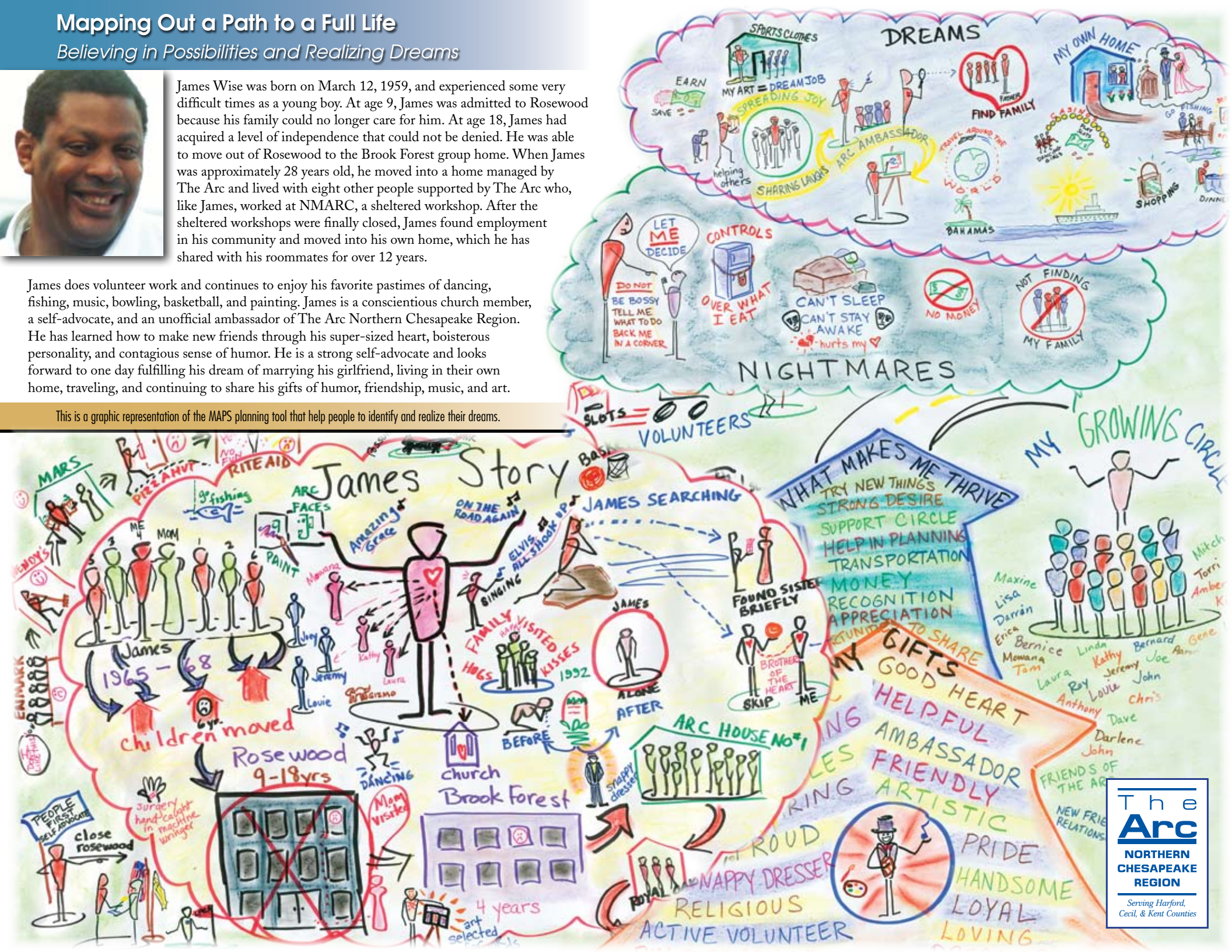
Mapping Out a Path to a Full Life

Believing in Possibilities and Realizing Dreams

James Wise was born on March 12, 1959, and experienced some very difficult times as a young boy. At age 9, James was admitted to Rosewood because his family could no longer care for him. At age 18, James had acquired a level of independence that could not be denied. He was able to move out of Rosewood to the Brook Forest group home. When James was approximately 28 years old, he moved into a home managed by The Arc and lived with eight other people supported by The Arc who, like James, worked at NMARC, a sheltered workshop. After the sheltered workshops were finally closed, James found employment in his community and moved into his own home, which he has shared with his roommates for over 12 years.

James does volunteer work and continues to enjoy his favorite pastimes of dancing, fishing, music, bowling, basketball, and painting. James is a conscientious church member, a self-advocate, and an unofficial ambassador of The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region. He has learned how to make new friends through his super-sized heart, boisterous personality, and contagious sense of humor. He is a strong self-advocate and looks forward to one day fulfilling his dream of marrying his girlfriend, living in their own home, traveling, and continuing to share his gifts of humor, friendship, music, and art.

This is a graphic representation of the MAPS planning tool that help people to identify and realize their dreams.



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