



11 US Route 206, Suite 100
Augusta, NJ 07822
Phone: (973) 383-7442
Fax: (973) 383-0106
www.scarcfoundation.org

October 21, 2025

Dear :

As we begin the season of giving, we are writing to thank you for your generous support of the SCARC Foundation in the past and to ask you to consider making a financial contribution to this year's annual appeal. Your commitment to people with developmental disabilities is making a difference and really changes lives.

Our daughter and sister, Alyssa, has always found immense joy in music and movement. She loves to clap and dance along to her favorite songs. If you know Alyssa, you know this is a fundamental part of her personality. She loves it so much, that you could almost say as long as there is a playlist and a speaker, Alyssa has everything she needs. Of course, her needs are far more complex than that. Alyssa is non-verbal and needs assistance to do daily life tasks like eating, bathing, and dressing. Like all of us, she needs structure, stability, and community in order to engage with the world around her.

After Alyssa aged out of school, we asked the question most SCARC families can relate to – what's next? Fortunately, we found SCARC's day programs and Alyssa started at the Fredon Center. After some time, the building that housed the Fredon Center closed and Alyssa joined the Clark Center, located in a new building. The Clark Center program was the most appropriate fit for her skill level. SCARC is always growing and improving to meet the needs of their participants, so they opened another new building that offered two programs based on different needs and abilities. One of those programs -the James Dykstra Center, was a perfect fit and Alyssa continues to thrive there today.

All of the SCARC day programs Alyssa has been part of provide a place where she can be around her peers, participate in activities, and have a routine that is essential for her well-being. The consistency and predictability of her days offer a sense of security that is incredibly beneficial. We have always appreciated SCARC's diligence in making sure that Alyssa is in the most appropriate placement and offering her new opportunities. Without these SCARC day programs, we fear her life would be less fulfilled.

Alyssa was a participant in SCARC day programs for almost 20 years when the subsequent "what's next" question came up again. It was time to determine Alyssa's permanent living arrangements. The emotional toll of worrying about Alyssa's future, coupled with the logistical and financial burden of finding appropriate care, can be overwhelming. We also knew we didn't want to contend with an emergency placement if it could be helped. Thanks to proactive and ongoing conversations with SCARC staff, we were able to seize a great opportunity to keep Alyssa in the organization she's known and move her into SCARC's Lenape Group Home.

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Alyssa remains close to home to allow frequent visits and the ability to join our family for holidays and vacations (like our trip to the beach this summer pictured below). She is also able to continue regular attendance at the Dykstra Center Day Program.

The support we received from SCARC was a huge help in this process, guiding us through the intricate paperwork, appointments, and decisions that come with securing proper care. It is a profound act of trust to place the care of your loved one in someone else's hands, and it is difficult to imagine anyone caring for her as we do. However, we have been able to trust SCARC with that responsibility, and the relief it has brought has lifted a tremendous weight from our shoulders. The dedicated and compassionate staff have truly become an extension of our family.

We are asking you to **consider a personally meaningful 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 Skowronski Family
The Skowronski Family



SCARC Foundation – Annual Appeal Campaign

- ☐ **\$1,000 Benefactor**
- ☐ **\$500 Friend of SCARC**
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Thank you for your generous support!