



# Adult Services presents... *The Buzz*

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*"If you think you can or think you can't, you're right."*  
-Henry Ford

## Keeping it Person-Centered

"Working/not working" is an analytical tool that looks at a snapshot in time from multiple perspectives. It is a way to analyze a situation to capture what is working or making sense within that situation as well as what is not working.

Benefits for the person include:  
1. Results in greater clarity about what needs to stay the same and what needs to change in person's life

2. Helps in determining goals/outcomes that help the person move toward a desired life

Benefits for staff include:

1. Teaches critical

thinking

2. Promotes better problem solving

3. Leads to clarity about what needs to change and what needs to stay the same

4. Supports a learning culture

5. Helps people gain perspective

6. Supports negotiation efforts, finding common ground and people feel listened to

This tool works best when focused on one part of a person's life (or issue). Try the following activity:

1. Put paper on wall
2. Draw a line down the middle
3. Put "working" on one

side and "not working" on the other side

4. Begin listing what is working and what is not, be specific. Ask yourself and person or group if the things that do not work can change. Identify what should be changed but will take more time.

5. Use this information to develop goals or outcomes for the person.

### EMPLOYEE FUN CORNER

#### WHICH LOCATIONS KEEP IT ALL IN THE FAMILY WITH THESE SISTERS?

1. OSGH AND JILL COURT
2. BRANCHBURG AND UNION AVENUE
3. ROCKY HILL AND SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

#### WINNERS OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MONTH JELLYBEAN COUNTING CONTEST:

BEVERLY ESCHBACH  
TRENICE OCASIO

THERE WERE 375  
JELLYBEANS!

## Gigi's Playhouse Features Arc Artist

On March 24<sup>th</sup> Scott Scalise, who lives at the Franklin Home attended the I have a voice 4<sup>th</sup> annual gala to benefit GiGi's playhouse. Scott participated in an art exhibition and his painting sold for



\$600.00. Scott looked great in a tuxedo and had fun dancing with friends.

Congratulations Scott and thank you from all the individuals that will benefit from the fund raising efforts at GiGi's.

## Making Our Mark in Trenton

The Arc of Somerset County Advocates for Change officers visited the State House in Trenton, NJ on Monday March 6th to celebrate Disability Awareness month. An information table was prominently displayed and the Officer were provided an opportunity to talk to elected officials about the important issues of their day-to-day lives. In addition to several legislators, the officers talked with the Department of Human Service Acting Commissioner Johnson. about their daily challenges, such as the need for wage increases for Direct

Support Professionals; increased recognition on their human rights; medical needs, as well as physical issues that affect their caretaking in the home. The Self Advocates also received a Proclamation from the Commissioner of Human Services



## 2018 Healthier Somerset: The Arc of Somerset Wins GOLD

Healthier Somerset announced the 2018 Healthier Somerset Healthy Workplace Recognition Award recipients which included The Arc of Somerset County with a Gold Level Award!

Awardees include:

**Silver** - Budd Van Lines, II-VI OptoElectronic Devices, Inc., Peapack-Gladstone Bank, Unity Bank

**Gold** - Allstate New Jersey, Alternatives, Bernards Township, Eli Lilly & Company, Insmed Inc., Natural Medicine & Rehabilitation, Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, OFS Fitel, Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, RWJUH Somerset, Sanofi, Somerset County, **The Arc of Somerset County**, Verizon

Way To Go!!!



## Important Dates

- June 20: Camp Open House
- June 21st: Arc Annual Meeting
- September 13th: Golf Outing Fundraiser for Camp Jotoni
- November 2nd: Gala/Reception
- November 30th: Holiday Resident Dinner

Coming Soon!

Dates and locations for:

**Program Family Get Together Events**

## Going Places with Computer Instruction

For many of our individuals, using a computer might be something new, although not a secret. Mary Scibelli, computer class instructor at Branchburg, has assisted in unlocking potential opportunities that access to computer technology may have for individuals. This class provides instruction regarding the mechanics of using the computer, using these tools to learn new things and as a method to express themselves. According to Mary, "There are so many different types of computer users in the world because there are so many different things that can be done with a computer. I take

this into consideration when I work with each consumer to help find something that will provide a challenge and a feeling of accomplishment." A variety of skills are addressed during this class such as eye-hand coordination, letter recognition and spelling.

Mary has observed significant progress in her students such as Donna. While Donna knows the letters in her name, she had difficulty sequencing them. Progression of instruction included letter matching and typing her name using a visual model on the computer. After practice, Donna was able to

type her name unassisted and by memory. She was very excited about her success and then proceeded to learn how to type the names of her peer students in the class.



The class incorporates a person-centered approach which can be seen through Mary's careful planning of each lesson. One such example is through the use of graphic-based interface of computers which can help the individuals learn to associate pictures with words through the use of an image search. Individuals are able to visually scan and identify a picture of

their favorite animal from a choice of pictures. This provides an opportunity to discuss and show their individual interests with their peer students.

The computer class is certainly creating a buzz with the individuals at Branchburg. Very much looking forward to seeing the progress to help the

individuals continue to challenge and express themselves through the use of computer technology!

## Employee Fun Corner Answer:

Adele Epps works at Branchburg and Doretha Casey works at Union Avenue

## Branchburg ATC Assists RWJ-Somerset Steeplechase Cancer Center Patients

Branchburg ATC partnered with Somerset County YMCA in February to create twenty two fleece blankets which were provided to patients from Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital - Somerset Steeplechase Cancer Center.

YMCA representatives were amazed that eight individuals and staff were able to put together such a large number of blankets within the four days allotted. at the Branchburg ATC site starting this spring.

As a result of this positive experience Trina Trent , Assistant Director at Branchburg ATC, has coordinated fleece blanket creations to occur directly at the Branchburg ATC site starting this spring.

Way to go Branchburg!



## Kevin Williams: Community Musician

Kevin Williams from Branchburg ATC, performed "Lean on Me" on the piano at Immaculate Conception Church (Somerville) in April. When attendees asked how he felt about his performance, he gave a thumbs up and said, "I did a good job. I would like to do it again". When asked if he ever gets nervous playing in front of people, he stated, "No, I do not get nervous". Surely Kevin could

give a lesson to many musicians who *DO* get nervous playing in front of an audience! Way to go, Kevin and we look forward to more piano performances in the future!



Looking for a fun opportunity?

Be a guest contributor for *The Buzz!*

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