

# Soundings



Volume 35, Issue 3



September 2024

## FROM KATIE

by Katie Miyakado, Executive Director

*"We value sharing life together with all our differences.  
We live the call and challenge of community."*

*—The Charter of the Communities of L'Arche, Core Value 2.3*



Katie and Carie team up for vacation fun!

What a time these last couple of months have been in my first year in the new role!

Over the past few months, we've renewed our commitment to deepen and strengthen our connections at L'Arche Tahoma Hope as a community by remembering our Cooperative Communication guidelines. These guidelines focus on abundance, generosity, openness, equality, respect and trust—values that help us share life together with all of our differences.

You will see these qualities in the poem Karisa wrote to celebrate her first year as an assistant at L'Arche (on page 2).

Keeping our essential values in mind, we are also paying attention to our wider community in this issue. Please join us in recognizing our service partner Sound Athletics, the local Special Olympics

Team (on page 3). Sound Athletics has worked closely with L'Arche Tahoma Hope especially in getting us back out there after the intense COVID lockdowns. This team has shared incredible joy, not only with us but with everyone involved in their programs.

**Finally, I do hope you'll join us at L'ArcheFest on Saturday, October 5, 2024.** It will be sweet to share and celebrate life together as the days grow shorter once more!

*Katie Miyakado*



# A YEAR IN L'ARCHE

by Karissa Leland, Assistant

Where a house becomes a home,  
Where friends become family,  
Where connection is found on the other end of a comb,  
Where a little chaos is the reality,

Where pizza and ice cream go together,  
Where cocoa on Tuesdays is a must,  
Where chocolate makes everything better,  
Where songs are sung as teeth are brushed,

Where art is created,  
Where farmers make bouquets,  
Where walls are decorated,  
Where Kenny G plays,



Where messes are made,  
Where jokes are told,  
Where prayers are prayed,  
Where pranks are pulled,

Where smiles are worn,  
Where tears are shed,  
Where hugs are warm,  
Where souls are fed,

Where patience is learned,  
Where love is given,  
Where trust is earned,  
Where mistakes are forgiven,

Where the door is always open,  
Where "bomps" are given,  
Where barriers are broken,  
Where life is liv'n



## We're Hiring!

"Where connection is found  
on the other end of a comb."

Find out more at:

[larchetahomahope.org/employment](http://larchetahomahope.org/employment)



# SOUND ATHLETICS: FEATURED SERVICE PARTNER

Founded in the fall of 2002, Sound Athletics is an official local program of Special Olympics Washington. This program provides "a fun and safe environment for athletes of all abilities, ages 8 and over, to participate in athletic endeavors." All events are FREE to participants.

Angela Smith coordinates the teams for several different sports from the fall through the spring. She reached out to L'Arche Tahoma Hope just after the pandemic restrictions were lifted, hoping to encourage core member participation. Ever since then, several of the L'Arche core members have been active participants in events that bring joy to the athletes, coaches, volunteers, and fans.

Sound Athletics offers bowling and powerlifting in the fall, basketball and cheer in the winter, and track and field in the spring. Angela says that board members Amber Rice and Brenda Schrader have provided incredible support to the program. Amber is also a uniform coordinator and spokesperson while Brenda is the head coach for the track team. Shannon Smith is the powerlifting head coach for powerlifting head coach, and Shirley Coville coaches cheer, a very popular and gender-inclusive team.

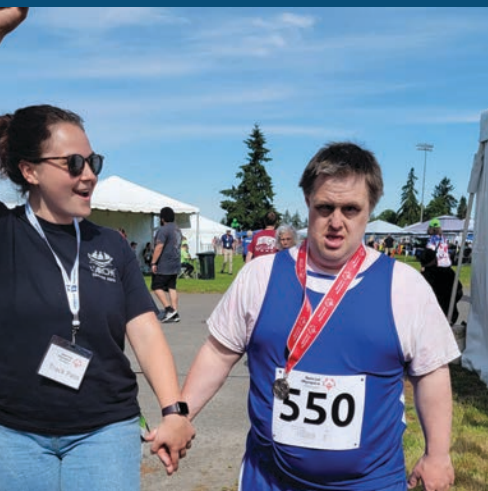
Entirely run by volunteers like these, the non-profit Sound Athletics organization holds a Lap-a-Thon Fundraiser in May that supports all of the sports for the year. Special Olympics Washington supports Sound Athletics by organizing the competition events. In the past, they've also held an amazing all-expense paid State Games at the end of each season. Angela says, "Spending a couple nights away with competition, dinner, and a dance has been pretty epic!"

Angela has noticed that transportation and communication are sometimes a challenge. But she says that watching the athletes improve and succeed while having a fabulous time more than makes up for any struggle with logistics.

In the future, Angela would love to see more athletes and volunteers finding joy in this incredible non-profit and the sports available to them. L'Arche is proud to have Sound Athletics as our featured 2024 Service Partner!

**Want to volunteer for Sound Athletics?** Angela says to reach out! There are lots of opportunities and it's easy to sign up.

You don't have to be at every practice or event to participate as a volunteer. The leaders and athletes are super flexible and appreciate any time you have to come out.



**Angela Smith: Program Coordinator**  
soundathletics.org  
soundathleticspierce@gmail.com



# FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT, BILL HOSKYN

L'Arche Tahoma Hope has experienced financial challenges this past year because COVID-related government support came to an end. However, we have a solid financial foundation and a strong network of donors and friends like you to draw from as we continue working towards our mission. Our community is also blessed to have a committed board of directors, our enthusiastic and passionate Community Leader Katie Miyakado, and a dedicated team of staff members.



Bill celebrating with Les

With your ongoing financial support, we can continue to be an example to our fractured society by lifting up the gifts of our core members and bridging differences through mutual relationships.



## TRIBUTE DONATIONS



Listed below are tribute donations we have received in 2024. We accept these gifts with gratitude for the honoree as well as for the generosity of each donor.

### In Memory of:

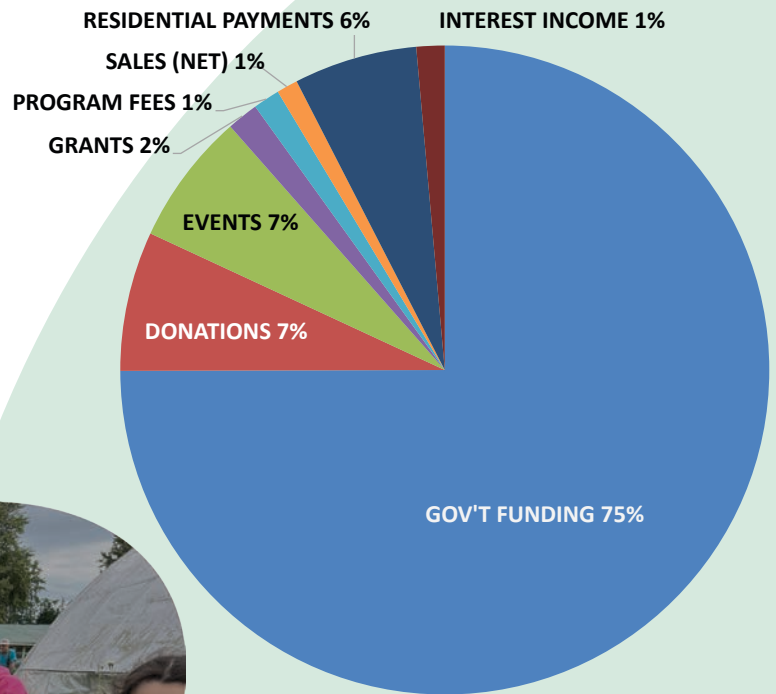
- Thomas Beale
- Bob Colombini
- Sr. Jude Connelly, OSF
- Alex Griffin
- Dorothy Harris
- Marjorie Hudacek
- Harold Marcoe

### In Honor of:

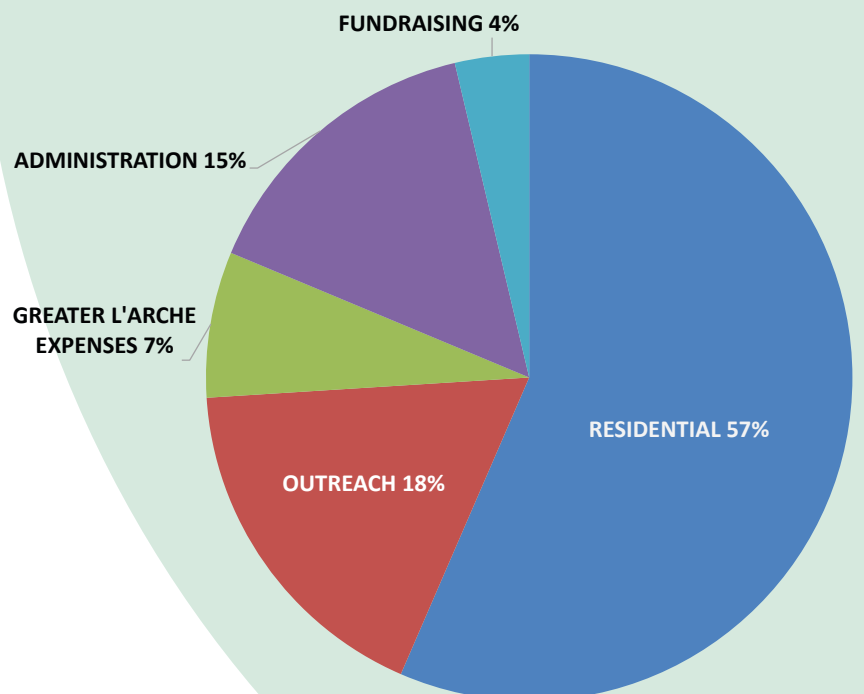
- Fr. Phil Burroughs, SJ
- Laura Green
- Patrick Toohey

# 2023 AT A GLANCE

## INCOME: \$3.2 million



## EXPENSES: \$3.4 million



431 donors



# SUMMER VACATIONS...



# THEY WERE FABULOUS!





12302 Vickery Ave E  
Tacoma, WA 98446



12302 Vickery Ave East, Tacoma, WA 98446  
(253) 535-3178, info@larchetahomahope.org  
Tax ID # 91-1206208



## October 5, 2024

6:30pm - 9:00pm

William Bichsel Hall,  
St. Leo Parish



**\$75/person**

### TICKET PRICE INCLUDES:

- Oktoberfest menu with bratwurst, pretzels, salads, and apple strudel (vegan options included)
- Two drink coupons for wine or beer provided by E9 Brewing Co.
- Smilin' Scandinavians Polka Band
- Dancing

### EVENING ALSO INCLUDES:

- Silent auction with boozy baskets
- Winewall
- Cakewalk



### REGISTER ONLINE:

[larchetahomahope.org/larchefest](http://larchetahomahope.org/larchefest)

*THIS IS A CASH-FREE EVENT. YOU MUST REGISTER ONLINE.*

*Proceeds benefit L'Arche Farm & Gardens*