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Dear Friend of SCARC:

As we begin the season of giving, we ask you to consider making a financial contribution to this year's SCARC Foundation annual appeal. Your commitment to people with developmental disabilities makes an impact and really changes lives.

My family has had a very unique and special journey with SCARC that began just a few years ago, when my husband and I became legal guardians for Rebekah. Rebekah was born in 2002 and was promptly diagnosed with Down Syndrome. She was raised by her mother in Sussex County, where she attended public school. I met Rebekah and her mother in 2016 when she enrolled in the high school program where I was the lead teacher. Over the years, our parent-teacher relationship developed, and we became a team working for the benefit of Rebekah's future independence. In 2020, Rebekah's mother was diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer. At that time, my husband and I began helping care for Rebekah, so her mother could recover from treatments unit sadly, she passed in 2021.

From a young age, Rebekah's mother was able to access SCARC Family Support Services, including respite care and summer camp. These services were invaluable to a single mother, working extra shifts to make ends meet. In addition to providing respite and recreation services, the Family Support personnel at SCARC truly went above and beyond to advocate for Rebekah and her family.

Navigating the system can be very overwhelming and challenging for families, and the professionals at SCARC really helped to make the process smooth. Personally, my family and I would have been lost without the support of SCARC Guardianship Services. With the emergent need for someone to care for Rebekah upon her mother's passing, we worked closely with SCARC Guardianship and could not have asked for a better experience. We were fortunate that Rebekah and her mother had a history with SCARC. The SCARC Guardianship team worked swiftly and diligently to get us through the process. Remarkably, these guardianship services (countless phone calls, emails, zoom meetings, reference checks, etc.) are offered to families pro se – at no cost. This would not be possible without the generosity of our donors.

Rebekah has been part of my family for three years now. She has transitioned from high school to the adult world in that time and is adjusting very well. In addition to pursuing independent employment, she is also attending the SCARC Explorers Program twice a week.

The Explorers Program provides community-based day habilitation. Rebekah absolutely loves the staff at Explorers, and she has made many friendships there as well. The Explorers take daily outings in their community. Through generous donations, they are able to offer a dynamic schedule of events, including bowling, movies and dining.

I have consistently been impressed by the great care provided to the individuals that SCARC serves. There is an obvious and intentional focus on dignity and respect. Direct support staff are given extensive training and are prepared to work with individuals of varying abilities and needs. It has been comforting for Rebekah and myself that she has a safe, friendly environment to grow and thrive.

Our family is very fortunate to have the SCARC family of services in our lives. We are grateful for the continuing support the SCARC Foundation provides to SCARC and SCARC Guardianship, which has enabled all of these meaningful programs, opportunities, and facilities for so many individuals with developmental disabilities.

SCARC services are simply the best and deserve our financial support. **Please consider a gift to the SCARC Foundation Annual Appeal of \$100, \$250, \$500, or \$1,000** --- or whatever fits into your budget. Also, keep in mind that your donation is tax deductible and can be made via credit card online at <https://bit.ly/scarcfoundation-donatenow>

On behalf of The SCARC Foundation, we wish you and your families a safe, healthy and peaceful holiday season.

Sincerely,

The Fusco Family

The Fusco Family



SCARC Foundation – Annual Appeal Campaign

- \$1,000 Benefactor**
- \$500 Friend of SCARC**
- \$250 Supporter**
- \$100 Contributor**
- Other Donation** _____
- I would like to include SCARC in my estate plan**
- This gift is made in memory or in honor of:

- My company has a Matching Gift Program.
Enclosed is my matching gift form.



Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City, ST, Zip: _____
 E-mail address: _____

Please make your check payable to SCARC Foundation, Inc. and return with this form in the envelope provided.

OR

Credit Card: Visa MasterCard Amex Discover

Card# _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____

Signature _____ Zip Code _____

Thank you for your generous support!