



Providing Recreational opportunities for those we support in their community & beyond!

The Arc of Orange County, headquartered in Newburgh, NY is a not-for-profit agency founded in 1954 by a small group of parents and family members of people with developmental disabilities. Families remain our inspiration and guiding force and comprise a majority of the agency's Board of Directors and voting members.

The Community Activities Program offers year round, integrated recreational and social opportunities for those we serve, ages 13+ years of age. The Community Activities Program also offers one of the most extensive travel opportunities in Orange County for those with developmental disabilities. It includes Day and Overnight weekend vacation opportunities for teens (ages 13 - 20yrs) or adults (ages 21+yrs). Trips are designed to provide participants an inclusive experience in the community with their peers that is enjoyable, safe & memorable

The Arc of Orange County “Escapes” Vacation Program (2018)

Come and Escape with Us! Because you deserve
a VACATION....

What is Escapes?

“ESCAPES” is a Vacation Program that provides opportunities for those that we serve to have exciting and enjoyable vacation experiences. The “Escapes” program has been providing vacation opportunities for over 25 years. Participants range in age from 21yrs & up and may live at home with their family; in a residential group setting; in family care; or in an apartment setting. Our vacation groups are smaller in size which allows us to provide the quality & personable care that travelers deserve! Many of our travelers have made friendships through the years, not only with fellow travelers but with staff who look forward to seeing them each year! We offer a variety of trip destinations to choose from including our favorite vacation spots where many in the community look forward to our returning each year! The ‘Escapes’ vacation program strives to provide vacation opportunities tailored to the needs and desires of those who travel with us and the places that they would like to visit!

Our Staff:

Many of the staff members have been with the “ESCAPES” vacation program since early on. They continue to chaperone trips year after year, which provides travelers an opportunity to be comfortable knowing the staff member that they will be traveling with. Staff members are caring, well trained professionals, who do their best to insure that the participants have a safe and enjoyable time on their trip. Staff members are trained in CPR, first aid and are qualified to provide oversight with medication (AMAP), as well as to aid individuals with personal care concerns whenever necessary. There are also staff members fluent in American Sign Language. The staff members who work in the “Escapes” program also hold other positions within The Arc of Orange County and bring their experience and training with them when chaperoning a trip.



Our Trips:

Trips range from (2) to (3) day vacations. We keep the trip ratio of travelers to staff as low as possible to ensure that we can provide quality & personable care for those who attend. Vacations are budgeted with a traveler ratio of five (5) individuals on each trip accompanied by two (2) chaperones, with the exception of our “Easy Movers” trips which are explained below. All trip costs include the following: Lodging, transportation, most recreation, meals, & staffing. Travelers are responsible for bringing their own spending money for souvenirs, casinos (if applicable) and other personal miscellaneous items. Activities listed on trips are a sampling of what is available in the area. Using their best judgment as to the scheduling of activities for each day, staff members will make every effort to ensure that all travelers have fun-filled, jam packed and most importantly safe, enjoyable, vacation experiences!!

Lodging: In order to keep the cost of trips as affordable as possible, lodging is designed as such: Hotel rooms are suites which include 2 queen beds & a sofa bed or rollaway. These rooms accommodate up to 3 - 4 ppl per/rm. (which includes 1 staff in each rm.). Whenever possible, we try to provide each traveler with their own bed, but if there are 5 travelers on a trip, this is not always possible and so there may be circumstances when a traveler has to share a bed. On occasion, exceptions can be made on trips: such as a lower traveler ratio on a trip (4 ppl instead of 5), or an individual having their own room if they are approved to do so. However in these instances there may be an additional charge added to the cost of the trip in order to provide such hotel arrangements.

Trips for “Easy Movers”: As you will see in the trip offerings, there are vacation opportunities designated as trips for “Easy Movers.” These vacations are geared for individuals who would require a slower pace of travel or may have ambulation difficulties. Itineraries will be modified in accordance to the support that travelers would need. These trips will have a traveler ratio of four (4) individuals accompanied by two (2) chaperones and due to this lower traveler ratio, these vacations will have a slightly higher cost ratio than others (The “Escapes” program reserves the right to determine, based on information provided from a traveler’s registration form, whether an individual should be placed on an “Easy Movers” trip that may have signed-up for one not specified as such.)

Trips with a Nurse: The “Escapes” program offers select vacations staffed with a nurse for those individuals who would like to travel outside of NY State, but are not able to do so because of self-medication requirements.

Trip Sign-Up:

Individuals interested in a trip will need to fill out the attached preliminary registration form and return it to Sophia Sofokles by email: sophia.sofokles@thearcoforange.org. or fax: (845) 427-2087. You may call Sophia directly at (845)645-6671. Once we have received the preliminary registration form and have the required number of travelers signed-up for a trip, you will be contacted and sent a Full Registration Packet. This Registration Packet must be completed and returned in advance of the trip. An itinerary with trip information, including transportation times, hotel arrangements and other pertinent information will be sent to you a few weeks in advance of the vacation. We would like that all of our travelers have a Photo ID with them while on a trip. Please understand that dates are planned, however circumstances may arise which could result in dates needing to be changed and if

this occurs we will notify travelers and make all effort to reschedule as close to the original dates as possible. We do our best to accommodate an individual's 1st trip of choice, but space is limited and it is important to note a 2nd choice, if desired. Individuals may also participate in more than one vacation if they desire.

Payment Policy:

*As noted previously, once an individual has been confirmed for a vacation, a Full Registration form will be sent and then trip payments can be made at any time in advance of a vacation. (Please do not send any payment until a confirmation of the trip has been made.) Final payment is due at least (1) week in advance of the trip. Receipts will be provided as payment is made. *Please make checks or money orders payable to: The Arc of Orange County. Please Note: If an individual is signed up for more than one trip, or if there are multiple individuals from the same residence attending the same trip, payment must be made separately for each individual.*

Cancellation & Refund Policy:

****Please Read Carefully**** *As noted in the prior Trip section of this brochure, all trips are budgeted based on five (5) participants per vacation, unless it is a trip designated for "Easy Movers". If at any time an individual needs to cancel their vacation, notice must be given as much in advance as possible and a written request submitted explaining the reason for cancellation. The "Escapes" program will make all effort to fill the vacancy made by a cancellation and if we are able to do so, only then will a full refund be made. However, if a vacancy cannot be filled, the program reserves the right to determine the amount of a refund, if any, minus the non-refundable purchases such as event tickets, hotel accommodations, etc.*

How to Reach Us:

Sophia Sofokles is coordinator for the "ESCAPES" Program. Her office is located at the Arc's Campbell Hall Center. You can reach her by phone at: (845) 427-2077, (x2134)/ CELL: (845)645-6671 or email: sophia.sofokles@thearcoforange.org. Sophia has an 'open-door' policy with this program and encourages you to touch base with her at any time with questions or concerns about trips. Your feedback will continue to help us to serve you better!

In addition to the "Escapes" program, Sophia is also the coordinator for The Arc of Orange County Community Activities Program, which offers opportunities for those that we serve to participate in a variety of recreational experiences in their Community. The Activities program has another vacation opportunity available for those who live at home with their families, or independently in an apartment setting within the Orange County area. This program is called Day & Overnight Respite and is funded by a Family Support Grant which offsets much of the participant's trip expenses. If you are interested in finding out more about Arc's Community Activities Program, please feel free to contact Sophia for more information, as well as visit The Arc of Orange County website at: www.thearcoforange.org.

TRIPS CALENDAR 2018

*Please keep in mind that trip costs are based on 5 travelers. An “Easy Movers” trip cost is based on 4 travelers. Also, any trips that involve a Casino for entertainment will require participants to bring their own spending \$ to use for gambling.

***Ladies Only Trip**

(April 20th - 22nd)

Enjoy the entertainment, food and sites of the Boardwalk & Casinos of Atlantic City! All our travelers will visit a professional beauty salon, where you will enjoy a manicure, pedicure, as well as a wash and blow dry. You will also visit some sites in nearby Cape May as well.

*(Please note: The Arc of Orange County cannot provide you with \$ to gamble in the Casinos, so if you sign up for this trip, please keep in mind that you will need to bring extra \$ to use for this purpose. The amount to bring is solely up to your discretion.) *(Anyone planning to come to this trip must be able to self-medicate in order to attend.)*

Cost: \$725

***Norwalk, CT.**

(May 18th - 20th)

Norwalk is a unique coastal destination in Fairfield County with a variety of attractions, shopping opportunities and first-class restaurants. The SoNo area in South Norwalk where you can visit the Maritime Aquarium, join others for a lighthouse tour, a sunset cruise and enjoy the scenery as well. *(Anyone planning to come to this trip must be able to self-medicate in order to attend.)*

Cost: \$725

***Lake George & Saratoga for “Easy Movers”**

(July. 14th - 15st)

Enjoy the sites around beautiful Lake George as you take a relaxing Boat Ride around the Lake on the Minnie Ha-Ha! On Saturday evening you will enjoy the excitement of horses & bull riding at the Painted Pony Rodeo in nearby Lake Luzerne. *(Please refer to the information regarding trips for ‘Easy Movers’).*

Cost: \$575

***Mama Mia - Forestburgh, NY**

(August 18th - 19th)

Enjoy the musical “Mama Mia” at The Forestburgh playhouse. You will also visit The Museum At Bethel Woods on this trip.

Cost: \$700

***Atlantic City & Cape May, NJ.**

(Sept. 1st - 3rd)

*Enjoy the sites and entertainment on the Boardwalk & Casinos of Atlantic City! Then visit the sites in nearby Cape May where, if the weather permits, you will go Dolphin Watching! *(Anyone planning to come to this trip must be able to self-medicate in order to attend.)**

Cost: \$750

***The Big E Fair Springfield, MA**

(Sept. 21rd - 23rd)

The Big E is the largest agricultural event on the eastern seaboard and the seventh-largest fair in the nation. Enjoy a daily Mardi Gras-style parade, animatronic shows, concerts & more. *(Anyone planning to come to this trip must be able to self-medicate in order to attend.)*

Cost: \$675

***“Sister Act” - Scranton, Pa.**

(October 5th - 7th)

Enjoy the musical “Sister Act” at the Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre in Scranton. You will also enjoy a relaxing Train Ride through the Scranton, Pa. countryside on this trip. *(Anyone planning to come to this trip must be able to self-medicate in order to attend.)*

Cost: \$700

Xmas in Bethlehem, Pa

(Dec 14th - 16th)

Experience the magic of Christmas. Celebrating 25 years this year, Christkindmarkt is a one-of-a-kind family event that brings the spirit of Bethlehem alive with the season. *(Anyone planning to come to this trip must be able to self-medicate in order to attend.)*

Cost: \$650



“Escapes” Preliminary Registration Form

Complete this form and return by mail to: Sophia Sofokles, Henry F. Cox Center, 28 Bull Road, Campbell Hall, NY 10916, or Fax: (845) 427-2087, or email: sophia.sofokles@thearcoforange.org. If you have any questions, please call Sophia at (845) 427-2077 (x2134). **Please do not send any money towards a trip with this registration.**

Vacation(s): *You are welcome to participate in more than one vacation, but please specify if you would like to attend both trips listed.*

_____ / _____ / _____
(1st Choice) / (2nd Choice)

___ I would like to attend **only** my 1st trip of choice, or 2nd choice if the 1st is not available.

___ I would like to sign-up for **both** of the above trips listed.

Name of Traveler: _____ B: ____/____/____ Age: _____

Name of Residential Group Home: *(If applicable)*

Address:

Primary Contact & Relationship to Traveler: *(Please specify - Self; Parent; Legal Guardian; Residential Mgr; MSC; etc.)*

Name: _____

Relationship to traveler: _____

Phone:(_____) / Cell:(_____)

Fax:(_____) Email: _____

Please complete the following, (If applicable): Ambulation Difficulties: Yes / No Visual Impairment: Yes / No Assistance with

Personal care: Yes / No Sleeping Difficulties: Yes / No Dietary Restrictions: Yes / No Anxieties: Yes / No

Self-Medicating: *(for trips out of State without a nurse)* Yes / No

If you checked Yes to any of the above please explain, attach a separate sheet if necessary:

Signature & Title of person completing the application _____ Date: _____

