



We Invest in Lives

October 2010

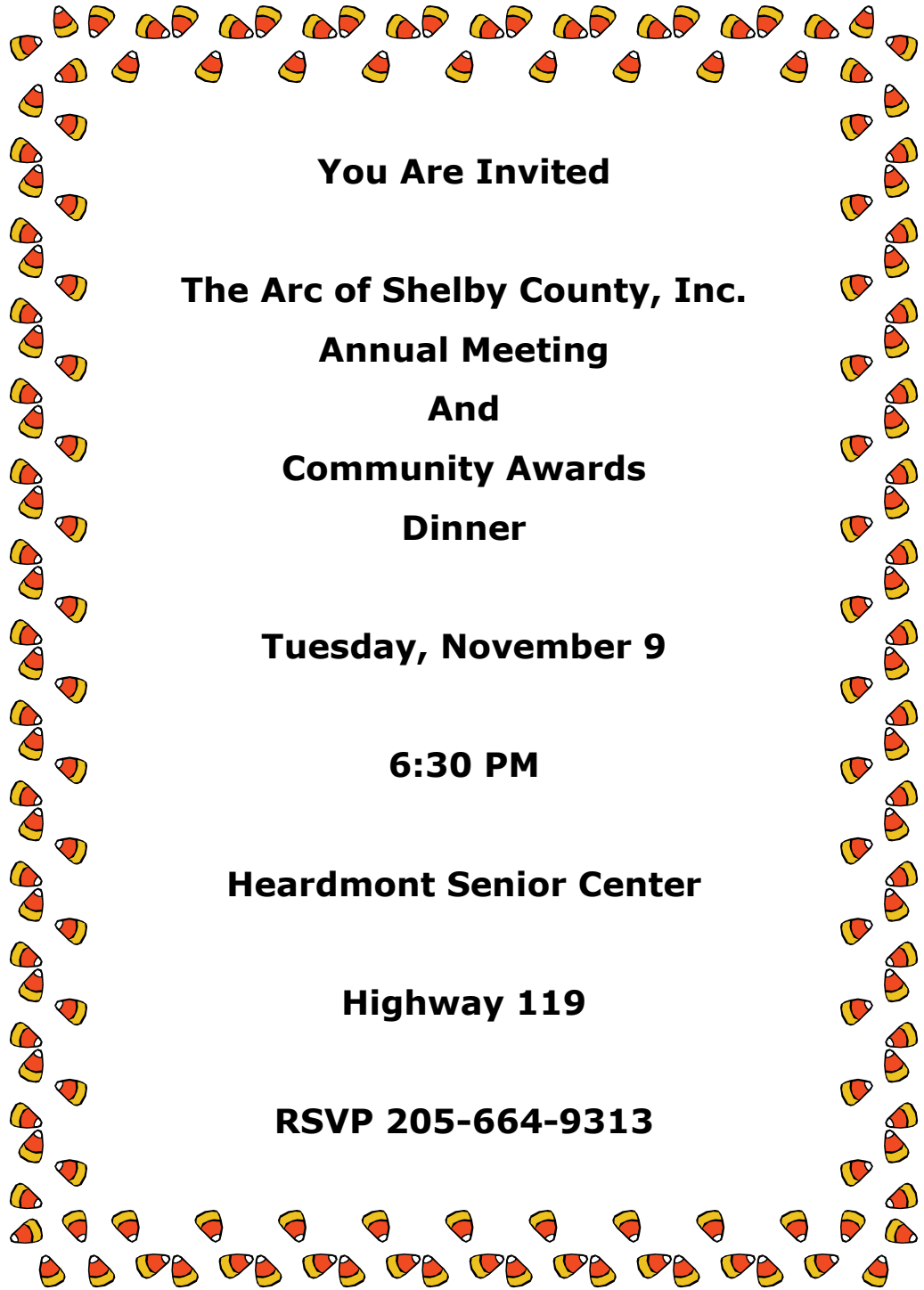
We are Searching for High School Students and Their Families!

As part of a transition grant project, The Arc of Shelby County is working with families of students ages 15—20 with developmental disabilities who are nearing their transition from high school into the community. The grant, funded by the Walmart Foundation, provides for a Family Advocate to work with families on identifying resources, planning for the future and other services.

If you are interested in this program, please contact Karen Driver at 205-664-9313.



An affiliate of The Arc of the United States and The Arc of Alabama



You Are Invited

**The Arc of Shelby County, Inc.
Annual Meeting
And
Community Awards
Dinner**

Tuesday, November 9

6:30 PM

Heardmont Senior Center

Highway 119

RSVP 205-664-9313

Upcoming Events

October 30	Saturday	People First—Halloween Party 6:30PM to 10 PM North Shelby Library
November 2	Tuesday	Support Group—Parents/Caregivers for children birth—5 The Arc of Shelby County 6:30—7:30 PM
November 4-6	Thur—Sat	The Arc National Convention—Orlando
November 6	Saturday	People First 7 PM—8:30 PM The Arc of Shelby County
November 9	Tuesday	The Arc of Shelby County Annual Meeting and Awards 6:30 PM—8:00 PM Heardmont Senior Center
November 9	Tuesday	Parent Support Group—Parents/Caregivers of Children grades 1—8 The Arc of Shelby County 6:30 PM—7:30 PM
November 16	Tuesday	Parent Support Group—Parents/Caregivers of Students grade 9—Adulthood The Arc of Shelby County 6:30 PM—7:30 PM
November 17-19	Wed—Fri	Alabama Early Intervention & Preschool Conference Montgomery, AL
November 20	Saturday	People First—Iron Bowl Party
December 3	Friday	KidsFirst Christmas Party—Time TBD
December 7	Tuesday	Support Group—Parents/Caregivers of Children birth—5 The Arc of Shelby County 6:30 PM—7:30 PM
December 11	Saturday	People First—Christmas Party—Alfredo's
December 14	Tuesday	Support Group—Parents/Caregivers of Children grades 1-8 The Arc of Shelby County 6:30 PM—7:30 PM
December 31	Friday	People First—New Year's Eve Party

Family Information and Support Groups to Begin

On Tuesday, October 12, 6:30 PM, The Arc of Shelby County will host a planning meeting for all parents/caregivers of children or adults with developmental disabilities who are interested in support groups.

Following this initial meeting, groups will meet on a regular schedule, with groups available for all ages. Groups will meet from 6:30 to 7:30 PM at The Arc of Shelby County. The schedule is as follows:

- 1st Tuesday of each month, beginning on November 2—parents/caregivers of children birth to age 5
- 2nd Tuesday of each month, beginning on November 9—parents/caregivers of children in Grades 1—8
- 3rd Tuesday of each month, beginning on November 16—Parents of students in grades 9-12 and adults

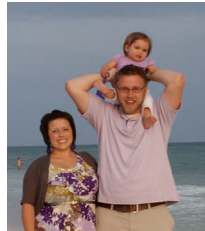
For more information, contact Karen Driver at kdriver@thearcofshelby.org or 205-664-9313.

Welcome!

Jennifer Thomas, a recent graduate of Montevallo (and newlywed) joins The Arc of Shelby County as an employment specialist. She enjoys attending Auburn University football games and is excited to join The Arc.



We'd also like to welcome Regina Martin. She has a background in behavioral science and will complete a master's degree in early childhood special education in December. She and her husband are pictured with their 20 month old daughter.



Cathy Burke, speech pathologist, has joined The Arc of Shelby County's KidsFirst early intervention team. Cathy has many years of experience working with early intervention.

Transition Handbook Available

The Arc of Shelby County is pleased to announce that *Alabama Planning for Transition Handbook* is available for public use through The Arc of Shelby County's website, www.thearcofshelby.org.

This project, partially funded by the Alabama Council on Developmental Disabilities, was created for use by youth and adults with developmental disabilities and their families, educators, and community support teams. While it is true that it is never too early to start planning for your adult life, this handbook is a useful tool for individuals to access community resources **no matter your age or stage of life**.

The workbook shares important information, encourages youth to begin thinking about life after high school and offers ideas they can use to plan routes to reach their goals.

Our vision is that this tool will be easy to use and will be accessible to every person who has a developmental disability or who advocates for them. Please check out the resource section and let us know of other resources you feel might be helpful. Our dream is that this handbook be continually updated to reflect new and revised information.

Recent Events



Please include The Arc of Shelby County, Inc.

in your will or estate plan and please tell us when you do.

The Arc of Shelby County, Inc.
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205-664-9313

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With your continued support,
THERE WILL BE LIGHT
at the end of this long tunnel.

United Way is shining a light on all the good your donations help us do; providing food, housing assistance, help with utilities and guidance to those who need it most. In uncertain economic times, some people find it hard to give. Others find it hard not to. Which kind are you?

SHINE BRIGHTLY. GIVE GENEROUSLY. LIVE UNITED.

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