

Faces of Arion: **Marianne Mulligan**

Monthly Shout Out: **Bro Family**

Tell us a little bit about how you came to work for Arion. I started working with people diagnosed with developmental disabilities in 1982; it was a very interesting time. I met Ryne and Wendi Reed when we all worked for other private provider agencies around 1996. When they decided to try to provide better HCBS services with their own company, they asked me to join them. So, in March of 2005, after 22 years with another agency, I joined them in their endeavor.



I thought Ryne's philosophy of treating people well and paying them well was an awesome concept. It has been a wonderful ride! **You seem to be a "jack of all trades."** **What is your title with Arion? Tell us a little bit about what you do.** I do feel like a jack of all trades! My official title is Vice President of Operations; my job is to make sure everything runs smoothly. I do whatever I need to make sure we keep everyone as happy as we can – our staff, families, and state personnel. The Area Managers report directly to me. I ensure we are following all of the rules for all of the agencies that provide oversight to us. It is a great job and keeps me very busy. Confucius said "Find a job you love and never work another day in your life."

I would like to nominate the **Bro Family**. I say family because when Denise began providing Respite and Habilitation care approx. 4 years ago, her husband Keith and daughter Jenny followed in her footsteps. Denise Bro was my son's 2nd respite and hab provider.

At the time I was having issue finding a good fit for my family. (YES I have horror stories). Meeting Denise I was skeptical to allow my son to go out of the home for services. We found that this is the best way for him as an individual to learn how to become a successful person in today's world. Keith is just amazing with Elijah. At first Elijah was unsure about him, but soon learned to love Mr. Keith! Matter of fact they have the same hair do!). Elijah enjoys the male bonding time, it allows him to get outside influences and it is preparing him for the future. Mr. Keith has made a great impact on Elijah and our lives in general. Jenny Bro is Denise and Keith's eldest daughter. Elijah really enjoys his time with her. Jenny is the newest addition to our provider team. Elijah has learned to make friends, mature, and become an independent person. He has mastered skills that may not have been taught to him if it wasn't for a member of the Bro Team! I owe it all to the Bro family without you and your expertise I do not know where my family would be today! Thank you, Kimberly Kenworthy

Contact Sonia at sdykuizen@arioncaresolutions.com to nominate your favorite provider. Recipient will receive a \$50 gift card.

More on Marianne....

Dentistry & Oral Health

Changes I have seen: In the seven years that I have been with Arion, there have been so many changes. We have evolved into one of the largest HCBS providers in the state! When I started, my job was similar to an Area Manager. I had a caseload in addition to all of the things that I currently take care of. Some of you may remember having me as your supervisor! When we got too big for me to be effective in that role, we started hiring Area Managers and Area Supervisors and we just keep growing. It is wonderful to be able to provide such a great service to the families that need it. We have also recently expanded our programs to provide eldercare services and private pay services, and we are looking to expand our therapy programs and add Habilitation Master's and Bachelor's services. **Spare time?** What's that? Seriously, in my spare time, I try to get outdoors as much as possible – my current passion is hiking. You can find me on Piestewa Peak at least three days a week. I enjoy working out at the gym and eating healthy. My 23 year old daughter Kaitlin and I like to take a family vacation every summer. Our favorite destinations include a beach – and fruity drinks!!

The Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health (ASDOH) at A.T. Still University is proud to offer comprehensive special care dentistry for patients with intellectual, physical, and emotional disabilities, and other special healthcare needs. The special care suites, located at both our Mesa and Glendale dental clinics, are fully prepared with necessary equipment and specially trained providers to deliver compassionate dental care at affordable prices.

Services in the special care suites include, but are not limited to: exams, cleanings, sealants, fillings, crowns, bridges, root canals, periodontal therapy, dental implants, laser therapy, digital x-rays, and in-office sedation. They also have motorized wheelchair lifts at both locations to help make special care patients more comfortable during treatment. Please see link below for more information: http://www.atsudental.com/dental_services/special_care_dentistry.aspx?utm_source=Monday+Memo+June+25%2C+2012&utm_campaign=MM+06-25-12&utm_medium=email

Another dentist who works with special needs clients is Kevin Ortale. He is located at Bell Road and 7th Street. He accepts most insurances including Mercy Care. He sees many patients on the spectrum and with Downs Syndrome. He loves working with special needs and geriatric patients. See website below for more information: <http://www.kevinortaledds.com/>