



The Support Report



A COMMUNITY OF KINDNESS POWERED BY YOU



You Make a Fan Favorite Possible

While technology, staff, and nearly everything else evolves, Bingo at JARC is a constant. Our earliest records show people served by JARC have been playing Bingo regularly since 1986 – and it was likely being played frequently even before the '80s. When those served by JARC are asked what their favorite activity is, Bingo tops nearly everyone's list.

Events featuring the simple and wonderfully familiar game give everyone in the JARC community the opportunity to catch up, cheer each other on, and choose prizes from a well-stocked table of treasures. Bingo events serve as great volunteer opportunities as well, and using

different themes to customize the evening is always enjoyable for the people served by JARC and volunteers alike.

As a JARC donor, Bingo is one of the many activities that you make possible. While other events and programs are regularly evaluated and improved, playing Bingo is a beloved classic that will never get old and for the most part stays the same. A special thanks to recent Bingo sponsors, the McDonald Family, the Bernstein-Miller Family, Temple Beth El, and the JARC Board of Directors, for supporting what may be the longest-standing, well-loved tradition of Bingo.

**Did you know that you can sponsor events like Bingo?
To learn more, contact Jacob at 248.940.2751.**

You Paved a Path for Peggy

By supporting JARC, you and other generous donors enable so many people with developmental disabilities to make huge improvements in their lives. Peggy is one of those people having grown substantially since joining JARC in 2020.

When she first moved into JARC's Keller-Walch home, Peggy wasn't sure of herself. She had been treated as a child her whole life and had been told what to do, rather than being given the option to choose. As a result, she never learned how to process her emotions, communicate effectively, or manage money – despite her ability to do these things.

The staff at JARC encouraged Peggy to express herself verbally and help her recognize her emotions so she can process them. By identifying her feelings, she can now recognize what triggers her anxiety and other negative emotions, and knows when she needs to leave a room to cool down before reacting.

Now, Peggy no longer feels like a child as she is not treated like one. As the staff always say, the home belongs to the people JARC serves and staff are just there to provide assistance and support. Peggy and her housemates provide input into everything that goes on in their house. They choose their meals, their clothes, where and when they go out to eat, and how they spend their money. Peggy is getting comfortable with buying her own clothes and figuring out how much she has left to spend. Lately, she has been excited to plan meals to cook for her housemates with the help of the home manager.

The Keller-Walch home has been a perfect fit for her. The ladies there are very independent, which has motivated her to be independent as well. Peggy's housemates have become like family. They help each other to choose outfits when getting ready to go out, remind each other of which staff is coming at which time, and make choices together about their home.



When asked what she likes most about being at JARC, Peggy responded, “People listen to me here. I’m a grown woman and this is my home.”

To support Peggy and others we serve, visit [JARC.org/give](https://www.jarc.org/give).

Giving Care and Receiving Support

Who wouldn't enjoy working somewhere that you are adored, just for being you?

At JARC's Milan home, this is the environment as described by the home's manager, Michelle Smith.

“Here, no one cares what you look like, as long as you show up and treat them right,” she said. All the ladies need when we arrive at the home is a hug or a handshake, and they're happy to see you.

When Michelle started working at JARC 34 years ago, she was a direct support professional and has since worked her way up to her current home manager position. One of Michelle's favorite parts of her job is working with new employees. She enjoys being able to share her experience and help those new in the field of direct care to flourish and learn to love their work as much as she does.

Her positive attitude, openness, and willingness to guide staff helps to keep them engaged in their jobs and wanting to stay with JARC, evident in that several staff in the home have worked there for nearly two decades.

“Part of my job is to support staff and what I have found is they support me in return,” Michelle said about the relationships between staff in the home.

Michelle and her team honor the fact that they work in someone else's home and are considerate of the ladies they serve and their space. The ladies living at the Milan home have higher needs than many of those served by JARC, as several of them came from institutions. There have been stark improvements made to how they were treated then as opposed to now that they are with JARC, which is something that Michelle remembers every day, proud of the care she and her team provide to the people they serve.

Michelle has strong relationships with all the ladies, and her longest relationship is with Judy, who has been with JARC almost as long as Michelle has worked there. Even though Judy is nonverbal and her expressions can be difficult to



interpret, Michelle has seen so much growth in her. When Judy first moved into her home, she would not allow anyone to touch her. Anything physical, such as clipping nails and providing oral care, needed to be done at a hospital. Now, she is comfortable with receiving this personal care from staff and has even come to enjoy showing affection to Michelle and her other caregivers.

When asked what she would tell someone interested in working in direct care, Michelle responded:

“Caregiving is the best job you can do. If there was a job to learn how to love and be loved, it's being a caregiver.”

A meaningful career awaits! Anyone interested in a position at JARC can contact us at 248.940.2617.

Visit jarc.org/give to donate

or contact Jacob Gottlieb at 248.940.2751
or jacobgottlieb@jarc.org for annual
sponsorship opportunities.

Enroll in Kroger Community Rewards

and every time you buy groceries,
JARC will benefit. Log into your
Kroger portal to register.

Host a Facebook fundraiser!

It's an easy and free way to share
your passion for JARC's work.

If you'd like to volunteer

please contact Jessica Tierney at
248.940.2607 or jessicatierney@jarc.org.

Keep us in mind when you have a tribute

to send. Our tribute cards feature the
smiling faces of those who benefit from
your donation — the people served by
JARC. Call 248.940.2617 to send a tribute.

There are so many ways to support JARC!

Thank you for your generosity.

