$ 2,787,640.00
Charges for services	\$ 4,717,111.00
Grants	\$ 174,898.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 256,414.00
Total revenues	<u>\$ 7,936,063.00</u>

Expenses:	
Personal services	\$ 5,331,988.00
Supplies and materials	\$ 519,310.00
Other services and charges	\$ 974,359.00
Repairs and maintenance	\$ 255,561.00
Capital outlay	\$ 264,153.00
Total expenditures	<u>\$ 7,345,371.00</u>

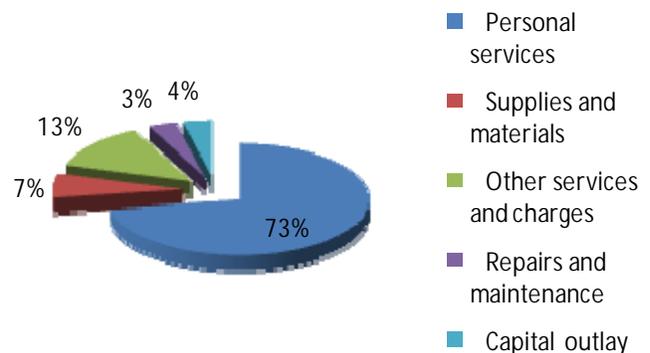
Change in Net Assets	\$ 590,692.00
Beginning net assets	<u>\$ 7,798,807.00</u>
Ending net assets	<u>\$ 8,389,499.00</u>

Revenues

- Intergovernmental
- Charges for services
- Grants
- Miscellaneous



Expenditures



Note: Completed audited financial statements prepared by Bourgeois Bennett, L.L.C., are available for review at the agency. This annual report for fiscal year 2007-2008 recognizes contributions received between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008.

Contributors

MONETARY

Alarm Detection Systems, Inc.
Alhambra Tarragona Caravan No. 245
Aubrey J. Thibodaux
Barrett Interior, Inc.
Bayou Civitan Club
Betty Laurent
Blanchard Contractors
Broadmoor Drug Center, Inc.
Caillou Island Towing Co.
Cecil Zeringue
Chris Bryan
Cut Off Fishing Club
Dupre Brothers Construction Co.
Entergy, Corp.
Families Helping Families
Father August W. Vanderbilt Assembly
4th Degree Knights of Columbus
Fontaine & Associates
Gary Kimble
Houma Diagnostic Clinic
Houma Oilman's Fishing Invitational
Investment Managers, Inc.
James Solar
Knights of Columbus, Council #13819
Knights of Columbus, Council #8932
Krewe of Aphrodite
Ladies Jr. Auxiliary
Lloyd Crochet
Lloyd Crochet
Matherne Realty Partnership
Pneumatic Specialties, Inc.
Remedia Broussard
Rockin R Rodeo
Rouse's Enterprises
SAIA Motor Freight Line, LLC
Scotty G. Gonsoulin
Sonny Detillier Agency
St. Bridget Knights of Columbus
Supreme Services
The Gray Foundation
Whitney National Bank

IN-KIND

Aimee Naquin
Carriageway Framing & Art Supplies
Cathy Boone
Cayla Adams
Dennis McCarty
Donell Donaldson
Doris Hello
Elizabeth Pellegrin

IN-KIND CONTINUED...

Family Vision Clinic
Gayle Ward
Glenny Lee Buquet
Grant Brown
Helen Clement
Houma Lions Club
Jackie Clement
Jeannie Collins
Joretta Luke
Joseph & Kathleen Brunet
Loni Browning
Mark Boudreaux
Mary Jane Billiot
Mermaids & Masquerades
Mid South Wrestling
Mr. & Mrs. Jared Degruise
Patricia Shelton
Randolph Coffman
Shirley Tanner
Steve Charpentier
Synergy Bank
Terry Lirette
The Bridal Corner, Inc.
Thelma Coleman
United Veterans League
Woodmen of the World
Philip Touts

MEMORIALS

Memory of Anna Fields Michel

Barbara Hebert
Dr. Peter Dupree
Elizabeth Darinski
Julie Delaune
Mr. & Mrs. Angell
Mr. & Mrs. Lovell
Mrs. Carol Michel

Memory of Eugene Theriot

Kate Daigle

Memory of Ruth Camp

Mulberry Homemakers

Memory of Charla Dusenberry

Big Bayou Black Volunteer
Firemen
Mr. & Mrs. Burleigh Ruiz
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Champagne

Memory of Amy Lynette Hill

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hill

Memory of Mr. James Chauvin

Carol Pellegrin

MEMORIALS CONT.

Memory of Lionel Chauvin

Barbara Hebert
Carol Lyons
David Peterson Contracting, Inc.
Dr. Michael Chanier
Janice Mourad
Jim Kincaid
John & Susan Johnson
Judy Savoie

Kemberly Caswell

Kenneth L. Malamud

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Murphy

Penny Brown

Todd McCormack

Memory of Maurice Rome

Houma Neurosurgery & Spine Center

Mervyn & Laurie Leblanc

Mrs. Angie Walsh & Family

Sub-Surface Tools

Memory of Mildred Adams

Anne Stewart

Charles & Jeanette Vosburg

Dean & Tess Daigle

George and Grace Yount

Kathy LeCompte

Marshall Vass

Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Clements

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Adams

EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS

Halliburton Employees

Marine Systems, Inc.

EMPLOYEE PICNIC VOLUNTEERS

Alison Filce

Angela Talbot

Bayou Civitan Club

Bob Chaisson

Brian & Janell Brunet

Carolyn Elkins

Cheryl LaFont

Christine Bourgeois

Darnell LeBlanc

Deidre Johnson

Della Hotard

Diane Conley

Donna Ballard

Erica Null

India Menard

Janet Tolleson

EMPLOYEE PICNIC VOLUNTEERS CONT.

Jordon Steib
Joycelyn Perry
Karen Henderson
Lillian LeBouef
Lyndell Guidry
Marshall Olivier
Milton Zschiedrich, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Pitre
Phyllis Touts
Rodger Shelton
Rose Goolsby
Rowena Marcel
Tasha LeBouef
Thomas Guidry
Tiffany Brunet
Tina Comeaux
Trudy Robichaux

Our sincere thanks
to those who have
supported us
throughout the
year!

...and our special
thanks to Terre-
bonne Parish resi-
dents & businesses
for our ad valorem
tax, to TARC's mem-
bership and to the
companies and
individuals who as-
sist with our needs
throughout the
year.

We want to provide
a complete and ac-
curate listing as
well as recognize our
donors. Please bring
any discrepancies or
omissions to our
attention.

Educational Services

Music Therapy



The **Music Therapy** program uses music to achieve non-music goals as well as assessing emotional well-being and social functioning. Our long-standing program involves the Day Habilitation participants and Sunshine Express Day Care. The program currently serves over 191 participants. 12 new clients were added to the program in 2008. Music Therapy also includes 3 performing groups: TARC Bell Choir, TARC Express, and Fun Drumming (which replaced Bayou Samba.) The groups continue to perform at a level of 10-12 performances per year. In addition to a full-time music therapist on staff, TARC provides a six month internship program to one music therapy student who applies through the National Music Therapy Association. In 2008, Music Therapy sessions increased with our Day Habilitation program from once a week to twice a week.

Sunshine Early Care & Education Center is founded on the basic philosophy of providing quality care and education for all children. The State of Louisiana Bureau of Licensing licenses this Class-A Day Care Center. It provides a full-inclusion program offering developmentally appropriate care to all children participating. It is our purpose to provide an educational setting involving a special degree of support to develop and enrich each student's self-esteem, self-confidence, values, morals, and knowledge for personal development. Research shows that children with disabilities seem to benefit from inclusion, particularly in relation to developmental and social skills. Sunshine Express has successfully helped children with and without disabilities reach high levels of competency. Children are stimulated to relate their lessons to real life situations that will prepare them for survival inside and outside of the classroom. In 2008, Sunshine Express started participating in monthly visits from the "Reading Well" program through the Terrebonne Parish Library System. The students participate in reading, music, and movement.



Sunshine Express

Health Services includes all services and staff provided to ensure the health and wellbeing of all participants in TARC's programs. TARC's Nursing staff provides a wide variety of services. On a daily basis, the nurses' administer medications and tube feedings, monitor medical conditions and perform First Aid and CPR on an as needed basis. Overseeing accidents and injuries is also a daily activity for the nursing staff. The nurses also train TARC staff on First Aid and CPR.

A Licensed Professional Counselor and a Licensed Clinical Social Worker are on staff at TARC. On an as needed basis, individuals can receive support and/or counseling for behavioral challenges and emotional needs.

Anger Management Groups, Behavior Training Programs, Client and Family Counseling, Psychological Counseling, Resource Referral, Social Counseling, Staff Training, Vocational Assessments, and Vocational Counseling are all available at TARC. Counselors also assist in crisis interventions and develop behavior management plans for individuals on an as needed basis.

Health Services

Community Living

Community Homes



TARC's lights may be off and the gate may be closed, but TARC provides 24-hour supports off campus through the Residential Services department. The department makes possible the dream of many individuals that desire their own independence. It allows adults with developmental disabilities to experience a level of autonomy through different residential housing settings that include **Community Homes, Supported Independent Living (SIL), Center-Based Respite, and In-Home Respite** based on individual needs.

Each of the programs are designed to increase independence, foster social interaction, as well as participate in community and recreational activities while providing safe and healthy environments. Supportive staff is available 24 hours a day to provide the level of care required by each individual while other programs utilize the supportive services per the needs of the person.

TARC currently operates three Community Homes: Jane, Wellington, and Dixie, which can house six individuals in each home at anytime. Each home provides quality care, household management, direct support, emergency care, transportation, educational training and assistance, and most valuable...a place to call home. The residents participate in community outings such as fishing trips, going to the movies, football games, Houma's Downtown Live After 5, music at the Jolly Inn, flea markets, and garage sales...to say the least! Community living fosters friendships and a family atmosphere while participating in food preparation and home maintenance. The homes also participate in birthday and holiday parties well attended by family and friends. In 2008, TARC purchased two new vans for the residents. In addition, one of the residents in the Jane Home moved out into his own apartment.

In 2008, TARC approved a contract to construct a new home for the Jane residents to relocate to higher ground in Bayou Blue, La. Construction has started, and the residents will relocate in 2009. TARC is also happy to announce that the residential department had 10 consecutive years with deficiency free surveys by the Department of Health and Hospitals for all 3 community homes. Also in 2008, most residential clients evacuated to West Monroe for safety during Hurricanes Gustav and Ike.



"TARC treats my brother as an individual and sees to all of his needs."

—Community Home Family Member



Community Living

Supported Independent Living

For individuals who have obtained basic self-help skills but still require varying degrees of assistance with living independently, there is the **Supported Independent Living (SIL)** program. The SIL department supports eight females and nine males who live alone or with a roommate, by choice, in various integrated locations within Terrebonne Parish. SIL is not intended to be a 24-hour support, rather the goal is to help an individual take control of their life and be the central role in choosing the care and supports that they desire. The Residential Services department has three SIL Specialists that assist the individuals with budgeting and paying bills, planning vacations, and accompanying the individual to doctor appointments. TARC currently has over 50 PCA's (Personal Care Attendants) that support the participants in their individual living situation, which includes providing transportation to stores for groceries and clothes as well as to the movies or wherever they need to go. PCA's also help with household duties such as cooking and cleaning.



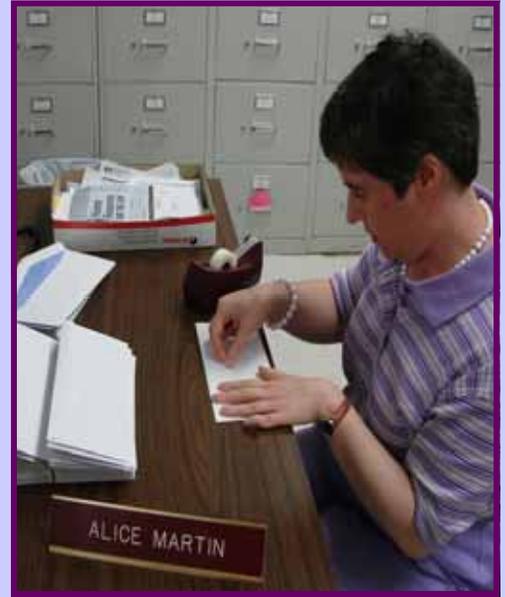
Respite

TARC offers a temporary residential accommodation for ten individuals on the first and third weekend in its **Center-Based Respite** program. Those that participate in this program receive around the clock care and enjoy various activities, allowing their families time to rest or attend to personal matters. The individuals and their families have the option to choose to stay anywhere from daytime only to the entire weekend. In 2008 Respite was closed for 6 months for displaced TARC individuals due to Hurricanes Gustav and Ike. TARC's **In-Home Respite** program offers a direct care worker to support individuals who live in the home with family. This program allows individuals to enjoy greater independence and more opportunities to integrate into the community while providing the family members with much needed relief. Twelve individuals receive In-Home service, in which 4 were added in 2008.

"We are so thankful for the services provided to our son. Respite is a very wonderful service that we are blessed to have."
—Respite Family Member

Community Employment

The **Community Employment** division provides a variety of employment opportunities to individuals working on and off campus. The division has continued to have strong performance this year with satisfaction surveys showing that businesses are quite satisfied with TARC's services. This department includes Supported Employment and Mobile Crews and serves 96 individuals. Establishments, which use the services provided, report that "TARC always work well together," and "It's wonderful to see the high standards of EXCELLENT work done by those you support." Survey results report that businesses are 100 percent satisfied with the overall performance of TARC's Community Employment division and feel that staff is always professional, courteous, and respectful. 100 percent of businesses would also recommend TARC's services and products.



Supported Employment

Creative Employment Opportunities opened in the Houma community in April of 2008. The Supported Employment division places individuals with disabilities into community jobs and offers customized support to help these persons maintain their employment. Currently the department serves 31 individuals (with 8 added since opening up alone) and continues to prove successful in that 95 percent of the individuals served have continued to hold their jobs from last year and several of them have been employed for more than five years. Creative Employment Opportunities strives to continue improving our services in order to keep up with the changing needs of the community and those we serve.



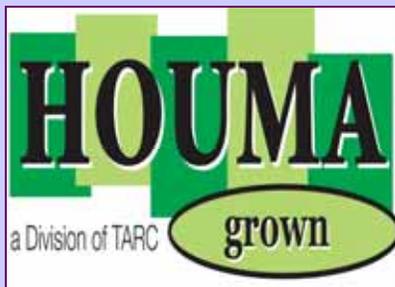
Community Employment

Mobile Crews

TARC's **Mobile Crews** offer paid employment in the community while assisting individuals in identifying and developing skills that are needed to be successful in a competitive workplace. These crews provide services to several area businesses and individuals and have maintained their 49 contracts for as long as 16 years. Both, businesses and individuals served, feel that the program is an invaluable asset to the community. According to the satisfaction survey, 100 percent of businesses would recommend the services they receive from TARC's mobile crews.



Bayouland Yard Krewe's reputation in the community is one of professionalism and excellence. This department continues to maintain a multitude of yard maintenance contracts in the area and added three new contracts in 2008. New supplies such as push mowers and weed eaters were purchased to increase job performance. "All of the employees are very courteous and conscientious. They always go above and beyond their duties." Ongoing training, coaching and support have allowed individuals in this department to grow and achieve many personal successes.



Houma Grown, TARC's greenhouse department, has made it the most plentiful year yet as well as fulfilling landscaping needs. With 12 TARC participants, the individuals enjoy selling the products as well as helping plant, water, pick, and clean the produce. In 2008, a citrus grove, which included a variety of different kinds of fruit trees, was planted on TARC grounds. Additionally, a compost bin was created to start composting leftover



leaves, grass, and organic material. In 2009, Houma Grown will create raised beds to facilitate more participation and department growth for TARC participants that need the use of a wheelchair. Houma Grown still continues to participate in off campus contracts. 100 percent of participants feel 100% with overall satisfaction with the business.



The **Lagniappe Cleaning Company** continues to provide 22 individuals prevocational training, simulated work experiences, and safety skills development. TARC's Lagniappe Cleaning Company has four crews with one on-campus crew and operates out of two buildings on TARC's business complex. In 2008, the program exuded 100% in every area which includes overall satisfaction in



their department, safe environment, and knowledgeable and courteous staff. Additionally, T. Baker Smith, a local contract, donated \$500 toward a luncheon for the department. This donation was in recognition for 20 years of service the group has provided to the business. Keep up the great work!

Community Employment

THE CEDAR CHEST Boutique

With the opening of the Cedar Chest Boutique in April of 2008, a new era of merchandising began at TARC. The boutique is the first business venture that is not located on TARC's business complex. Although functioning as a thrift store, the atmosphere of the shop is that of a boutique. A full range of

products is available for resale, including clothing, books, linens, jewelry, shoes, toys, and kitchen items. Currently one TARC participant and two staff are employed at the store. "Unit 4" is the boutique's counterpart on the TARC campus. Donated items are sorted, washed, folded, hung, and/or steamed to insure merchandise at the boutique is in tip-top shape. Items not suitable for resale are either discarded or packaged to sell as salvage. This department employs eight TARC participants and two staff. "Dollar Days" on Fridays and feature sales held twice a month continue to be popular with the boutique's customers. One of the goals of the boutique is to have "Unit 4" TARC participants periodically work at the boutique and receive training on the various job tasks performed. As the need for boutique employment increases, TARC participants will have the opportunity to work permanently at the boutique. TARC is very proud of our latest venture, and we are looking forward to create more opportunities with the boutique.



TARC Restaurant & Gift Shop

The TARC Restaurant & Gift Shop is more than just a restaurant, it's truly an experience. From the moment you are greeted by our wonderful staff to the last bite of your homemade meal, you know you are experiencing something special, a restaurant like any other. Mornings begin with local favorite such as fresh beignets and lunches provide the Cajun flair of dishes such as red beans and rice, chicken and sausage gumbo, and shrimp stew. The gift shop serves as a retail venue to see and taste TARC's various products from other TARC businesses such as chocolates from Sweet Sensations, desserts from Le Bon Temps Bakery, salsa and pepper jelly from Bon Terre Enterprises, candles from Sweet Scents, and art products from Le Maison d'art department. It is truly a great dining experience. Fifteen participating individuals learn job skills and social skills, which allows the training necessary for a job in the community. The participants are also responsible for preparing the food, serving the food, washing the dishes and taking the orders. 100 percent of the participants believe that their life has improved since they have worked in the TARC Restaurant & Gift Shop.



Community Integration

The **Day Habilitation** program that TARC offers provides 44 people living with intellectual and cognitive disabilities prevocational training in the areas of social, daily living and fine motor skills training. The goal of each of the 13 direct care workers is to help enhance the life of the individuals that we serve through a variety of therapeutic approaches.

After participants are evaluated and assessed for individual developmental needs, TARC's staff helps provide participants with an individualized plan to help maintain and improve daily living, communication, personal safety and wellness. These individualized plans are designed to help our participants develop, function and enjoy life in the community.

In addition to an individualized plan, our staff provides each participant with a number of activities which incorporate skills learned at the center, and put them to practical usage in the community.

The Day Habilitation services include Music Therapy, Daily Exercise, Sensory Stimulation, and Food Shopping. A new addition to programming is weekly arts and crafts sessions in the La Maison d'art department. In 2008, the Day Habilitation program participated in continued activities such as music therapy, bowling, volunteering efforts at the local food bank, and shopping locally. In addition, some Day Habilitation participants volunteer their time dusting and sweeping at the local food bank. TARC is looking to change the culture of our Day Habilitation program by making it more of a mental and physical rehabilitation center as well as implementing new ideas and services as well as a new name change in 2009.

Family members are 100 percent satisfied with the amount of help their family member is receiving at TARC, as well as providing a safe environment, and believe that the staff is courteous and respectful. "My son looks forward to going to TARC everyday."

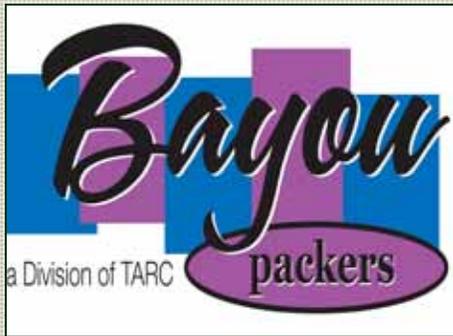
New Activity Center

Participants at TARC can now enjoy the newly renovated Unit #19, which is known as the "Activities Unit," on campus. In the unit, participants have their choice of a variety of exercises such as the treadmill, bike, punching bag, etc. In addition, participants can also compete in a friendly game of pool or air hockey. The Activity Center, built in 2008, enhances physical activity for both TARC participants and TARC staff. The center is used daily for Day Habilitation programming.



Organizational Employment

TARC's **Organizational Employment** continues to grow and strive for the best. The various business training sites are designed to be able to identify an individual's abilities and talents and expand them to their maximum potential. This department includes the on-site work areas and serves 47 individuals. 91 percent of individuals served have made progression towards meeting their vocational goals, and 99 percent report they like their work area.



For the **Bayou Packers**, formerly the Packaging department, 2008 was another progressive year. The business, which has handled utensil packaging needs for Chabert Medical Center for over 22 years, has added another division called BUY-U Beads. This business utilizes TARC participants to sort, package and sell Mardi Gras beads to the local community. Donations are taken on a daily basis to continue to give these participants a continuous and meaningful

job. The 12 individuals also work on preparing bulk mail outs and shredding documents. 100 % report that the staff is knowledgeable and professional.



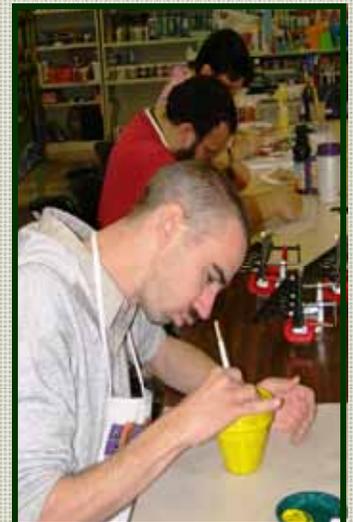
The 20 Individuals in TARC's Wood & Metal department, now known as the **Cajun Crate Company**, learn carpentry skills while manufacturing custom designed wooden crates for oilfield tools. The crew members produce approximately 2,500 crates annually. The participants report a 100 percent life improvement as well as 100 percent satisfaction from working in the department. The individuals also showed a 100

percent progress towards vocational goals in the program. In 2009, plans are underway for the department to move off campus to the new Weatherford-GEMOCO building on HWY 311.



The **La Maison d'art** department provides a therapeutic means of learning to express one's creativity through art. This department supplies the TARC Restaurant & Gift shop with many unique, hand painted items to sell in the store such as bookends, checker boards, and picture frames. The department also sells wholesale Cajun paper towel holders to local res-

taurants. In 2008, TARC added a new artist, Florence Naquin. Her artwork now sells alongside fellow TARC artists, Paula Lapeyrouse and Teri Boudreaux. In December 2008, Paula Lapeyrouse was selected by Congressman Charlie Melancon to paint an official ornament for The White House Christmas Tree. In 2008, the program exuded 100% in every area which includes overall satisfaction in their department, safe environment, and knowledgeable and courteous staff. **Sweet Scents** premium scented candles are also made on a seasonal basis and offer training for individuals in producing, packaging, and sales of the candles.



Organizational Employment



Individuals have the opportunity to learn and work in a successful business and are able to learn practical skills in candy production in TARC's candy department. **Sweet Sensations Confections** provides chocolate candies for all types of businesses throughout the Houma area and beyond. As a licensed wholesale business, it

falls under the strict guidelines of the Food and Drug Administration. Customers continue to be impressed with the program and the superior products that are produced by the talented individuals that we serve. In 2008, many more contracts and special orders were added including many in New Orleans and throughout the United States. Sweet Sensations also partnered with local jeweler, Fakier Jewelers, in which they now produce a new style logo card that is given out to their customers. Also, in 2008, the department added another chocolate enrobing machine and cooler to increase production for all orders. Customers report that the staff and individuals served are always professional and courteous, and "they have great customer service."



TARC's **Bon Appetit Cafeteria** employs and trains individuals in a full service cafeteria providing lunch and related services to over 300 people daily. The five participants in this program act as a support crew to the staff and are the backbone of this operation. Responsibilities include: sanitizing the dining area, washing dishes, running the commercial dishwasher, sweeping, mopping and providing all other

janitorial services. In addition, participants package desserts and salads, work on the serving line, and stock shelves. In 2008, the program excelled 100% in every area which includes overall satisfaction in their department, safe environment, and knowledgeable and courteous staff. In addition, cafeteria Direct Support Worker, Sarah Jones won the Runner Up award in 2008 for the Irwin Siegel Agency. This award is a national honor in which a DSW goes above and beyond for their department and agency. Congrats Sarah!



Le Bon Temps Bakery has a wide variety of homemade cakes, muffins, cinnamon rolls, and tea cakes. The bakery also added sweet potato pies to the menu this year. The homemade cakes can be bought by the slice, and favorites include the carrot cake, strawberry cake, and the chocolate pecan cake. The department has increased in size from two to three

staff and from three to six TARC participants. Currently, all of their products are being sold through the TARC Restaurant & Gift Shop. The bakery expects to expand to wholesale business in 2009.



Let's Get Together Club

CLUB CREATES TARC HISTORY

In 2008, TARC's Let's Get Together club participated and sponsored many activities throughout the year. In February, to kick off the year, the club sponsored a Friday night movie night at TARC. Laughter was contagious throughout the movie, "The Game Plan." In March, the club had their educational and informative meeting. The guest was Sgt. Glynn Fremin with the Terrebonne Parish Sheriff's Office. Sgt. Fremin spoke to the club about safety, respect, and answered many questions from the audience. The club made TARC history with a field trip to the New Orleans Zephyrs baseball game in April, with approximately 90 club members and TARC staff. Thanks to the Zephyrs staff, the club was able to sit right behind home plate! They took pictures with

Boudreaux (the team mascot), ate nachos and burgers, and cheered for the team. On May 17, the club sponsored the first formal dance in TARC's 46 years of history. TARC's first annual Spring Fling formal dance was held off campus at the Woodmen of the World building on Hollywood road in Houma. Over 200 people attended! Members and staff came dressed in formal dresses and suits (mostly donated by the Terrebonne Parish community) or "Sunday Best." It was definitely a night to remember! In June, the Let's Get Together club held a summer barbeque in which they voted and elected new officers for the 2008-2009 year. The officers are Ruth Pontiff, President; Tammy Naquin,

Vice-President; Pat McGee, Treasurer; Tony Trahan, Secretary; and Tanya Theriot, Sergeant at Arms. In July, the club had a membership drive. In August, we had another movie night that over 75 members attended! Due to Hurricanes Ike and Gustav, fire safety education night was cancelled. In October, the club sponsored its first Halloween/Harvest Dance at the Woodmen of the World. Everyone was encouraged to come in costume and have a great time! It was a lot of fun, and the costumes were fantastic. In November, the club went on a field trip to Global Wildlife in Folsom, LA. All the members enjoyed feeding the animals and enjoyed the train ride throughout the park. In December, the club



celebrated the holidays with the Holiday Party. Each member participated in the gift exchange, and everyone enjoyed the dancing afterwards. 2008 was a great year for the club, and the club is looking forward to making more and new memories with new events.

Zephyrs



Spring Fling



Live, Laugh, Learn



Global Wildlife



Harvest Dance

Awards & Achievements

Paula Lapeyrouse visits The White House



Making TARC history and a memorable trip, TARC folk artist Paula Lapeyrouse was chosen to paint an ornament to represent Congressman Charlie Melancon's district on The White House annual Christmas tree. Paula and two TARC staff, visited Washington D.C. in early December to view her ornament during a reception at The White House. Paula enjoyed her trip by also visiting

the nation's monuments and a museum. At the end of her trip, she visited Charlie Melancon's office and staff. They were very excited to meet her, and Paula is looking forward to painting a special painting for the Congressmen as a "thank you." Melancon's office also set Paula and her guests up with a Capitol tour. Overall, the trip was a success and Paula dreams of going back again.

Congratulations Paula on your high achievement! We are very proud of you and your work!



★ TARC Awards Galore—2008 is a Winning Year! ★ ARC of Louisiana Awards

Outstanding Local
Unit-TARC



Family of the Year
Jace & Jennifer Reynolds



Professional of the Year
Jenny LeBeouf



National Council
of Executives-

Rising Star Award-
Mary Lynn Bisland



Governor's Office of
Disability Affairs

Family of the Year-
Reynolds Family



Irwin Siegel-

Direct Support Professional-
Runner Up— Sarah Jones



EDS Awards

Worker of the Year -Honorable Mention
Michael Lodrique



TARC is very proud of everyone's accomplishments through their hard work and dedication to the people we serve and to the organization. Congratulations all Award Winners!

In the Spotlight



"I like helping people here, and I liked being their leader this year."
—Chris Naquin

At 36 years old, **Chris Naquin** has spent the last 14 years of his life working for TARC. But, this past year as Client Representative, Chris feels he has made a lot of memories and an impact helping TARC participants voice their interests to the TARC Board of Directors. "I like helping people here, and I liked being their leader this year."

The oldest of 3 brothers, Chris has enjoyed participating in activities such as Fun Drumming, TARC Express, the Let's Get Together club, and Special Olympics. In Special Olympics, he has participated in bocce, bowling, horseshoes, and basketball. "I mainly look forward to the all the activities with the Let's Get Together club. It's a lot of fun."

Being involved in many extracurricular activities, Chris has made a lot of friends through TARC. With his passion for people and friendships, attendance at the Client Representative meetings grew substantially this year with his leadership.

Since "day one" at TARC, Chris has been a team member on the Lagniappe Cleaning Company janitorial crew. "I like to clean at work, and I like to clean at home." He also says that, "I like working with my friends here."

When he is not working or at an extracurricular activity, Chris is part of the SIL (Supported Independent Living) residential program. He says, "I enjoy having my own place and being on my own." He also likes to go to the mall, and "take it easy at home."

Chris is a great asset to TARC and his janitorial team. TARC is very happy with all of Chris' efforts as Client Representative. We wish him the best!