

THE FRIENDSHIP OF THOSE WE SUPPORT IS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR

PROGRESS



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Capstone Project

By Sarah Holesworth

Since January, Madalyn Pacheco has been interning at BARC Production Services in Warminster (BPSW) completing a Capstone project as part of her requirement to obtain her Doctorate in Occupational Therapy. Her project focuses on the effectiveness of self-awareness and internet safety for improving friendship skills in adults with intellectual disabilities. 25 people supported at BPSW have been participating in the project.

They initially completed friendship surveys to determine how they perceive their current friendships and whether there are any barriers to meeting friends. Next, they began meeting in small groups with Madalyn weekly where they engaged in different social stories to help discuss friendships and skills needed to engage in the community safely. They learned and practiced skills to ensure safety and privacy in navigating the internet and social media. And then everyone enjoyed an art activity where the focus was improving self-perception and increasing autonomy.

This project has been a really positive experience for everyone involved. Many of them start each morning by asking when they are meeting with Madalyn that day. The project has opened discussions on friendships and using social media safely outside of the actual sessions.

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(Above) Madalyn Pacheco with supported individuals.

There has also been more of an effort amongst people participating in the sessions to be more inclusive to their peers-inviting people to join them at lunch if they notice someone sitting alone, for example. Parents have been really enthusiastic about their children being a part of this experience as they realize the importance of building self-awareness and confidence when in the community and in using the internet.

When asked for feedback about being a part of the project, Forrest said that he loves meeting with his friends and Madalyn and that he doesn't want it to end. He said he learned about being more careful when in the community. Casey said she really enjoyed the art project and that she feels like she has better internet safety skills. She feels like everyone should be aware that if you get a friend request from Justin Bieber, you should not accept it, because it's not really Justin Bieber.

Caroline loved making pictures of her favorite things, playing the different card games with her peers, and said she will make sure she is a good friend to others.

Madalyn finishes her time with us on April 17th and will soon graduate from Cedar Crest College with her doctorate in Occupational Therapy. We will all miss her when she's gone but have found her time with us to be invaluable. We look forward to using and building on the tools that she has given us, so that we can enhance the knowledge, confidence and experiences of the people we support at BPSW.



LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR
INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
AT
WWW.BARCPROGRAMS.ORG/INTERNSHIPS

A Message from the Executive Director

By Mary Sautter, MSOL



BARC Developmental Services has entered its 74th year of providing supports and service to children and adults with intellectual disabilities and autism. 2024 was a busy year for the agency as we continued our commitment to quality care. Some examples of agency growth include:

- Two new ranch style homes were purchased to provide long-term housing stability for four individuals
- Increase in the number of individuals supported in community employment
- 5.5% increase in children supported in Early Intervention
- We increased our workforce by over 11% and the vacancy rate in Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) decreased by 10%. Our dedicated staff continue to provide the best possible supports.

A main focus of the agency in 2024 was advocating with state and local legislators for increased funding for agencies across the state who support individuals with ID/A. A highlight of the year occurred last April when PA Governor Josh Shapiro, Human Services Secretary Dr. Valerie Arkoosh and Deputy Secretary of Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) Kristin Ahrens visited BARC Developmental Services.

The main purpose of the visit was to promote the Governor's 2024-25 state budget proposal, which included significant additional funding for the ID/A system to increase provider rates and decrease the waiting list. We are proud to have been a part of this historical investment in our system!

We continue to be proud of the impact we have in our communities. The agency vision remains true today: BARC Developmental Services will assist and support individuals with intellectual disabilities and autism to reach their fullest potential, lead happy lives and contribute to their community. Thank you to all our stakeholders and constituents for your support, it is very much appreciated!

Mary Sautter

Early Intervention at Playpad

A day full of smiles and support! In April, our Early Intervention team hosted an event at Playpad in Langhorne with supported kiddos, families and interventionists.

BARC Developmental Services provides early intervention for infants & toddlers (birth to 3 years) who are referred by the family's local base service unit.



(Above) Families and interventionists at Playpad in Langhorne, PA.

The EI Department provides home and community- based support for children ages birth to three and their families within their natural environment. **The Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP)** is guided by the priorities, dreams, and needs of each family. Family resources and strengths are key elements when considering both long and short-term visions for the child. Individualized services are provided within a flexible range of options to best fit the unique needs of family and child. Learn more about our Early Intervention Services by visiting, <https://www.barcprograms.org/early-intervention-services/>

Remembering Noreen C. Coleman

In loving memory of Noreen, whose unwavering dedication over 25 years at BARC Developmental Services left an indelible mark on the Early Intervention Department and the countless children she served. Her commitment to helping children is extraordinary and admirable. throughout her tenure at BARC, she touched the lives of thousands of kids. Noreen's support of her team, the agency and the larger Bucks County EI community never wavered. She was an amazing person and an exceptional leader, and we all were lucky to work with such a sweet and caring person. She will be deeply missed.



Celebrating 25 Years of Michele

Michelle Carson has been a dedicated pediatric physical therapist with BARC Developmental Services since 2000. Starting as a staff member and transitioning to an independent contractor in 2006, she has built and maintained a full caseload for over 25 years. Michelle partners closely with families across Bucks County, supporting children in homes, daycares, and community settings. Her passion lies in helping little ones achieve developmental milestones and sharing in the joy of every first step, roll, and jump. Congratulations to Michele on 25 years with BARC! Thank you for your dedication and commitment to care.

Annual Membership Meeting and Volunteer Recognition Ceremony



Per the BARC Developmental Services by-laws, the Annual Membership meeting is held on the first Thursday of the month of May. This year, the meeting was held on May 1st followed by our **Volunteer Recognition Ceremony**. BARC is a member-driven nonprofit agency that operates under the direction of a volunteer Board of Directors. Members take an active role in the future of the agency by voting for the Board of Directors every year at the annual meeting. This year, **Sherri Portnoy and Mike Mills, Esq.** were both re-elected for three-year terms.

Volunteers were also invited to be recognized for their volunteerism within the agency and at our fundraising events. Your support makes everything we do possible—thank you for being an essential part of our mission! For volunteer opportunities, please visit www.barcprograms.org/volunteer.

Lastly, a heartfelt shoutout to **Board Member, Phil Carey**, for his unwavering dedication and service to BARC. In 2025, Phil celebrated his 40th anniversary as a member of the BARC Board of Directors. Phil was presented with a citation for his 40+ years of volunteering from the office of Representative Brian Munroe.

Rep. Staats visits BARC Production Services



From left: BARC Executive Director, Mary Sautter, PA Rep. Craig Staats, Board Member, Pat Schuck, Director of Vocational Services, Jordan Pfister.

Board Member Spotlight: Celebrating 40+ Years of Service

Philip J. Carey has been a volunteer for BARC Developmental Services (BARC) for over 40 years! In 2025, he celebrated his **40th anniversary** as a member of the BARC Board of Directors.

He currently serves as the 1st Vice President of the Board as well as the Chair of the Development Committee and Residential Advisory Committee. Phil is also a member of the BARC Finance Committee. Phil is very active as a committee member and can always be found at BARC events throughout the year. Phil studied at Union College and retired from the manufacturing industry. He has three children and five grandchildren.



Phil Carey (above) with Executive Director, Mary Sautter, presented with a citation honoring his years of service.

We are very thankful to PA State Rep. Craig Staats for taking time to tour our Production Facility in Quakertown, PA. Representative Staats met with Director of Vocational Services, Jordan Pfister, Executive Director Mary Sautter, and BARC Board member and parent, Pat Schuck, and other Vocational staff and spent time seeing our production and day programs in real time.

Jordan and Mary provided an overview of current programs offered; a real-life model of how programs can be steppingstones for progress into higher levels of employment, utilizing vocational training facilities as a proxy for real world jobs to educate people with ID/A while paying commensurate wages based on piece rate production. Thank you Craig Staats for spending time learning about our programs.



Community Support

Local karate school, **Action Karate Quakertown**, sold t-shirts for a cause during the month of April. The cause recognized in April was autism acceptance and awareness. Action Karate then selected BARC Developmental Services to receive the net proceeds from the sale. In May, instructors from the school presented Mary Sautter, Executive Director (far left) and Brandon and Chris (far right) with a check for \$1,000.



Community Partnership Opportunities

Are you looking for community partnerships? BARC Developmental Services is looking for opportunities to connect. Please contact us at info@barcprograms.net for more information.

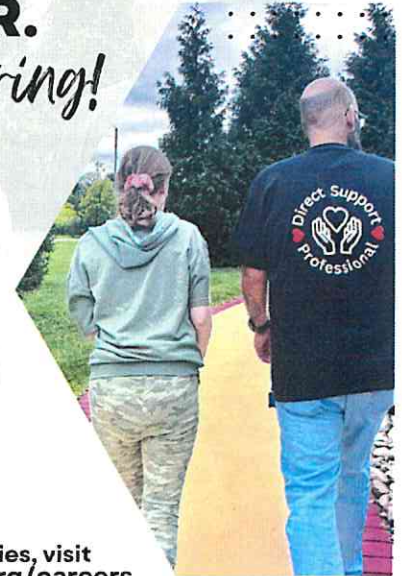
WHERE COMPASSION BECOMES A CAREER.

We're Hiring!

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- ✓ Tax Sheltered Annuity Program (403b)
- ✓ Paid Holidays, Personal, Sick, and Vacation
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For career opportunities, visit www.barcprograms.org/careers



LAST CHANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

JOIN THE 2025 MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN TODAY.



Your tax-deductible gift supports the individuals served through early intervention, residential, and vocational services.

Sign up for your 2025 membership online at www.barcprograms.org/membership

or complete and return the form below to: BARC Developmental Services, PO BOX 470, Holicong PA 18928-0470

YES! I would like to support the 2025 BARC Membership Campaign. Please accept my donation of:

\$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

_____**Check.** Make payable to BARC Developmental Services

_____**Visa or Mastercard (circle)** Amt: _____

Name on Card: _____

Address (including zip): _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CVV: _____

Signature: _____

Mail Membership form and payment to:
BARC Developmental Services, P.O. Box 470,
Holicong, PA 18928-0470

For Fiscal Use Only - 14-17-4410

For a full membership list, please visit barcprograms.org.



*Come Taste
The Joy!*

Did you hear?

Bake Ability, a premier sweet and savory bakery in Holicong, PA, has opened a 2nd Kitchen. And it's 100% gluten free! Made with love in a kitchen staffed by neurodiverse adults, BARC Developmental Services and BAKE Ability joined spaces so BAKE Ability can bring gluten free treats to the community. To enjoy sweet treats from Bake Ability please visit their retail location at Buckingham Green Shopping Center, 4950 York Road, Holicong, PA 18928.



Residential Prom

On Saturday, April 5th, supported individuals, staff and family members attended BARC Developmental Service's annual formal dance at Franconia Heritage. This annual event is put on by the Residential Social Activity team. Attendees dressed to impress following this year's "Enchanted Forest" theme and danced the day away on the dance floor with music from DJ Rita. It truly felt like a fairytale



2025 Capital Campaign



HELP US BUILD A BETTER SENSORY SPACE

BARC Developmental Services' Capital Campaign has focused on enhancing safety in residential and vocational sites. In late 2024, a new priority emerged: upgrading Sensory Spaces in Adult Training Facilities, starting with the Quakertown location.

These specially designed rooms provide customizable sensory experiences to support therapeutic, educational, and behavioral needs. With your support, new sensory equipment can be installed to benefit those we serve.

To donate toward our 2025 Capital Campaign visit our website www.barcprograms.org or mail form to:
PO BOX 470, Holicong, PA 18928-0470:



YES! I would like to support the 2025 Capital Campaign. Please accept my donation of:

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other \$_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Mail Capital Campaign form and payment to:
BARC Developmental Services, P.O. Box 470,
Holicong, PA 18928-0470

Growing Together

____ **Check.** Make payable to BARC Developmental Services

____ **Visa or Mastercard (circle)** Amt: _____

Name on Card: _____

Address (including zip): _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CVV: _____

Signature: _____

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Baseball Raffle

The 2025 Baseball was drawn live on our Facebook page on Monday, March 10th. Congratulations to the winners!



FIRST PLACE:
Omnilift of Ivyland, PA
 A pair of Phillies season tickets

SECOND PLACE:
The Teeling Family
 A pair of Iron Pigs season tickets, generously donated back to BARC

THIRD PLACE:
Chick and Barb Johnson
 \$100 gift card to Philles.com




Spring Bingo

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us at our Rock Your Socks Spring Bingo event on Friday, March 21st at Benner Hall! Lucky winners took home prizes, including designer handbags, gift cards, and Apple AirPods. It was awesome to see attendees wearing their craziest socks in celebration of **World Down Syndrome Day!**

This event wouldn't have been a success without the incredible support of our attendees, generous volunteers and sponsors; Lashes By Lindsey, LLC, Densie Young, The Barth Family, and Mary Judd.



NEW

Calendar Raffle
 Win prizes every day of the month from cash to gift certificates!

Coming September 2025



CHANGING LIVES THROUGH SPONSORSHIP.

For sponsorship opportunities, please call the Development office at 215-794-0800 ext. 4332/4369



Save The Date
BRUNCH & Bubbly BINGO

Join us for a day of Bingo, Brunch and Bubbles!
 Win prizes from Designer Handbags, Gift Cards and more!

Sat. Sept. 20th
 12PM
 St. Cyril Social Hall, Jamison, PA
 Tickets on sale in July



STAY SOCIAL

Keep up to date with the latest agency news and events on our Facebook Page.

facebook.com/BARCDdevelopmentalServices





BARC Developmental Services
P.O. Box 470
Holicong, PA 18928-0470

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*Large enough to serve,
small enough to care!*

2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- July 12:** 5th Annual Duck Derby
LIVE on our Facebook Page
- August:** Apparel Fundraiser
- September:** NEW Calendar Prize Raffle
- Sept 20:** Bubbles & Brunch Bingo
St. Cyril of Jerusalem Social Hall, Jamison PA
- Oct 4:** Fall Classic Car Show & Vendor Market
Sellersville Fire Department, Sellersville PA
- November:** Gift Card Raffle
LIVE on our Facebook Page

For the most up to date information regarding our
fundraising efforts, visit our website at:

www.barcprograms.org

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Find us on our social media platforms: