Mission Statement

To enrich the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families through support, programs and advocacy.
Don’t forget! to renew your Arc of Omaha membership for 2019.

The Arc of Omaha 2019 Membership Form

Your membership will be valid from January 1 through December 31, 2019. Thank you for your past support! Please consider once again being a part of our team!

Name(s) ___________________________________________________________________________
(As you wish it to appear when we publicly recognize our members.)

Address ____________________________________________________________________________
City/State________________________________________________ ______ Zip ____________________
Phone _________________________ E-mail * ______ ______________________________________

*May we send our monthly newsletter to your email address: _____Yes _____No

Each Single Membership is entitled to one (1) vote. Each family membership is entitled to two (2) votes.

Please circle: Single $25 Family $40 Contributing $75 Sustaining $100 Corporate $150

[ ] I would like to sponsor an additional single membership for a person who is unable to pay, for an additional $25

Total amount enclosed: $ __________________________ Your contribution is tax deductible.

Please make your check payable to Ollie Webb Center, Inc. Mail this form and your check to:
Ollie Webb Center, Inc., 1941 South 42nd Street, Suite 122, Omaha, NE 68105

2019 Arc of Omaha Membership Drive!

“Time and money spent in helping people to do more for themselves is far better than mere giving.” ~ Henry Ford

You are doing more than mere giving when you become a member of The Arc of Omaha. You are supporting efforts to help individuals with developmental disabilities and their families lead lives of greater independence, productivity, integration, inclusion and self-determination. By joining now, your membership will be valid for the calendar year 2019. Membership options are outlined below.

The privileges of membership in The Arc of Omaha include:

Use of the Ollie Webb Center, Inc. pass to the Henry Doorly Zoo, discounts to many activities and events for individuals of all ages sponsored by The Arc of Omaha, support from The Arc of Nebraska and The Arc of the United States, including representation at local, state and national policy forums and publications sharing important information on a variety of topics, and the satisfaction of supporting a local agency that informs the public of the needs, rights and abilities of individuals with developmental disabilities.

The Arc of Omaha 2019 Membership Form

Your membership will be valid from January 1 through December 31, 2019. Thank you for your past support! Please consider once again being a part of our team!

Name(s) ___________________________________________________________________________
(As you wish it to appear when we publicly recognize our members.)

Address ____________________________________________________________________________
City/State________________________________________________ ______ Zip ____________________
Phone _________________________ E-mail * ______ ______________________________________

*May we send our monthly newsletter to your email address: _____Yes _____No

Each Single Membership is entitled to one (1) vote. Each family membership is entitled to two (2) votes.

Please circle: Single $25 Family $40 Contributing $75 Sustaining $100 Corporate $150

[ ] I would like to sponsor an additional single membership for a person who is unable to pay, for an additional $25

Total amount enclosed: $ __________________________ Your contribution is tax deductible.

Please make your check payable to Ollie Webb Center, Inc. Mail this form and your check to:
Ollie Webb Center, Inc., 1941 South 42nd Street, Suite 122, Omaha, NE 68105

2019 Arc of Omaha Membership Drive!

“Time and money spent in helping people to do more for themselves is far better than mere giving.” ~ Henry Ford

You are doing more than mere giving when you become a member of The Arc of Omaha. You are supporting efforts to help individuals with developmental disabilities and their families lead lives of greater independence, productivity, integration, inclusion and self-determination. By joining now, your membership will be valid for the calendar year 2019. Membership options are outlined below.

The privileges of membership in The Arc of Omaha include:

Use of the Ollie Webb Center, Inc. pass to the Henry Doorly Zoo, discounts to many activities and events for individuals of all ages sponsored by The Arc of Omaha, support from The Arc of Nebraska and The Arc of the United States, including representation at local, state and national policy forums and publications sharing important information on a variety of topics, and the satisfaction of supporting a local agency that informs the public of the needs, rights and abilities of individuals with developmental disabilities.

The Arc of Omaha 2019 Membership Form

Your membership will be valid from January 1 through December 31, 2019. Thank you for your past support! Please consider once again being a part of our team!

Name(s) ___________________________________________________________________________
(As you wish it to appear when we publicly recognize our members.)

Address ____________________________________________________________________________
City/State________________________________________________ ______ Zip ____________________
Phone _________________________ E-mail * ______ ______________________________________

*May we send our monthly newsletter to your email address: _____Yes _____No

Each Single Membership is entitled to one (1) vote. Each family membership is entitled to two (2) votes.

Please circle: Single $25 Family $40 Contributing $75 Sustaining $100 Corporate $150

[ ] I would like to sponsor an additional single membership for a person who is unable to pay, for an additional $25

Total amount enclosed: $ __________________________ Your contribution is tax deductible.

Please make your check payable to Ollie Webb Center, Inc. Mail this form and your check to:
Ollie Webb Center, Inc., 1941 South 42nd Street, Suite 122, Omaha, NE 68105

Weather Policy

The following weather conditions may cause us to close our office and/or cancel/reschedule events.

• Tornado warnings
• Extreme heat of 90+ degrees and humidity
• Severe thunderstorms and/or lightning

If the weather is questionable, our services will be canceled.

If Omaha Public Schools cancel their day/evening activities and/or staff deem it unsafe for travel our services will be canceled.

Note: If you are not sure if an evening/weekend event will be held or canceled, call 402.346.5220 ext. 31 for event updates.

Most decisions will be posted by 3:00 p.m. for evening activities, and 8:00 a.m. for daytime activities.

Zoo Pass Available to 2019 Arc Members!

The Arc of Omaha has a free Family Zoo Pass available for use by its 2019 members. It allows two adults and four children to visit the Henry Doorly Zoo. Please note the following rules for its use:

1. The pass can be used anytime the zoo is open.
2. Families may use the pass as often as they like, as long as it is available.
3. Families using the pass must sign it out, giving their name, address, phone number, date of use and date returned. If a family misuses the pass, it is possible that the pass may not be available for them to use again.
4. When families arrive at the zoo, they must present the pass and check in at the Visitors Center.

Call 402.346.5220 to reserve the Family Zoo Pass.
On Saturday, June 1st, several of Ollie Webb Center, Inc.’s (OWCI) actors from The White Gander came together once again for an encore performance at our 14th Annual Ollie’s Dream Gala. Thirteen actors and musicians marched on stage to jaunty fiddle music. The performers sang three of the songs from last October’s successful production, preceded by a short scene featuring a frustrated mother banging a pot and ladle to wake her hopelessly lazy snoring son Seamus, played by OWCI’s own Jenny Koley.

Jill Anderson addressed the Gala before the performance, telling the attendees of her experience seeing The Art of Imagination’s original inclusive production of Fear Liath in 2016. She spoke of how moved and inspired she was by the performance. She also said that when later offered the chance to work with OWCI’s The Art of Imagination program directing The White Gander, she knew it was something she definitely wanted to do.

The keynote speaker at this year’s Gala was one of The White Gander performers, Taylor Hess. Taylor told the gathering of the exciting opportunities she had found participating in the programs offered through OWCI. She said that she had often felt like someone on the outside looking in, before coming to OWCI but that she now felt the opposite.

Many of the performers will come together again in the upcoming OWCI original inclusive production of Morozko, a Russian folktale with Jill Anderson back as director. Rehearsals have already begun and Morozko will run November 1st-3rd, 2019 at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center in downtown Omaha.
PRISM (Parent Resource Information and Support Meetings) provide informational and support programs for families of individuals with developmental disabilities. Family-friendly meetings offer educational programs, disability-related information and the opportunity to network with other parents and children with disabilities. Childcare and transportation assistance is often available.

Save the Date

Free Workshop for Families and Professionals

"Beyond Barriers and Cultivating the Spirit to Work"

Ollie Webb Center, Inc. is excited to host a day with Denise Bissonnette, a highly acclaimed author, trainer, writer, and keynote speaker in the field of Employment and Training. As an impassioned advocate for individuals with barriers to employment, Denise has been inspiring audiences throughout North America for the past two decades with innovative thinking and practical strategies for helping people find their place in the world of work. Her first book, Beyond Traditional Job Development: The Art of Creating Opportunity is considered the definitive text in classrooms throughout the country, and often referred to as the job developer’s bible. Her celebrated book on job retention, 30 Ways to Shine, is championed in schools, job clubs, and utilized in a variety of workplaces and industries.

August 16, 2019

Denise Bissonnette
Parent to Parent Omaha is a parent-to-parent support program for families of newly-diagnosed children with developmental disabilities. The program offers information and emotional support through parent-to-parent matches and socialization activities designed both for parents and their children. The program also offers parent-to-parent matches for families of adolescents and adults with developmental disabilities.

Free Event for Children, Teens & Young Adults with Special Needs and their Families

10th Anniversary

Bruce Tomes Day on the Water

with Ollie Webb Center, Inc., Missouri River Valley Paddlers and Nebraska Game and Parks

Platte River State Park

Sunday, September 29, 2019 • 12:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Join Ollie Webb Center, Inc. and the Missouri River Valley Paddlers for some fun at Platte River State Park. On this afternoon, those with developmental disabilities of any age and their immediate family members will be given an opportunity to participate in kayaking and canoeing.

Cost is free for the event, but there will be a $6 fee per vehicle to enter the park.

You are welcome to bring your own picnic lunch if you wish as we are not providing lunch for this activity. Adult supervision is required so you may not send your child, teen or adult that needs support alone to this event. Once you are registered, you will receive additional information to your email address. Don’t forget to BRING SUNSCREEN!

Reservations for this event are required. A limited number of spots are available, so make your reservation ASAP!

To register go to: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bruces-tomes-day-on-the-water-10th-anniversary-free-event-tickets-64425916651

Cheri Albin, Program Coordinator • calbin@olliewebbinc.org
Book Clubs meets once a week for an hour as a small group at a local coffee shop to read and discuss a book. All reading levels can participate! Members enjoy social connections and the delight of expanding their literacy.

THE VALUE OF VOLUNTEERS

We would like to recognize our Next Chapter Book Club Volunteers who served from Fall 2018 through Spring 2019 for their commitment to our book club members. The volunteers below are the embodiment of not only the mission of Next Chapter Book Club, but also of Ollie Webb Center, Inc., an organization dedicated to supporting individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Although our society does not always consider the monetary value of volunteers, Independent Sector, a national organization consisting of nonprofit members, states that the value of a single Volunteer Hour in the state of Nebraska in 2018 was $24.01! Following this rate, the individuals below donated approximately 2000 hours at a value of $48,000 in services. Without the dedication and passion of the following individuals, our Next Chapter Book Club would not exist. We thank you all for your services!

Diana Allen-Lewis
Kim Bainbridge
Catherine Ballard
Patti Bannon
Kailey Bell
Marion Brown
Carla Chin Horton
Marc Desciscio
Jennifer Down
Trisha Edwards
Cheryl Farrar
Adam Gehringer
Jeff Gehringer

Terese Hammond
Emily Harrington
Elmurad Hasanov
Jennifer Hensley
Michael Herzog
Connie James
Becky Kalinski
Keri Koraliski
LeeAnn Maass
Sammi Maass
Margaret Miller
Meghan Mueller
Kim Onken

Stephanie Opal
Jeni Rock
Kylie Ruff
Derek Ruppert
Cory Rymer
Sherri Sowers
Amy Stoddard
Briana Villafuerte
Mary Lou Villafuerte
Heather Wilkie
Lisa Wolbach
Matt Wolbach

“You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give.”

~ Kahlil Gibran

Friendship & literacy in a community setting!
The Ultimate Life program is a fee-based companion recreation program for adults aged 18 and older with developmental disabilities. This program offers opportunities for adults to participate in small, planned group activities or one-on-one outings of their choice in the community. Trained staff accompany participants and transportation to and from the activities is part of the program. APPLY NOW! Registration fee is $30.

**Exciting Experiences Ahead in Ultimate Life!**

This month Tara Waln-Lewellyn, OWCI Program Coordinator, briefly visited with three of our Ultimate Life Companions to get some insight about their experiences in the Ultimate Life Program. Cory, one of our newest Companions shared that “becoming a Companion for Ultimate Life has allowed immense personal growth along with the opportunity to accommodate individuals who always emulate joy.”

Tara has observed that there is always a wonderful sense of anticipation with an Ultimate Life event. She has served as Companion over a dozen times since she began her role overseeing the Ultimate Life program in December 2018. Tara shared, “When I call participants the day before, I seldom have to leave a message as people are eagerly awaiting my call. Even during the coldest winter days, individuals wait for me outside or in their doorway, looking for my vehicle. I have never had to wait for a participant during pickup!”

**Staff Highlights - Rob, Cory, and Erin**

Rob, one of our veteran Companions having joined OWCI in 2012 simply said “I don't think there's ever been a time I haven't smiled and/or laughed during an Ultimate Life event.” The fun begins during pickup, where everyone catches up on one another’s news and talks about the event. There are sometimes even a few singalongs in the car and the events themselves are always full of life - lots of conversation, laughter, and camaraderie.

Cory highlighted one of our most popular monthly events: Dave and Buster’s. He said, “The laser focus in the games and option to get a prize at the end is priceless for each participant.” Our trip to the planetarium was also the talk of Ultimate Life for weeks as many of the participants had never visited a planetarium before and were unsure of what to expect. Everyone enjoyed the event and staff have been asked multiple times since about planning a future visit. We are working on adding another planetarium tour soon!

Erin, another veteran Companion, stated that, “I would recommend Ultimate Life because it provides participants and companions with an opportunity to try new things that they might not otherwise get to experience!” One of the best things about Ultimate Life is that our monthly schedule is split about 50/50 between our traditional favorites and other events that may be offered infrequently or are very unique opportunities.

If you are interested in participating in Ultimate Life either as a participant or staff, please contact Tara for more information.
The Social Recreation Program offers small- and large-group activities in which youth and adults with disabilities can enjoy leisure time, build friendships and access the community.

**SOCIAL RECREATION**

Join Ollie Webb Center, Inc. and the City of Omaha Therapeutic Recreation Program for the

**Annual Ability Experience Luau Picnic Dinner with Dancing and Games**

**Thursday, July 11, 2019**

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Mockingbird Hills Community Center
10242 Mockingbird Drive

Pizza, Drinks and Snacks Provided

Cost: $15 Arc Members • $20 Non-Members • $5 Staff/Family Members

Register by July 5 by calling Aimee Addison at 402.346.5220 ext 19 or email aaddison@olliewebbinc.org

Please help us in thanking The Ability Experience/Journey of Hope cyclists and Pi Kappa Phi for helping to spread the message of acceptance and understanding for people with disabilities as they travel across the country.

**RESERVATION FORM**

Name:_______________________________________________ Phone #: (_____)________________

Address:_____________________________________________ Zip:________________________

Date of Birth:__________________________ Allergies:____________________________________

Emergency Contact ___________________________ Emergency Phone: ___________________

I allow the use of images for public relations purposes and release and discharge Ollie Webb Center, Inc. and its employees and volunteers from any liability as a result of my participation and/or my child’s participation.

*Signature: _______________________________________

**Ability Experience Luau (July 11) ....................... $15 Arc Members • $20 Non-Members • $5 Staff/Family Members**

Total Enclosed: $___________ Please make checks payable to: Ollie Webb Center, Inc.

Return to: Ollie Webb Center, Inc., 1941 South 42nd Street, Suite 122, Omaha, NE 68105
The Social Recreation Program offers small- and large-group activities in which youth and adults with disabilities can enjoy leisure time, build friendships and access the community.

Lunch and Film Club for Teens and Adults
Spend the afternoon socializing, eating lunch and watching a movie with friends.

Saturday, July 27, 2019
Start time between 12:15 - 12:30 p.m.
Please email aedwards@olliewebbinc.org the week of the film to find out an exact time for arrivals and which film we will be seeing.
Westwood 8 Theater
2809 S 125th Ave # 297 Omaha, NE 68144
Pick-up typically between 2:00 - 2:15 p.m.
Lunch is included.
Cost: $15/Arc member • $20/non-member
Includes hot dog, popcorn, beverage and admission for participant only

For other upcoming social and recreational opportunities, please check out our Best Buddies and Ultimate Life programs!

RESERVATION FORM

Name: ___________________________________________________________ Phone #: (_____) _____________________
Address: _______________________________________________________ Zip: _____________________________
Date of Birth: _____________________________ Allergies: ___________________________________________
Emergency Contact ___________________ Emergency Phone: _________________________________

I allow the use of images for public relations purposes and release and discharge Ollie Webb Center, Inc. and its employees and volunteers from any liability as a result of my participation and/or my child’s participation.

*Signature: ______________________________________________________

PLEASE CIRCLE THE EVENT(S) THAT CORRESPONDS WITH PAYMENT

Lunch and Film Club (July 27) ...................................................................................... $15 Arc members/$20 non-members

Total Enclosed: $ ___________ Please make checks payable to: Ollie Webb Center, Inc.
Return to: Ollie Webb Center, Inc., 1941 South 42nd Street, Suite 122, Omaha, NE 68105

Alexa Edwards, Program Coordinator • aedwards@olliewebbinc.org
Best Buddies is a peer mentoring program for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Through this program, adults with disabilities are matched to Creighton college students and participate in social and recreational activities, enabling these individuals to experience friendships with peers.

Join Best Buddies for 2019-2020!

Best Buddies fosters one-to-one friendships between adults with and without developmental disabilities through both individual peer as well as group activities, helping to improve the quality of life of citizens with disabilities through social participation and higher levels of inclusion.

This month’s the spotlight is on Ayushi Kaul and Eddie Kraska who have been Best Buds for one year and counting! Their favorite activity to do together is to go out for pizza. Ayushi has played multiple roles on the Best Buddies executive team, serving as Social Media Coordinator and Vice President, and as of May 2019, transitioning into the role of President. Congratulations Ayushi and Eddie!

Registration for 2019-2020 will begin in August 2019 with current membership at over 223 members and 62 Buddy Pairs.
STARS BASKETBALL

STARS Basketball League is a leisure and recreational opportunity for individuals with developmental disabilities ages 5 to adult. Participants play once a week during six-week sessions held in the spring and fall.

For the Love of the Game

The teen Spring 2019 session of STARS Basketball ended on a high note! The Leagues were excited to show off their skills and demonstrated exceptional sportsmanship and cooperation. We are looking forward to the fall session!

A special thank you to parents, friends, and volunteers for helping to make this session such a great success!
The Continuing Education program extends the learning experience beyond high school. Classes are offered in a variety of formats and settings and focus on independent living, money management, social and employment-related skills. Courses provide a person-centered approach that focuses on increased independence as opposed to the maintenance of skills. A five day-a-week program is available and follows a typical college schedule.

Growing and Cultivating Great Partnerships
City of Omaha Parks and Recreation

The Continuing Education program is excited to expand the partnership between Ollie Webb Center, Inc. (OWCI) and the City of Omaha Parks and Recreation Department. For over ten years, OWCI has partnered with the Parks and Recreation Department in multiple capacities. Several of their community centers have been used to hold OWCI dances and large-scale events. The Parks and Recreation Department’s Therapeutic Recreation and Inclusion Services provide recreation and leisure activities for persons with disabilities at various facilities and also offer special events throughout the year.

As part of OWCI’s focus on community inclusion, the Continuing Education team is now holding several classes at City of Omaha locations that offer a meaningful connection to class content and the community. Additionally, OWCI’s Annual Ability Experience Lua event will be held at Mockingbird Community Center based on a collaboration between Martie Dunning, Supervisor at Saddlebrook Community Center, and OWCI’s social recreation team. This annual event helps spread the message of acceptance and understanding for people with disabilities.

Omaha Parks and Recreation Coordinator, Sara Kolala, has expressed her excitement and enthusiasm about the collaboration and partnership, sharing that OWCI and Therapeutic Recreation services are, “a really good fit! Many endless opportunities are available.” The partnership has been a win-win for both organizations with increased opportunities to support citizens with disabilities across all ages, abilities, and interests.
Independent living services provide instruction for individuals who live in their own home (apartment or house) or in their family’s home. Education, training and support is provided to maintain or increase independent living skills, such as money management, health and safety, interpersonal relations, community awareness, recreational skills, nutrition, hygiene and leisure.

**Retirement and Independent Living**

Dave Brown has been with Ollie Webb Center, Inc. (OWCI) for almost a decade, currently serving as the Independent Living Coordinator. Dave shared that he loves working with a diverse clientele and building long-term relationships with individuals like Ed, the program participant featured here. “My relationship with Ed is nine years and counting. We have discussed his childhood and history, from him growing up in Plattsmouth, living at Beatrice State Developmental Center, and also about the various jobs he’s held in his lifetime.”

Ed is retired and currently lives in his own apartment. He has been working on developing and enhancing the independent living skills that he needs to have in place so that he can feel comfortable in his own residence. In his spare time, Ed also enjoys going to thrift stores, loves cats, and likes to collect pictures of tigers as well as working on pottery projects and listening to music. Ed is happy and very confident in the skills he has learned with the assistance of OWCI staff, including helping him access the community for social and medical appointments, planning nutritious meals, and enhancing his reading skills. Without this assistance and support, Ed would be homebound with medical needs impeding his daily living. Dave Brown stated that he looks forward to working with Ed each week and that, “Ed is generous and kind, an important part of his personality that impacts others.”