

Community Inclusion

The principle of community inclusion implies that every person has the right to participate in the mainstream of community life. Integration into the community provides models for people who need to learn social skills. It provides a chance for people in general to learn that people with mental handicaps are more like other people than different from other people. SCARC, Inc., provides many opportunities for community inclusion, including shopping trips, trips to the library and banks.

Fund Raising

The SCARC, Inc. Benefit Golf Tournament is usually held in late winter. Golfers and sponsors combine to help make the tournament a successful fundraiser.

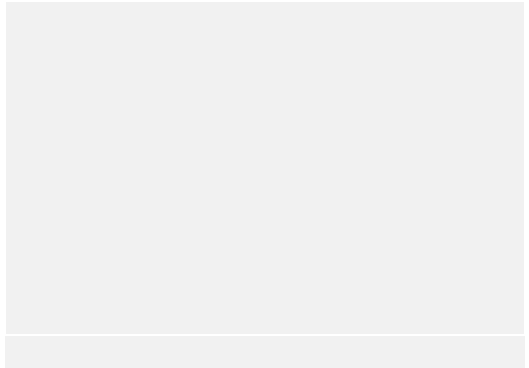
The Future

In the coming years, SCARC, Inc. will continue to expand its training and service program to serve the needs of the expanding population of individuals with developmental disabilities.

What Can You Do To Help?

The strength of the SCARC, Inc. is its membership. The greater the membership, the greater the impact upon the community. Join the association, attend the quarterly meetings, and be involved. Your membership and donations are tax deductible.

Volunteers are always needed to supplement the efforts of our staff. The adult education instructor needs volunteer tutors for students. All volunteers are oriented and trained for work at SCARC, Inc. Call for more information.



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Serving Sumter County since 1974

**A Member of
Florida Association of Rehabilitation
Facilities (FARF)**

Funded in part by:

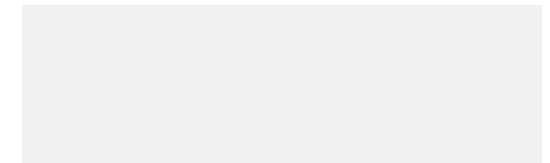
Agency for Persons with Disabilities

**United Way of Lake &
Sumter Counties**

**Sumter County Board of County
Commissioners**

Sumter County School Board

**Foundations, Grants, &
Charitable Donations**



History and Purpose

The SCARC, Inc. is a private, non-profit corporation organized in 1974 by a group of individuals concerned about persons with mental handicaps. The purpose of SCARC, Inc. is to serve the citizens of Sumter County who are mentally handicapped and to promote the general welfare of all persons who are mentally handicapped.

In 1977 SCARC, Inc. opened the first (and only one in Sumter County) activity center for mentally handicapped adults. In 1981 the activity center was changed into a work program providing work training, basic education, daily living skills, socialization, social work, medical and behavioral management, and employment.

A volunteer board of directors set the policy and rules of the association that govern SCARC, Inc. Services are funded by the Medicaid Waiver, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the United Way of Lake and Sumter, Sumter County government, Sumter County School Board, charitable contributions and local fund raising.

Facts About Mental Handicaps

Everyone can learn, but for some learning is slower and requires special instruction and repetition. Those who lag significantly behind in their rate of learning are labeled mentally handicapped.

When given this special instruction, persons who are mentally handicapped can learn to do most of what a non-handicapped person can do. People who are mentally handicapped feel, think, and hope just like everyone else.

Evaluation, Training & Employment Center

The overall goal is to improve the quality of life for all adults who are mentally handicapped and to increase their community independence and acceptance.

The program operates Monday through Friday year round. It is located in Bushnell at 213 West McCollum Ave. The School Board graciously leases the building to SCARC, Inc. for \$1.00 per year.

Individualized training is provided for each individual served concentrating on skills needed for independent living. Adult basic education classes are held weekly emphasizing practical skills such as reading, telling time, handling money, cooking, and basic computer skills. The instructor is provided by a grant from the school system.

Employment

A primary emphasis at SCARC, Inc. is work. All individuals are employed in various work activities and all are paid for their work based on their ability. The more productive employees are paid more for their work. The program operates under a sub-minimum wage certificate issued by the Department of Labor and is monitored for compliance with Wage and Hour laws.

Crews work on a sub-contract from local industry assembling and packaging items. Workers are paid piece-work. Another crew performs the custodial work at the SCARC, Inc. building. Lawn crews are scheduled year round mowing, raking, and maintaining yards for customers. A staff member who organizes the work and trains the crew supervises each crew. For all workers at SCARC, Inc. their jobs are a source of pride and evidence of personal achievement.

Supported Employment

For individuals interested in working in a competitive job in the community, SCARC, Inc. offers Supported Employment Coaching. A staff member assists the individual in securing the job, training on the job, and maintaining the job.

Companion & Personal Care Assistance

Companion Services provide to individuals non-medical care, supervision and socialization activities including such tasks as meal preparation, laundry and shopping as well as light housekeeping tasks. SCARC, Inc. is registered as a provider of Companion Services by the Agency for Health Care Administration. (Registration Number: HCS227500) Personal Care Assistance is a service that assists an individual with eating, bathing, dressing, personal hygiene and activities of daily living.

Transportation

All individuals are transported to and from their homes daily on vans operated by SCARC, Inc. The Department of Children and Family Services, Developmental Services funds the transportation.

Residential Services

For individuals interested in living independently in the community, SCARC, Inc. offers a Supported Independent Living Program. A staff member assists each person to reside in a home of is/her own choosing.

For individuals interested in living in a more supervised and supported setting, SCARC, Inc. offers group home services. Group homes are staffed 24-hours per day, 7-days per week. Staff provide training and assistance in all areas of daily living.