# **Fun Facts**

Each year Operation Santa Claus serves hundreds of Mecklenburg County children and adults who live with disabilities.

Operation Santa Claus partners with 12 direct service providers.

Operation Santa Claus has been a tradition of The Arc of Mecklenburg County for more than 40 years.

Each year volunteers are needed to help by donating, adopting, and shopping.

The Arc of Mecklenburg County has been serving children and adults with disabilities and their families since 1953.





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Creating Opportunities since 1953



# The Arc of Mecklenburg County

# Operation Santa Claus



## What is Operation Santa Claus?

The Arc of Mecklenburg County annually coordinates a special project that has been regarded as one of the best holiday service projects to benefit people with disabilities in the area. This project is special because we reach hundreds of Mecklenburg County children and adults who



live with disabilities. These children and adults usually do not receive gifts during the holiday season from any other source. Our agency works to fulfill their "wish list" of items they need for the coming year as well as, items they truly want.

Operation Santa Claus is a special project that spreads holiday cheer to

deserving children and adults in need, making their holiday a little brighter.

# Who is The Arc of Mecklenburg County?

We serve children and adults with disabilities and their families through advocacy and education. We provide a variety of programs and services that help children, adults, and families impacted by disabilities lead more meaningful and satisfying lives. The Arc of Mecklenburg County is a local chapter of the Arc of the US. We work to ensure that the approximately 70,000 Mecklenburg County citizens with intellectual and developmental disabilities have the services and supports they need to grow, develop, and live in communities across the nation.

### How You Can Help

#### Donate

Financial contributions are very important to this project and have a major impact on the amount of people we are able to help every year. We truly appreciate donations for this project, with each donation helping us to help one more person. A donation of \$50 will sponsor one child or adult and will go towards purchasing items they need and want that have been included on their "wish list".

#### Adopt

Adoption is also great way to help children and adults with disabilities during the holiday season. Adoption enables you to get involved with Operation Santa Claus and truly give back to those in need in our community. Adoption includes being assigned an individual along with their "wish list," shopping to purchase the items requested, and wrapping the gifts.

#### Shop

Shopping is another important element of this project. This is a fun and easy way to really get involved with Operation Santa Claus. It's also a special way to get to know more about the needs and wants of people who have disabilities.



#### **Get Involved**

We invite community agencies, local businesses, faith-based groups, families, and individuals to get involved with this project. We are grateful for the support that we receive every year to help us serve the deserving. Join us in making the holiday season a little brighter for disadvantaged children and adults with disabilities by helping us to fulfill their "wish list to Santa."

Contact us today to learn how you can get involved by donating, adopting, or shopping. We need your support. As Mecklenburg County continues to grow so does the need for projects like Operation Santa Claus.



We also have sponsorship opportunities available for large groups who would like to participate in this project.

All donations are tax deductible.

To get involved please contact Nancy Hughes at 704-332-4535, ext. 116 or nancy@arcmeck.org.