



**2014 ANNUAL REPORT**  
*Building Community Together*



## MISSION

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For 39 years, the Associated Recreation Council (ARC) has provided recreation, lifelong learning programs and community-driven leadership in partnership with Seattle Parks and Recreation. With a goal of providing equitable access to citywide programs for Seattle residents of all ages, ARC works through 37 volunteer Advisory Councils to fulfill its mission of **building community through citizen engagement and participation in recreation and lifelong learning programs.**

## VISION

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To provide **equitable, dynamic and responsive** recreation and lifelong learning programs for every Seattle resident.

## VALUES

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- » **Citizen Engagement and Participation:** Involved citizens make our community and neighborhoods better places to live, raise our families and recreate.
- » **Equitable Access:** No matter where they live, who they are or what language they speak, Seattle residents deserve to know about and to have a broad range of quality recreation and lifelong learning opportunities.
- » **People:** Residents' interaction with dedicated, diverse and caring staff and volunteers are keys to Seattle's quality of life.
- » **Community:** People thrive as individuals when they have a sense of belonging to their community and have opportunities to come together to recreate, socialize and learn.
- » **Accountability:** Integrity and transparency of decisions affecting program, finance and people are fundamental to public trust.

## TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF:

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### A PARK DISTRICT FOR SEATTLE

In August 2014, Seattle voters approved the formation of a metropolitan park district, a taxing district that will provide funding for Seattle Parks and Recreation. This includes financial support for maintaining parklands and facilities, operating community centers and recreation programs, and developing new neighborhood parks on previously acquired sites. This exciting development will ensure more and sustained resources for community centers and recreational programs, leading to restored hours and staffing.

Concurrently, Seattle Parks and Recreation initiated the search for a new Superintendent. In the fall of 2014, Acting Superintendent Christopher Williams announced his intention to step down in 2015 and the Mayor's office conducted a national search for his replacement. The new Superintendent, Jesús Aguirre, will take over on a full time basis in June 2015, with Mr. Williams staying on as Deputy Superintendent.

These developments will usher in a new era and direction for Seattle Parks and Recreation, reshape its partnership with the Associated Recreation Council, and enhance our joint capacity to meet community needs.

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Dear Friends,

I am pleased to present the Associated Recreation Council's (ARC) annual report highlighting significant accomplishments and financial results for the year ending December 31, 2014.

If I was asked for a single word that best summarizes the work of ARC, that word would be "community." Community is reflected in the very way ARC is structured as an organization, in the reach of its many programs and services, and in the thoughtfulness and care with which it delivers those services in close collaboration with Seattle Parks and Recreation.

One measure of community is by numbers. Every year, tens of thousands of Seattleites turn to Seattle Parks and Recreation and ARC for enriching preschool and school age care programs, sports and educational opportunities, and recreation and social activities. In 2014: 1,500 students per month accessed before and after school programs; 1,500 elementary and middle school students participated in enrichment classes; 2,000 youth and adults used RecTech computer labs for help with homework, to learn a new tech skill or for career development; 1,200 youth attended summer day camp; and 4,300 individuals with special needs participated in athletics, took art and cooking classes, went on field trips and had a summer camp experience.



More importantly, community is made up of people – of our neighbors, friends and family, of the community center and program staff who tirelessly work in the interests of others, and of volunteer Advisory Council members who step up to represent their community and ensure that it is well served.

Throughout this report, you will see this theme repeated – with good reason. In the way each Advisory Council represents and reflects their community and occasionally goes beyond their own neighborhood to help our entire community thrive. In the way ARC provides a forum for youth from all over Seattle to learn from and celebrate our diversity. How a community center, like Jefferson, can be more than just a building and set of playfields, but serve as a hub for the community to gather, learn, play and grow. And how even a single program can be tailored to instill a sense of community values and service into teens who yearn to give back to their neighborhood.

I hope you share my appreciation for this sense of community and hold it up as a worthy yardstick to measure everything that we do. Thank you for being a part of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charlie A Zaragoza". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Charlie Zaragoza  
Board President

# NORTHWEST



## ADVISORY COUNCILS

- |                 |                   |                                       |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Ballard      | 4. Discovery Park | 7. Magnolia                           |
| 2. Bitter Lake  | 5. Green Lake     | 8. Rowing (Green Lake)                |
| 3. Carkeek Park | 6. Loyal Heights  | 9. Seattle Canoe & Kayak (Green Lake) |

## PRESCHOOL

ARC provides accessible, affordable and convenient Preschool programs for children ages 3-5 at 13 community centers and facilities throughout Seattle. Each program follows a recognized standard curriculum tailored to the specific needs and interests of each site, providing hands-on, child-centered learning and fun-filled activities. In fact, the range of activities might surprise you. Up at Queen Anne Community Center, the Fresh Air Pre-K program visited the Pacific Science Center, arranged monthly story-time visits to the local public library, learned about the human body and the anatomy of bones, and learned to recognize the signs of spring by planting seeds and potting tomato plants. The Green Lake Learners program learned about the cycle of recycling – where trash goes and how it creatively gets reused.



## ALIVE & WELL

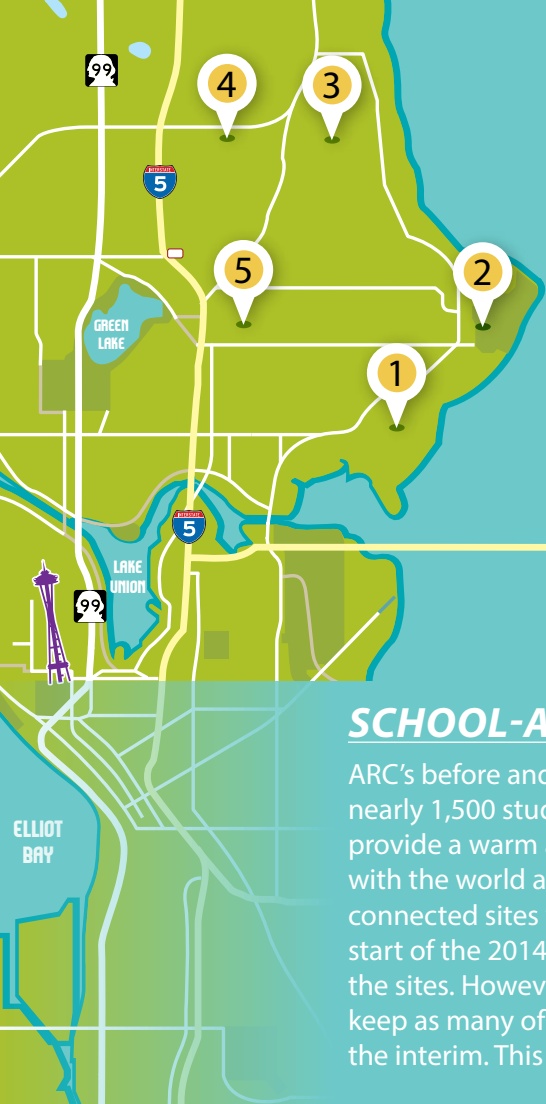
Sitting in a darkened theatre at the Seattle International Film Festival's main offices in Seattle Center, one cannot help but be moved by the images flashing across the screen – a stunning short film chronicling and paralleling the ongoing civil rights struggle with the movement's groundbreaking marches and rallies of the 1960s. The documentary, *Alive & Well*, is a product of the RecTech program at Rainier Community Center and was produced with support from the Adobe Youth Voices Project. As compelling as the film is, so is the backstory of its production – a collaboration of talented RecTech alumni who were drawn to digital media through the program and are pursuing further education in hopes of a related career. In fact, it stands as a clear example of the intent and impact of the RecTech program to provide opportunity, access and education to youth in digital media so they might thrive in the classroom, the workplace and in their community.

Khrishar Williams started attending drop-in hip-hop production classes at the Rainier RecTech lab in January 2012 – he currently is studying audio engineering and ethnic studies at Shoreline Community College. Trey Hughes attended his first summer RecTech internship in 2012 and quickly proved to have a knack for music and video production. In 2013 he was invited back as a student lead and was instrumental to the success of that year's programming and deliverables. He is currently pursuing these passions at Bellevue College. Jeremy Mar participated in the 2013 summer internship and spent much of his time directing and editing a powerful film short in honor of Trayvon Martin. He often visits the lab to mentor and advise high school students and is currently studying video production at Shoreline Community College. As a member of the EMP Youth Advisory Board in 2013, Sam Stocking was assigned to photograph a RecTech presentation in EMP's Sky Church and was quickly hooked. Since then he has been a regular participant in RecTech audio production classes where he makes meaningful music. He recently graduated from Roosevelt High School and will be pursuing audio engineering courses in the fall.

**RecTech**, ARC's technology access and education program, works to bridge the digital divide by providing technology access, training, and opportunities for personal and career development. Currently offered at Delridge, Rainier, Rainier Beach, South Park and Yesler Community Centers, RecTech is a leading community resource building stronger, more engaged communities through quality technology programming.



# NORTHEAST



## ADVISORY COUNCILS

- |                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 1. Laurelhurst | 4. Northgate        |
| 2. Magnuson    | 5. Ravenna-Eckstein |
| 3. Meadowbrook |                     |

## SCHOOL-AGE CARE

ARC's before and after school programs form a durable core of our offerings to families and youth, serving an average of nearly 1,500 students per month at 14 community centers and 6 elementary schools throughout Seattle. These programs provide a warm and nurturing atmosphere where children are encouraged to develop an active curiosity and connect with the world around them. As an example, in 2014 the programs participated in the city's Farm to Table program, which connected sites with local farms and provided healthy food for morning and afternoon snacks. This core was shaken at the start of the 2014-15 school year with Seattle Public School's cost-saving decision to cancel many of the bus routes serving the sites. However, the value of the program to many hundreds of Seattle families was evident as they quickly rallied to keep as many of the programs open as possible by petitioning the School Board and arranging alternate transportation in the interim. This is a true testament to the value our School-Age Care programs bring to the greater Seattle community.

## NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

Advisory Councils sit at the very heart of the Associated Recreation Council's partnership with Seattle Parks and Recreation. Made up of volunteer community members dedicated to representing the needs and interests of their neighborhood, the Councils advise and oversee programming, raise funds to help sustain or add additional activities, and ensure that each community center remains responsive to community needs. But there is another story that deserves to be told.

Every year, Advisory Councils step beyond the boundaries of their own neighborhood to support other Councils, community centers and programs with fewer resources or where a specific unmet need has come up. The examples are many. The Ravenna-Eckstein and Meadowbrook Advisory Councils have supported Magnuson Community Center in offering a free summer day camp experience for formerly homeless youth. The Lifelong Recreation Advisory Council supported the installation of new flooring in a facility in Magnuson Park. The Laurelhurst, Jefferson, Ballard and Lifelong Recreation Advisory Councils have supported the Specialized Programs Advisory Council in sustaining its programs for youth and adults with special needs. This is just the tip of the iceberg and testament to the generosity of Advisory Councils in looking beyond their own immediate needs to consider the broader community we all share.

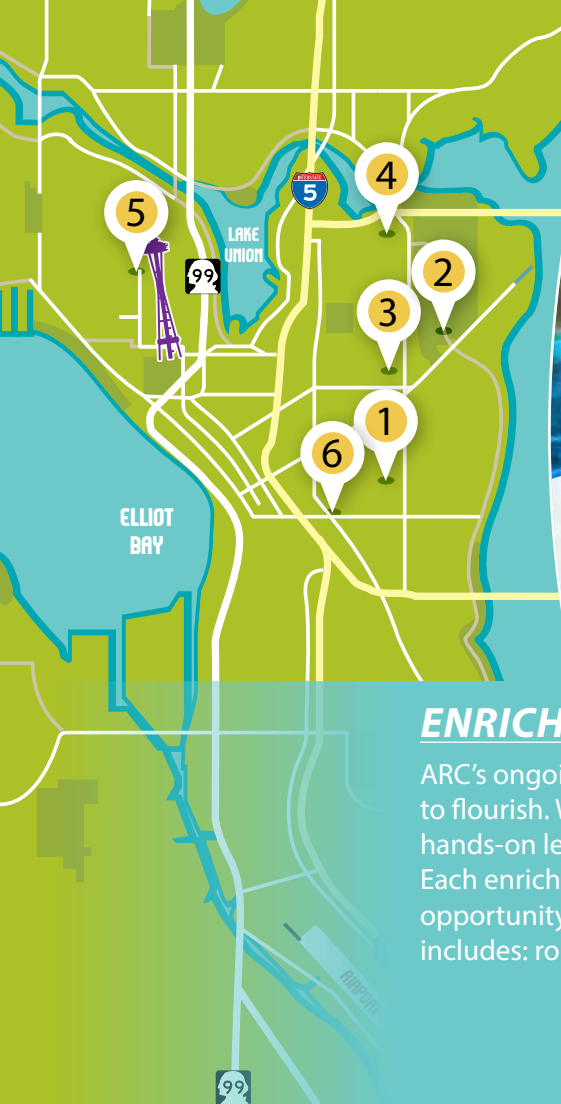
*In all, there are **37 Advisory Councils** representing each community center and several citywide programs. If you are interested in learning more about or joining an Advisory Council, contact your local community center or go to [www.arcseattle.org](http://www.arcseattle.org) for more information.*



**IN ADDITION TO THE ADVISORY COUNCILS LISTED THROUGHOUT THIS REPORT BY LOCATION, THREE ADVISORY COUNCILS REPRESENT CITYWIDE PROGRAMS:**

- » Lifelong Recreation
- » Specialized Programs
- » Sports

# CENTRAL



## ADVISORY COUNCILS

- |                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. Garfield        | 4. Montlake   |
| 2. Japanese Garden | 5. Queen Anne |
| 3. Miller          | 6. Yesler     |

## ENRICHMENT

ARC's ongoing partnership with Seattle Public Schools in delivering out-of-school time enrichment classes continues to flourish. With the addition of Stevens and Sacajawea Elementary Schools in 2014, the program now delivers fun, hands-on learning experiences to more than 1,500 students in seven elementary and middle schools across Seattle. Each enrichment program is designed to complement classroom instruction during out-of-school hours and provide opportunity for students, regardless of means, to augment their education. Class content varies by location and includes: robotics, carpentry, drama, Mandarin Chinese, Spanish, karate, science lab and engineering with Legos.



## **COMING TOGETHER, BRIDGING THE GAP**

In August 2014, an extraordinary event occurred on the playfields adjacent to Garfield Community Center. More than 1,200 kids attending 17 summer day camps from across the city came together for one phenomenal day of play. Bridge the Gap was the brainchild of childcare site directors Maya Williams and Andrew Appelwick (*pictured right with field supervisor Brandee Paisano*). The idea first started to form a few years back when the two noticed a real separation between the north- and south-end day camp sites. "This wasn't just a program difference, but one that was clearly reflected at directors' meetings as far as where one would sit and who would participate in what activities during the summer." This realization led to a larger discussion that sparked the idea for an event. The two decided 2014 was the time to make an impact and they hit the ground running! They reached out to other school-age care directors with the vision of connecting all the programs across the city in one fun-filled day.

The goal of Bridge the Gap is to connect all of ARC's summer day camps and encourage kids and staff alike to interact in a way that promotes understanding and community. This was an event for all of our participants to come together as one and shorten the literal and figurative distance that too often separates our various neighborhoods. Bridge the Gap is truly a team effort between ARC field supervisors, Parks' community center staff, event committee members and teen volunteers to pull it all together. The inaugural event exceeded all expectations and will continue in 2015.



# SOUTHWEST



## ADVISORY COUNCILS

- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. Alki      | 4. Hiawatha   |
| 2. Camp Long | 5. High Point |
| 3. Delridge  | 6. South Park |
|              | 7. Southwest  |

## SUMMER DAY CAMPS

Summer is the busiest time of the year for the Associated Recreation Council. From the end of June through the beginning of September, ARC works with Seattle Parks and Recreation at 33 locations throughout the city to provide fun and enriching summer day camp experiences for children ages 3-17. Upwards of 1,200 youth participate in the core summer day camps each year, with hundreds more attending week-long specialty camps. Each year as we ramp up for the beginning of camp season, new and existing staff are thoroughly trained in areas of activity development, camper safety and teambuilding. Each summer camp is deeply rooted and tied to the community it serves and service projects are frequently part of the camp experience. Theme and activity-based camps are thoughtfully designed to meet the varied interests of any young camper – from traditional sports and arts camps to specialty camps such as “Girl Powered Engineering FUNdamentals”, “Mad Science”, “Lions, Tigers and Squids, Oh My!”, and “Bash’em Bots” – and support continued learning and personal growth over the summer months.



## ***FINDING A VOICE IN THOSE 'TWEEN YEARS***

Hiawatha Community Center's Teen Program is a valuable part of the West Seattle community. There, teen program director Marcel Jones works with 6th-8th grade students from Madison Middle School in the afterschool hours. The Teen Program is an opportunity for youth in the southwest community to spend time in a constructive and supportive environment where they can learn and grow into young adults. Marcel has structured the program to be both educational and fun, focusing on the development of youth during the transitional years between elementary school and early adulthood. The program is structured, but also allows youth a level of freedom to choose activities within the program's framework. "We give them some independence, a little bit, but not too much," notes Marcel. "Giving them more freedom boosts their confidence and self-esteem."

A typical afternoon for the teens consists of 'hang-out' time, snacks, art projects or board games, homework time and time in the gym. Marcel has built a successful program at Hiawatha, one that is deeply rooted in the community and has seen youth return year after year and younger siblings follow their older brothers' or sisters' footsteps. Marcel, who grew up participating in the Seattle Parks and Recreation system himself, enjoys working with the youth. He welcomes the challenge of helping teens grow into adults, while teaching them that not everyone is the same – and that it's okay. Leading the Teen Program is fulfilling work that connects Marcel with the surrounding community and local families. It is also a daily opportunity for him to positively impact the teens who, not unlike Marcel is his younger days, turn to the community center as a welcoming place to learn and grow.





# SOUTHEAST



## ADVISORY COUNCILS

- |                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Amy Yee Tennis Center  | 4. Mt. Baker Boating |
| 2. International District | 5. Rainier           |
| 3. Jefferson              | 6. Rainier Beach     |
|                           | 7. Van Asselt        |

## SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

Seattle Parks and Recreation programs for those with special needs – collectively called Specialized Programs – served 4,330 youth and adults in 2014. As a program not linked to a specific facility or location, the program utilizes community centers, environmental learning centers, swimming pools and playfields citywide to offer classes, drop-in programs and single day events. This requires a great deal of coordination and program support from the community. That is where ARC and the Specialized Programs Advisory Council come in. The Advisory Council plays an integral role in supporting the program through its many creative fundraising efforts. Additionally, many Council members have personal ties to the program through family members and friends. In 2014 the Advisory Council was hard at work raising funds to support scholarships for adults, entertainment at summer camps, supplies for classes and activities, outreach, transportation and so much more.



## CENTERS OF COMMUNITY

To describe Jefferson Park and Community Center as a hub of the community would be an understatement. On any given day or evening, you'll find it a hive of activity: the tennis courts packed, the classrooms filled with preschoolers and school-age youth, the skate park hopping, basketballs bouncing or dancers dancing in the gym, meeting rooms alive with a community gathering or social event, golfers on the adjacent driving range and golf course, lawn bowlers enjoying a leisurely game, kids splashing in the splash park or playing on the slides and swings. Then there's pickleball, pottery, yoga, Pilates, badminton and Zumba! In summer you'll find the grounds full of young summer campers, family-friendly movies out on the lawn and even the highly popular neighborhood event – the Beacon Hill Festival (*pictured right*) – with dozens of volunteers engaged and giving back to their community. You might even catch a glimpse of cricketers on the far playfields. Yet for all its expanse of fields and facilities, it is the diversity of programs offered from preschool to seniors and everyone in between that draws the neighborhood in and that truly makes Jefferson a community center.

Jefferson may be unique in its scale, but not in its scope. Each of the 26 community centers throughout Seattle offers a wide-array of programs and activities for youth and adults of all ages. Each is overseen by an Advisory Council made up of community volunteers who work closely with the Center's Coordinator to make sure the needs and interest of their neighborhood are reflected in the activities available for all to enjoy. According to Jefferson Community Center Coordinator Doreen Deaver, "It's their center, not mine. My job is to find out what they need and make sure we deliver."



## FINANCIALS

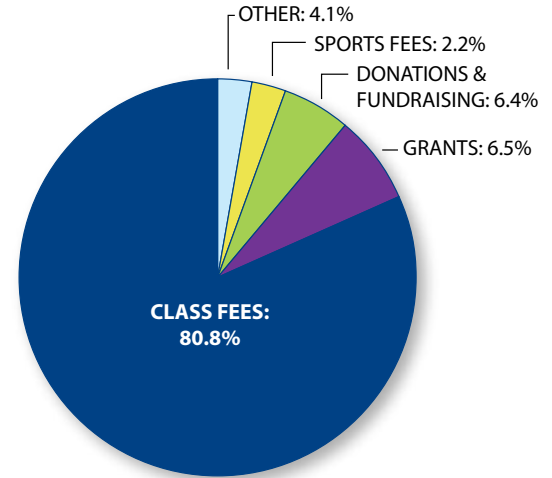
Associated Recreation Council revenue comes primarily from class fees paid by participants in hundreds of programs delivered through 26 community centers and related facilities throughout Seattle – nearly all of which is used to directly support and administer those programs and facilities.

ARC and its 37 advisory councils raise additional support through fundraising events, grants and generous contributions from dedicated individuals and businesses throughout our community. These funds allow us to offer program scholarships and improve service delivery, ensuring equitable access to high quality programming for all Seattle residents.

In 2014, **ARC awarded \$295,682 in scholarships** for childcare and recreational programming to ensure that low-income individuals, families and children are not turned away because of need.

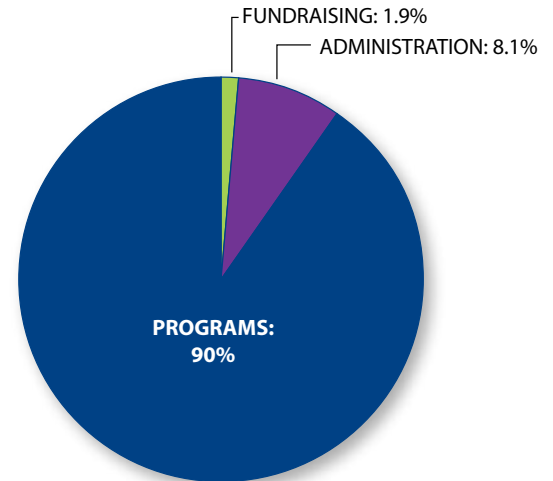
### WHERE IT COMES FROM...

<b>Class Fees</b> .....	\$10,795,710
<b>Grants</b> .....	\$868,912
<b>Donations &amp; Fundraising</b> .....	\$860,094
<b>Sports Fees</b> .....	\$296,587
<b>Other</b> .....	\$547,045
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b> .....	<b>\$13,368,348</b>



### WHERE IT GOES...

<b>Programs</b> .....	\$12,138,009
<b>Administration</b> .....	\$1,095,387
<b>Fundraising</b> .....	\$254,101
<b>Total Expenses</b> .....	<b>\$13,487,497</b>



## 2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charlie Zaragoza, *President – at large*  
William Lowe, *Vice President – at large*  
Julie Morse, *Secretary/Treasurer – Bitter Lake*  
Antoinette Angulo – *Parks Commissioner*  
Darrell Drew – *Magnolia*  
Tamara Driscoll – *at large*  
Douglas Dunham – *at large*  
Edith Elion – *at large*  
Jonathan Hartung – *Rowing*  
Trang Hoang – *High Point*  
Terry Holme – *at large*  
Jourdan Keith – *Parks Commissioner*  
James ‘Vic’ Roberson – *Rainier Beach, Sports*  
David Towne – *at large*

## ARC CENTRAL STAFF EXECUTIVE

Bill Keller, *Executive Director*  
Christina Arcidy, *Deputy Director*  
Naho Shioya, *Executive Assistant*

## PROGRAMS

Nick Adams, *Field Supervisor – Central*  
Jenifer Bales, *Field Supervisor – Specialized Programs*  
Megan Castellano, *Field Supervisor – Northeast*  
Susan Lee, *Field Supervisor – Southwest*  
Brandee Paisano, *Field Supervisor – Southeast*  
Traci Thirdgill, *Field Supervisor – Northwest*

# AWARDS

At our Annual General Meeting each year, we recognize Parks staff and Advisory Council and Board members for exemplary service. This year, the following were recognized for their outstanding support for our community:

## STAFF RECOGNITION

Jim Bautista, *Montlake Community Center*  
Tianna Scott, *Rainier Beach Community Center*  
Brian Gay, *Camp Long*  
Jeanie Murphy-Ouellette, *Camp Long*  
Jason Busbee, *Rainier Community Center*  
Karla Withrow, *Magnuson Community Center*  
Joanna Li, *Magnuson Community Center*  
Clifford Evert, *Magnuson Community Center*

## FABIOLA WOODS AWARD

James ‘Vic’ Roberson, *ARC Board/Rainier Beach  
Advisory Council/Sports Advisory Council*

## BOARD RECOGNITION

Antoinette Angulo, *ARC Board/Parks Commissioner*  
Darrell Drew, *ARC Board*  
Edith Elion, *ARC Board*

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Lori Chisholm, *Out of School Time*  
Angie Rummel, *Business Service Center*

## HUMAN RESOURCES

Sue Baumgart, *Human Resources Manager*  
Ron Bright, *Human Resources Specialist*  
Taryn Dorsey, *Human Resources Assistant*  
Lotte Mulder, *Training Coordinator*  
Tiffany Ngai, *Recruiter*  
Barry Saltzman, *Scheduling Coordinator*

## MARKETING

Regina Lum-Witkoske, *Marketing Coordinator*  
Katherine Ichinoe, *Marketing Specialist*  
Brenda Little, *Production Assistant*

## ACCOUNTING

Sharon Mauzé, *Accounting Director*  
Tamara Shtern, *Accounting Supervisor/Lead Accountant*  
Khalid Ahmed, *Accounting Assistant*  
Julie Chen, *Payroll Specialist*  
Karen Demeter, *Accounts Payable*  
Yuko McLinn, *Accounting Assistant*

## DEVELOPMENT

Joseph DiChiaro III, *Development Director*  
Rachel Sorrels, *Development Assistant*





**Associated Recreation Council**

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[www.arcseattle.org](http://www.arcseattle.org)