

# Unifying Voices & Votes

## An Industry Impact Report

Prepared by Florida ARF  
April 2003

### Florida ARF Mission Statement

The mission of Florida ARF is to promote the interests of people with disabilities or challenges to independence by acting as a public policy change agent, and to promote and serve the interests of community human service provider organizations.

### Florida ARF Vision Statement

Florida ARF is the premier trade association for providers serving individuals with disabilities, which accomplishes the following:

Causes the legislature and policy-makers to take positive action, recognizing community organizations as experts.

Focuses on its members' needs by generating networking, information sharing, technical assistance, and resource development benefits for members.

Increases limited resources to maximize value by focusing on generating additional revenue that benefits the organization and decreases economic dependency on membership.

When two are of one mind, their strength can cut gold. -  
Chinese proverb

## Who we are

The Florida Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (Florida ARF) is the premier professional industry association for advocacy, information, and networking. Florida ARF is a leader in the initiation of public policy change to promote and protect the interests of individuals with disabilities and the community human service provider organizations, which provide them with quality services. Florida ARF members understand the power and importance of joining forces to improve the lives of citizens with disabilities. With an organized and unified public policy voice, Florida ARF strives to ensure sound public policy outcomes that protect the health and safety of individuals with disabilities.

## Who we represent

As the voice of **over 100** human services provider organizations in Florida, Florida ARFs membership spans the state with members in the Northern, Central and Southern regions. With members headquartered in both Wisconsin and Indiana, several of the Association's Florida-based members operate in various states across the nation, as well. Likewise, with its RESPECT of Florida program, a service mark of Florida ARF which provides employment opportunities to people with disabilities, Florida ARFs scope reaches **64** community rehabilitation organizations, certified to participate in the program, helping to generate over **1600** jobs annually for individuals with disabilities, saving the State of Florida an estimated **\$1.1 million** in taxes with the reduction of subsidies and other supports for these individuals. Moreover, the union with the Georgia Association of Training, Employment and Supports (GATES) in 1999 expanded Florida ARFs reach and influence even farther. Representing the voice of **21** community organizations in Georgia, Florida ARF is dedicated to enhancing and promoting quality programs and services for Georgia citizens with disabilities and other barriers to employment or self-sufficiency, as well.

## The Industry Impact

By joining forces through association with Florida ARF our members collectively pose a considerable impact on the rehabilitation industry. Florida ARF members provide a cadre of services and supports to individuals with disabilities to facilitate improved quality of life. Our members provide services to Florida's children with disabilities age birth through 21, receiving funding to do so in part from the Department of Education, Children's Medical Services/Part C, the Department of Children and Families Developmental Disabilities program, and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services. Too, many of Florida ARFs members provide an array of community supports to individuals with developmental disabilities, including adult day training, residential habilitation, respite, and personal care assistance. Our members strive to increase employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities through the provision of vital employment services, such as supported employment, job coaching, and vocational evaluation. Likewise many of our members operate Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled (ICF/DD). Florida ARF members unify its legislative voice and influence through its member driven Government Relations Committee. Similarly, the Florida ARF Legal Advocacy Committee joins forces to ensure the legal rights of individuals with developmental disabilities are protected.

Consider the impact statements for the year 2001/2002 on the following page as an illustration of the powerful influence of unifying an industry's voices and votes.

# The Industry Impact

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## The Economic Impact of Florida ARF Members

Collectively, Florida ARF members paid **\$229,975,286.61** in the form of **salaries** and **benefits** to a total of **11,925** people **employed** by its organizations.

Collectively, Florida ARF members operated **programs** that **generated \$408,527,365.76** this year.

## The Economic Impact of Florida ARF Members Through Service Delivery

As a result of the services provided, collectively, Florida ARF members' clients earned **\$44,944,249.20** from **competitive** and **other employment** arrangements.

## The Industry Impact of Florida ARF Members

Collectively, Florida ARF members **provided services** to **143,444** individuals with disabilities this year:

- Placing **8,923** of those individuals into **competitive employment**
- Providing **26,685** with **employment services**
- Providing **4,365** with **24-hour residential care**
- Providing **12,339** with **day program services**
- Providing **24,812** with **clinical services**
- Providing **31,400** with **referral services**
- Providing **40,934** with **case management services**, and
- Providing **2,909** with supported living, companion services, early intervention services, personal care, in-home supports, transportation, ICF services, respite, skilled nursing and **other services**.

# The Florida ARF Membership

Abilities Inc. of Florida  
Achievement and Rehabilitation Centers, Inc.  
American Habilitation Services, Inc.  
Ann Storck Center  
ARC Marion  
ARC of Martin County, Inc.  
ARC South Florida  
Bethesda Lutheran Homes & Services, Inc.  
Brevard Achievement Center  
Broward Children's Center  
CARC-Advocates for Citizens with Disabilities  
CCDH  
CHAC  
Community Outreach, Inc.  
DDMS-Fern Park Development Center  
Deslin Enterprises  
Devereux Florida  
Eidetik-Amelia Island Care Center  
GF/Orlando, Inc.  
Goodwill Industries of Central Florida, Inc.  
Goodwill Industries of SW Florida  
Goodwill Industries Suncoast, Inc.  
Goodwill Industries-North Florida  
Goodwill Industries-South Florida  
Gulfstream Goodwill Industries, Inc.  
Human Development Center

Jewish Community Services of South Florida, Inc.  
Key Pine Village  
Lakeview Center, Inc.  
LARC, Inc.  
MacDonald Training Center  
MACTown  
Mains'L Services, Inc.  
MENTOR  
Palm Beach Habilitation Center  
PARC  
Pine Castle, Inc.  
Polk County Association for Handicapped Citizens  
Quest, Inc.  
Res-Care, Inc.  
Research and Service Foundation  
Residential CRF, Inc.  
Sandy Park Development Center  
Spectrum Community Services  
St. Augustine Center for Living  
Sunrise Community, Inc.  
Threshold, Inc.  
Tri-County TEC  
UCP of Northwest Florida  
UCP of South Florida  
Victory Living Programs  
WORC

*Florida ARF*

*Advocating for Rehabilitation's Future*

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