



L'Arche Greater Washington, D.C.
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202.232.4539 | www.larche-gwdc.org

Thank you for your generous support!

OVER THE PAST YEAR THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO L'ARCHE THROUGH FINANCIAL GIFTS, IN-KIND DONATIONS, VOLUNTEER HOURS, AND PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE.

Please send the new list, thank you!



HOME *matters*

WINTER 2016-17

**BUILDING COMMUNITIES OF FAITH
AND LIFELONG HOMES WITH PEOPLE
WHO HAVE INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES**

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY

Looking for an adventure in community living that will help you discover the depths of the human spirit? L'Arche accepts applications on a rolling basis for assistants for the Washington, D.C., and Arlington, Virginia, homes. Find out more and watch our video about being an assistant at www.larche-gwdc.org.

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Leaving my role; living my life in L'Arche

Hazel and John

My journey in L'Arche began 33 years ago when Michael Schaff approached me and talked with me at a time when I was looking for home and family. I turn 66 this October, and Michael will have been accompanying me on this journey in L'Arche for half of my life. Guided and accompanied by Michael and others, L'Arche has become the home and family I wanted. I now see myself living out my life in L'Arche.

My role in L'Arche has varied over the 33 years but has been that of Executive Director for the past 21 years. Many people have not known me outside this role. I will complete my time in this role – but not in L'Arche – at the end of 2016.

We've prepared well for this transition. Our leadership development efforts have produced a cadre of leaders ready for greater responsibility. Our ongoing focus on our spirituality has resulted in deepening commitments to L'Arche by many people. Our annual fundraising campaigns produce a steady stream of revenue. All require

ongoing commitment, but all are working. Perhaps most importantly, many people pray for us and help us remain rooted in prayer. Thank you for your part in getting us to this point and in keeping us on track.

I'm excited about what's ahead for me and for L'Arche. L'Arche will be doubling in size over the next years with new homes and a new day activities program – both in partnership with Georgetown University. Our existing homes will continue to be sources of life for the people who live in them and for the hundreds of people who connect with them each year. "I look forward to being involved (in a yet-to-be-determined capacity) and hope you do, too."

Sincerely,

signature?

John Cook

*Executive Director,
L'Arche Greater Washington D.C.*



Celebrating Charles's 80th Birthday.
Here's to many more!



Laurie weaving



Francene dances!



Highland Walk-a-thon



On the steps of the Capitol



Johnny at the D.C Basillica

Impact

Challenges human services, including the medical field that has become increasingly focused on record keeping, to restore human in human services.

Calls on communities of faith to recognize and to practice St. Paul's admonition that every member is indispensable. A re-founding of faith communities by calling on them to bring to the front those members who have been left behind or excluded from community life.

Transforms people who have intellectual disabilities. Until recently, people who had intellectual disabilities were quietly been sequestered in homes or institutions with the intention of protecting them from society and protecting society from them.

The emphasis L'Arche places on community integration has had a tremendous impact on those who have intellectual disabilities. Our Core family members attend church, vote, attend government meetings and neighborhood picnics. Some hold jobs, others volunteer at community centers and events.

Through these activities, L'Arche is truly changed the way society thinks about intellectual disabilities and how those with intellectual disabilities see themselves—they recognize that they have something to contribute. They know that their voices are important, their unique skills are called upon, and they are given a place of honor.

Empowers L'Arche-GWDC Core members' families

My child will be cared for and loved long after I'm gone one mother said. Another said that her child would not be shut away, but will be valued for his gifts. After years of caring for her son, one mother expressed that it was time for her son to be on his own. And on his own, he blossomed with the care and love of his housemates. Those comments are representative of the many parents whose child lives at one of L'Arche-GWDC's homes.

One mother experienced separation anxiety from her daughter; she worried, "would she be respected for the gifts she had?" Later on visiting her daughter at her new home, she saw that her daughter was appreciated for her humor, her cooking, her leadership. Her mother told us that she no longer worried about her. For the first time in thirty-eight years, she was alone, but comforted by knowing her daughter was with a new family who truly valued her.

Some of the photos from the word doc weren't in the folder, and I have many other images I am not sure where to place. Can you help with this spread a bit more? Thanks! Laura

Inspires. Assistants who daily care for Core family in turn impact them, showing their support, commitment and devotion. Assistants provide the care of mothers and fathers and the companion of sisters and brothers.

Those roles are often reversed: Core family members providing those same things to the Assistants.

The impact Assistants have is felt outside the homes: in the careers they choose after their time at L'Arche-GWDC. One attends medical school, another, enters seminary. Another leaves for a job in communications and outreach. Assistants return to college to earn a graduate degree in public policy, social work, non-profit management and business. Former Assistants become volunteers, advocates, community leaders.

Those Assistants who leave to marry, bring their families back to L'Arche to learn and experience its values – its love.

Engages Volunteers, donors and community to experience L'Arche's philosophy of belonging and dignity by attending dinners at the homes, prayer nights, home tours, presentations in churches, offices, schools, and civic organizations, and meeting Core family and Assistants. Many of them become volunteers and financially support L'Arche-GWDC.

Our visitors, volunteers and donors view people who have intellectual disabilities differently. They see gifts where others see weakness; they see potential where others see failure. L'Arche-GWDC changes people's attitudes. Whether the impact is strong or a softer radiating influence, it is felt in many areas and in many ways. It is always positive and enduring.

As we grow, L'Arche-GWDC's impact will be experienced in Georgetown University and the Georgetown community. We are looking forward to the opening of two new homes, one in late 2017 and the other, in 2018.

We are now in the development stage of a new program: Individualized Day Support (IDS) for Georgetown Core family members. The daily six-hour program will support activities in the District of Columbia and also at Georgetown University for those who are looking for an alternative to a traditional day program. It will also give Core family members opportunities to grow in the specific areas of their choosing.

L'Arche-GWDC's IMPACT! Challenges. Calls. Transforms. Enables. Inspires. Engages.



Kelly

Interview with Kelly's Mom, Paula



L'Arche-GWDC: When you decided it was time for Kelly to leave the nest, what were you looking for?

Paula: We were looking for a community that would be a family for Kelly long after we were gone.

Kelly feels strongly about staying in Virginia and keeping in touch with the community of families that have built up over the years.

However, as an only child with no relatives in the area, our concern was what kind of support and care she would receive after we died. While it may seem morbid to some the fear of the future is a terror that every parent in our situation quietly experiences or only admits in the most private of conversations. Then when we officially became senior citizens, we saw friends dying and our peers and ourselves becoming more frail, it became evident that we had to address the future.

L'Arche: How did you learn about L'Arche-GWDC?

Paula: We heard about L'Arche about twenty years ago when it was briefly mentioned at a Planning for the Future workshop offered by the ARC. At that time, we were sure that we would never need a group home because that was for other people. We were sure that with enough effort on our part, we could resolve all the issues that necessitated support at work and in living situations. We were wrong.

Luckily, we kept the notes from the ARC workshop and started investigating options. A couple of years ago we started visiting group homes on our own and took open house tours sponsored by ARC. We even met with the person in charge of a new initiative in Virginia to get people to live independently in their own apartments. Kelly's dad was convinced that no placement would meet with her mother's approval.

In those long-ago notes there was a mention about L'Arche so we started reading about the group and Jean Vanier and Henri Nouwen.

Their philosophy appealed to us: The idea of living with rather than doing for was exactly what we wanted for Kelly's future.

In our many visits at group homes we had seen too many disinterested caregivers and too many institutional rules.

The stories told by the friends of people who were actually living in group homes also caused us much concern.

L'Arche: When and how did you get in touch with L'Arche-GWDC?

Paula: We began looking online reading about L'Arche and started attending their Sixth Street home dinners. We attended the Heart of L'Arche Breakfast and Lent soup suppers. It took us a couple of years to learn all we could. Then we applied.

L'Arche: Tell me about the application process?

Paula: It was easy but so scary! We applied online. We would check yearly to see if L'Arche still had the application and that it was active. When we finally got the call, we were able to submit more detailed information. We sent in a booklet of medical, educational, financial and social reports. It took about three months for us to get an acceptance and Kelly moved in two months later.

L'Arche: We do have a waiting list and unfortunately it does take patience and time before an application gets the green light to proceed. The good news is that our family members love L'Arche and we have people reaching thirty years and more of living within our community and in our homes.

L'Arche: Why did you decide that L'Arche was the place for Kelly?

Paula: We knew it was the place for our daughter because of the dinners. Each time we attended dinner, we would observe the sense of community, dignity and caring that the family had for each other. The sharing and prayer time after each meal also showed the sense of belonging everyone had. It was such a family atmosphere.

When we dined at Highland House, Luke and Caitlin's children, Frances, Patrick and Joseph came to dinner. We knew this was the place. It was a community not just for Kelly but for our whole family.

All of us have been happy with our decision. Kelly likes to keep busy and by living in this community, there is always something to do. She has always wanted a big family and now she has one.

L'Arche: Kelly is our newest family member. She and her parents are welcome additions to our family!

Visioning Day

On June 4th L'Arche-Greater Washington D.C. held its Visioning Day.

Sr. Anita Maroun, Eastern Regional Leader, led a discussion of all community members, employees, volunteers, and families, our board of directors and friends of L'Arche-GWDC met to share ideas and dream about the future of L'Arche GWDC, and set new goals.

Before the day, a Key Elements Evaluation was sent to help us to see where L'Arche-GWDC is positioned now--where we're strong and where we need to grow.

In this evaluation, how we value the core family members, share life together, live out mutuality, exist as a faith community, serve as leadership, management, structures and HR, and how our communities are integrated into society were analyzed.

In other words, we were asked to make an honest assessment of L'Arche-GWDC that allowed us to fully enter into the Visioning Day and the Mandate Process.

The Mandate went through a few revisions. As it is now, it has three goals:

1. To continue implementation of L'Arche USA membership policy.
2. To prioritize sustainable growth and address our changing needs.
3. To share our values through creative and diverse outreach.

November 2, L'Arche-GWDC all leaders, community members, families, board of directors and friends met at Holy Trinity Church in Georgetown met to approve and adopt the Four-year mandate.

Our new mandate

Members of the committee included Sarah Ruszkowski, Bob Asselin, Michael Schaff, Laurie Pippenger, Caitlin Smith, and Sarah Clemmer.

The committee listened to what was being expressed and came up with our 2017-2022 mandate titled *"Nurturing Our Friendships through Belonging, Sharing and Growing."* This mandate will help to further our role as a sign of unity in our divided world by fostering and formalizing new ways of belonging, sharing our values through creative and outreach to diverse groups and individuals, and evolving and growing our community.



"Nurturing Our Friendships through Belonging, Sharing and Growing" **L'Arche GWDC Mandate 2017-2022**

Following the celebration of our 30th anniversary, we have entered an exciting time of rediscovery, growth and commitment to our founding story and mission. We seek to be a witness to the gifts of people with intellectual disabilities revealed through mutually transforming relationships.

L'Arche Greater Washington DC is committed to L'Arche's mission and identity and guided by the L'Arche USA Mandate¹. Our 2017-2022 Mandate will build on the goals in the previous mandate, in order to further our role as a sign of unity in our divided world.

We will commit to (1) fostering belonging, (2) sharing our values and, (3) growing sustainably.

- 1) Foster and formalize new ways of belonging
 - a) Grow in our appreciation and fostering of circles of membership.
 - b) Celebrate and grow in our mutual and diverse relationships with friends, families, neighbors, and other supporters.
 - c) Further our commitment to valuing differences, recognizing our need for diversity and inclusion.
 - d) Review and improve our communication practices and common language.
- 2) Share our values through creative and outreach to diverse groups and individuals.
 - a) Grow deeper in our gifts: prayer, mutuality, simplicity, peace, and intentional living.
 - b) Share hospitality with other organizations and vulnerable populations.
 - c) Increase the leadership of core people in communication, advocacy, and development.
 - d) Ensure core people have enriching daytime activities, thereby exposing more people to their gifts.
- 3) Evolve and grow our community.
 - a) Grow our community at Georgetown and/or Hamilton Street.
 - b) Create structures to respond to the needs of core members aging at home.
 - c) Successfully navigate the challenges of welcoming new leadership, dividing into two legal entities, and operating in a financially sustainable manner.

¹ L'Arche USA's Mandate Goals are to (1) Take ownership of our mission. (2) Develop leadership. (3) Engage with culture and society. (4) Shape L'Arche in the USA and federation.

The Dottie We Knew

By Sarah Clemmer

Thirty-eight years ago, Dottie began working with a group from the Church of the Savior to found L'Arche in the Adams Morgan neighborhood of Washington, D.C. As we've grown over the years, Dottie lived in three of our four homes, and built relationships with everyone who has been in our community. Dottie's steadfast presence has been an essential part of forming our community into what it is today.

Dottie Bockstiegel passed away peacefully May 19th, 2016, surrounded by family.

Dottie was an amazing woman who loved each of us wholeheartedly. In many ways, Dottie showed us what it meant to live into community with her humility and vulnerability. Dottie often brought us back to the relationships that are at the foundation of our community, sharing her seemingly endless creativity, energy, friendship, and loyalty with us all. We will greatly miss Dottie's "raps," campy-songs, and attentiveness to committing fully to relationship.



Dottie, Sarah, and Eric at Easter

Michael Schaff's Memories of Dottie *An Interview by L'Arche-GWDC*

L'Arche-GWDC: When did you first meet Dottie?"

Michael: On the board. She was working on the board of L'Arche-GWDC at the time I moved in. That was 1983, but she was not living in L'Arche-GWDC at that time. She moved in 1986. When she first moved in, she didn't have a day off. If she would have taken a day off, who would have taken care of us four guys? (Michael, Gene, Mo and Glen. There was no one else at first.

L'Arche-GWDC: Did Dottie bring any changes with her?

Michael: She brought lots of books and stuff. But then she got help when the other people came in to live with us. She organized the books. She put the first woman core member, Elizabeth, in this house (pointing to Ontario) in 1991. (L'Arche-GWDC: Dottie recruited other Assistants and Core family members to live in at the Ontario home.)

L'Arche-GWDC: What are your favorite memories?

Michael: Two things. When we went down to Florida and then the second one, a couple years later, when we went to Erie, Pennsylvania for L'Arche Erie's 17th anniversary and it was snowing.

L'Arche-GWDC: Tell me more about the Florida trip.

Michael: It was busy. She booked us with almost everything, and that's typical Dottie. We went to Disney World down there. We saw the wax museum with the presidents, and were busy every minute. (L'Arche-GWDC: Michael has carried this interest in American's presidents to present. He knows each President's name in order of their term(s) and also with the names of their wives and children!)

We went camping with an ALLIGATOR! It was this big (arms outstretched) and you know alligators grow big. Dottie didn't mess with the alligator. Another assistant, who was temporary, tried to put a stick in its mouth.

L'Arche-GWDC: What was Dottie like? How would you describe her?"

Michael: Talkative. She loved to talk. She was a good business woman. She could type, manage money and did all the office work, and knew how to read and organize books.

L'Arche-GWDC: How would you describe her personality?

Michael: Funny. We all used to work in the Potter's House together on Friday nights. We all had jobs to do, some work at the tables, some as greeters, some cleaning. Her humor helped us work. And she was a good actress too. When she was at the Potter's House, she acted as part of her mission group roles and presentations.

L'Arche-GWDC: Did you all travel a lot together?

Michael: A little.

L'Arche-GWDC: A little? Didn't you go to Europe together?

Michael: Yes, one time. To Paris for a L'Arche meeting.

L'Arche-GWDC: "What do you miss about Dottie?"

Michael: Her talking.

The Love of a Daughter

By Sarah Clemmer

There are many things I love and miss about our sister Linda. She brought a sense of home to L'Arche and her presence and leadership is greatly missed.

The nature of our lives in L'Arche is intimate and transformative. Overtime, those we share life with become family and we grow to see and love each other in new ways, ways which never seemed possible before. Each relationship is so uniquely beautiful. Linda was like a mother to some, a friend and companion to others, and a sister to many. She was a precious and a beloved daughter.

Linda came to L'Arche in September of 2006 after living with her mom and dad for over fifty years. Linda had a very special relationship with her family and was an extremely devoted daughter. In the years that she lived at Highland House, she grew in and through a lot of life changes like the passing of her mother, her father's aging, and many other transitions in community life. I admired Linda for her endurance and persistence as she tried to make sense of it all. She had a desire to carry on the traditions of her family and make sure her dad was okay. It was inspiring to watch her in the role of a daughter as she cared for her dad, including him in her plans, and inviting him to dinner at her house each week.

As we passed the candle around during after dinner prayer, Linda would faithfully say, "I pray for my mom to rest, for my dad, for my brother, for a nice day." Her dad would follow every time with "I want to say a prayer for L'Arche, and all the things they do for people like my daughter. She loves it here. She calls it home." He was so grateful that his beloved daughter found another home.

I had the privilege of sharing time with Linda and Mr. Garcia each Sunday at IHOP. It was a gift to witness such a loving father-daughter relationship. I loved their mutual delight sitting next to each other in the booth. I loved the care Mr. Garcia took in fixing her coffee and cutting up her pancakes before he prepared his own.

Linda knew she was deeply loved. I learned a lot from Linda about giving and receiving love. Linda's beautiful legacy of love continues to transform and lead our home. Rest well Linda, we love you.



Elizabeth and Francene

Individualized Day Support Program

Individualized Day Supports (IDS) is a program that will support activities during the day for adults with disabilities who are looking for an alternative to a traditional day program, are ready to retire from work or aren't pursuing employment at this time.

The L'Arche IDS program will continue the L'Arche mission of making known the gifts of people with disabilities through mutually transforming relationships by using this new model. We've heard from core members, their family members and people in the broader disability community that there is a need for a different type of support during the day and for increased opportunities to engage in meaningful activities.

A big focus of IDS is supporting participants in the program with creating their own day: choosing from a variety of options that connect with personal goals, hobbies, or interests. One day it might mean volunteering at a local church or attending a concert, the next it might mean visiting a museum and learning how to navigate the bus system.

We're also hopeful that as our relationship with Georgetown University develops that the L'Arche IDS activities program will be able to connect in a variety of ways on campus. This might mean attending recitals in the music department, having regular lunch meet-ups with students and finding ways to volunteer with the university community. It will be exciting to see what develops!



Bob Jacobs

Interim Leadership

On January 1, 2017, Bob Jacobs will be the Interim Executive Director of L'Arche – Greater Washington DC. His appointment to this role was announced by the GWDC Board, and affirmed by L'Arche USA, in October, 2016. Currently, he is transitioning into the role guided by John Cook, the outgoing Executive Director, and Anjela Turner, the Chief Operating Officer. It is expected that Bob will carry this responsibility for twelve to eighteen months beginning in January.

In this capacity, Bob is expected to lead GWDC into its newly adopted 4-year Mandate, manage the day-to-day affairs of the organization, while building the platform for the incoming permanent leadership of GWDC.

Bob joined L'Arche – GWDC, as an Assistant in July, 2007.

"I decided to put aside my 30-year business career, for a year of 'doing good,' and discover what was going to be next. After two years with GWDC, I discovered L'Arche was next!"

In addition to the role of Assistant, Bob has been a Home Life Coordinator and a Community Leader in GWDC. For the last three years, he has also served, half-time, as the Assistant Eastern US Regional Leader in L'Arche USA. There, he worked on national plans & projects, and supporting 4 of the 18 L'Arche Communities in the U.S. – Boston North, Syracuse, Cleveland & Clinton, IA.

Bob is married to Barbara Ryan, a former, long time member of GWDC. They live in Silver Spring, MD, with their cat, Gracie.



Caption please

10 Years ago, a House Became a Home

As we prepare to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Highland house, it's good to go back to how L'Arche in Arlington was founded. It all began... in June, 2004 with the purchasing of two houses in South Arlington. It was then, we started planning for the house's renovations.

Then beginning in August, Sue Bodner, Denny Cumber, Janet Rife and others came together each month for prayer nights were held at the un-renovated Highland Street house,

In 2005, Dottie Bockstiegel ended eighteen years as an assistant and leader in Washington D.C. to help start a new home at Highland and was joined by Carol Akers and Diane McCarthy.

In late August, 2006, Eduardo Delcarpio, Linda Garcia, Fritz Schloss, and Hazel Pulliam, Dottie Bockstiegel, Carol Akers, Diane McCarthy, Margaret Staniforth and Mandy Cina came together as a family.

On a warm Sunday afternoon ten years ago, they welcomed the visitors, neighbors and volunteers to the newly renovated house.

As we celebrate Highland house's 10th Anniversary, Hazel Pulliam and Fritz Schloss—the only original family members left—are joined by Eric Arntson, Kelly DeRoy, James Schreiner, Brooke Lacock, Vince Bush, Sarah Clemmer, Lauren Palmer, Mulu Haile, Bria Bromwell-Holeman and Mary Harvey.

A new family thriving and sharing their many gifts and lives' experiences.

Mandy Cina, one of the first Highland assistant came to the Virginia home from a shared life at the L'Arche DC homes. When asked to write about the new home, she said it was a home filled with laughter, kindness and giving.

The laughter, the kindness, the giving live on.

Our New Home By Mandy Cina

Mandy is a live-in assistant at the Highland house. She came to L'Arche last winter and shared life in the DC homes. Then when it was time for final preparations in Arlington, she moved out to Highland and welcomed four core people into the Highland home.

The new L'Arche Highland house has been up and running with our four new core people, Fritz, Linda, Eduardo and Hazel and 4 live-in assistants for a little over three months now and I was asked to write a description of our life together here. As I was reflecting on how we all came to this place, I recalled the years of talk and prayer, the months of renovation to make the house wheel-chair accessible. There were many weeks of preparing schedules and routines. Yet all renovation and planning does is make a house and a schedule, and people moving in together merely makes us housemates. The story itself, what makes this house a L'Arche home and this group of housemates a family, lie beyond that. So what is our new home? It is a story just beginning, filled with surprises and joys, and we are excited to share with you the moments that tell of our life together.

Our new home is laughter. It is Fritz doing his impression of Santa Claus, hands on his stomach as he laughs deeply. It is Hazel and Eduardo sharing secret jokes at dinner and while watching TV. It is all of us sitting in the living room; and to this day we are not sure what happened; laughing so hard that we cannot hold ourselves upright in our seats.

Our new home is giving too; there is practical giving, such as Linda giving her housemates apple butter and honey from West Virginia. There is still some left in the house and she still gets excited when she sees one of her housemates take it out and use it. She always asks us if we like it and we always respond with the simple truth "It's wonderful!"

Eduardo gives a helping hand, holding Linda's lunch bag as she gets in the van. Alan gives Hazel help washing the dishes.

Giving of kindness also lives in our home, in many ways. The reassuring "I like you" that Hazel often gives, so that you never forget. Fritz's willingness to give a hug and his polite "Thank you"s that remind each of us our presence here is good. It is the time that Linda always gives to ask about your day, where you went and what you did, as well as the time she gives to listen with genuine interest to your answers. It is the kind openness with which Eduardo greets everyone who passes through our front door.

Our home is the family that we have built in this house, but it extends beyond this house's wall. The spiritual family of L'Arche Highland has brought joy and life to us in many unique ways. Tony Garcia's paintings bring color to our rooms. There is Emmy-Lu at the Halloween party, inexplicably matching costumes with Eduardo. Also, it is the Del Carpios stopping by with the newest members of their family. It is Hazel proudly showing a picture of her new grand-niece to everyone who walks in the room. Alan playing soccer with Fritz, and Lois making a paper turkey with everyone and doing puzzles with Hazel. The moments shared with these people, so important to us, are what make us a true community.

In the laughter, the giving, the kindness, and the people lies our identity. What turns a house on Highland St. into a L'Arche home, what defines our very lives are the moments that pass by, almost unnoticed, of simply being.



Caption for the photos please

L'Arche Happenings

HEART OF L'ARCHE BREAKFAST

It's our only fundraiser of the year and it's an explosion of positive energy! Old friends saw each other again and new friends were made; all sharing a love of L'Arche.

Ontario, Euclid, Highland and Sixth Street families celebrated welcoming all into their community.

Donors, volunteers and those new-to-L'Arche were caught up in the energy of the occasion.

The room was alive with the gifts of people and the story of L'Arche-GWDC.

- 1. **Fritz** with his mother, Emmy Lu
- 2. **Sonny** welcoming Heart of L'Arch Breakfast guests.

Ice Cream! We all scream for ice cream!

Linda Potter and Tim Shriver opened their home for an old fashioned ice cream social. Sundaes were scooped up before they could melt on this extremely hot June afternoon. Over seventy-five people braved the heat to attend and make-your-own-Sundae or have House Specialty Day!

- 3. **Tina** and **Francene**
- 4. Board member **Bob Aslin** with **Johnny**

BULL RUN!


Another successful day in the sun and in the swim. The favorite, besides the food, was the Bucket! For those who wanted a more 'in-depth' experience, hit the pool.

- 5. **Charles** blessing the  married couple **Tam** and **Vince**
- 6. Food! Line up!

SOLIDARITY

Our 2016 talent show and bazaar, Solidarity Day, was able to raise just over \$4,600, a gift we shared with communities around the World. There are one-hundred-forty-nine L'Arches world with twenty-two projects. It's a day we all come together to support the International L'Arche community.

Save the Date! Our 2017 Solidarity is March 11, at Marymount University.

- 7. Talent in abundance!
- 8. **Bruce**, **Sarah** and Bruce's mother 

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JOHNNY'S ART SHOW AT POTTER'S HOUSE

L'Arche's own Johnny Scofield held his first art show at Potter's House. With the help of Leanne as interpreter, he made a passionate plea for raising money to support Solitary. All proceeds went to L'Arche International.

- 9. **Johnny's** eloquent appeal for L'Arche International.

PILGRIMAGES



Need text

- 10. **Calvin Clark** Sito Malta.
- 11. **Eileen** and **Emily** in Lithuania

VACATIONS

"The world of rights cannot only be the prerogative of the healthy. People with disabilities must also be enabled to participate in social life as far as they can, and helped to fulfil all their physical, psychological."

— Pope Paul II on the dignity and rights of the people who have intellectual disabilities

Vacations are a needed respite for Assistants and home leaders to relax and play with the entire family that include Core family members.

Whether at the beach, or the mountains, the vacation enables care givers to shed some of their responsibilities. For most, a change of scenery is what is most welcomed.

- 12. **Mo** and **Lara** in Seattle

COMMUNITY RETREAT

2016 Community Retreat was held October 3, at Mellwood Recreation Center. The last community retreat was held in 2012.

The event began Sunday evening with dinner for almost half of the attendees. The others joined them for breakfast Monday which comprised of reflective exercises: making people feel welcomed and included activity stations movies, yard games and crafts.

Long-time volunteers, Denny Cumber, Mary Beth Keaney and Janet Rife made lunch for everyone. Mary Beth and Janet joined the group for lunch.

- 13. At the community retreat

