

GWArc, Inc.

Summary of Accessibility Plan for FY 14

Introduction: The ADA Accessibility Plan FY14 was written by a committee comprised of the CEO, CFO, Program Directors and GWArc consumers. This is the sixth year with addition of consumers to the committee and adds the perspective of the persons served. GWArc continues to strive for accessible space, modifications, materials and programming for its consumers and their families/guardians. While all programs meet ADA specifications, the committee will seek additional changes to improve GWArc.

Some initiatives are ongoing, as they cannot be completely achieved in one year. New initiatives strive to increase and strengthen consumer voice and choice at GWArc.

Goals for the coming year:

Architectural –

- Seek larger programming space (ongoing)

Environment –

- Assessment/modification of room usage and furniture, materials storage for greater accessibility by consumers in both locations

Attitudinal Changes –

- Ongoing education of stakeholders in People First language; additional opportunities for consumer input into programming choices; consumer and staff training in cultural competency

Communication –

- Consultation with assistive technologies communication expert/purchase of communication devices, both programs. Continued annual information sharing sessions to consumers on Operational Plan, Performance Analysis, Accessibility Plan, Certification reports, Board of Directors Three Year Strategic Plan and annual budget; Sign language classes for staff and consumers

Finances –

- Seek additional funds for capital improvements, program modifications and workforce development

Employment –

- Increase marketing of GWArc consumers as employees and BIS Mail Services to community; ; market EPT saleable product

Transportation –

- Use of GWArc accessible van and accessible vendor transportation options for recreation programming; grant writing for additional funds for trips.

Conclusion: GWArc considers the Accessibility Plan to be of utmost importance and we work to overcome barriers to consumers, family/guardians and our employees. We will strive to meet and overcome these barriers in a challenged economy and with level funding from our funding sources.