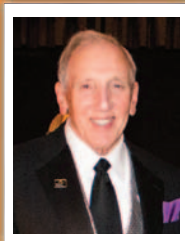




## A message from the Board President *Volunteers Make A Difference*



As a volunteer board member, I know firsthand the satisfaction and rewards of supporting a nonprofit organization.

The role of volunteers should never be underestimated or overlooked. As we come to the end of another successful year at The Arc of Somerset County, I wanted to take the time to acknowledge all of the volunteers who give their time, energy and talent to such an extraordinary organization.

Volunteerism has played a vital role in the success of The Arc of Somerset County since our beginning in 1972. It was volunteer families who initiated our first program and it has been volunteers who have allowed us to continue to expand our services for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities. Our volunteers are diverse, talented and dedicated individuals who have partnered with The Arc to ensure that our citizens with disabilities have the resources, services and facilities to fully take advantage of their community and all it has to offer.

See *Message* on page 3

### In this issue...

Arc Celebrates Volunteers  
and Students at 42<sup>nd</sup> Arc  
Angel Gala

# HERALD

*Celebrating More Than 40 Years of Service*

## The Arc of Somerset Hosts Student Trainees from The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities

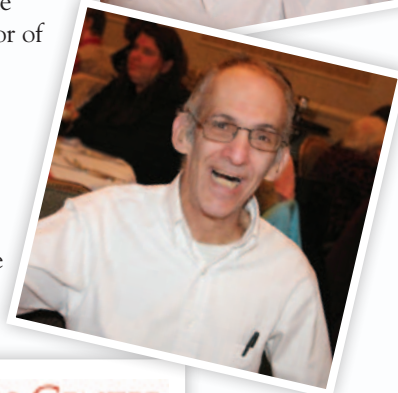
On December 15<sup>th</sup> and December 16<sup>th</sup> two of The Arc of Somerset County Group homes hosted graduate students from The Boggs Center's Interdisciplinary Traineeship Program as they gathered real world experience meeting with and learning about individuals with developmental disabilities. On the evening of December 15<sup>th</sup>, The Franklin Group Home residents hosted a doctoral student in psychology and a Masters candidate in biological sciences. On December 16<sup>th</sup>, The Ardsley Group Home hosted two Masters Degree students in Social Work and one Masters Student in Biological Sciences and Public Health Programs.

The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities, part of the Department of Pediatrics at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, is New Jersey's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Education, Research, and Service. As part of the center's Interdisciplinary Traineeship Program, which prepares pre-service personnel to serve individuals with disabilities and their families in the community, The Boggs Center works with students from a variety of disciplines including social work, public health, psychology, and biological science.

The visit to the group home was one requirement of the traineeship program. The primary goal of the visit was to interact with the group home residents and to learn about their lives. This experience allowed the students to step out of their professional/student role and interact with the residents on a more personal level. As the students come from different academic programs, they were able to share the unique perspective of their respective disciplines with each other.

Visits like these allow future experts in the field to interact with consumers and develop an awareness that can only come through spending time with people in the places they call home and hearing their stories in their own words. "The most important learning for our students comes through direct interaction and experience with people with disabilities and their families. This was a wonderful opportunity for our students to learn from the group home residents," said Carrie Coffield, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Interdisciplinary Training Coordinator at The Boggs Center.

The Boggs Center and The Arc of Somerset County also recently collaborated on a two-year pilot project funded by New Jersey's Division of Developmental Disabilities to bring person-centered systems and tools to providers and other state partners.



**RUTGERS**  
Robert Wood Johnson  
Medical School

**THE BOGGS CENTER**  
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

## The Arc of Somerset County MISSION

The Arc of Somerset County provides quality services and advocacy for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families to support development and achievement at every stage of life.

### The Arc Board Of Directors

President ..... Ron Slahetka  
Vice President ..... Tim McKeown  
Secretary ..... Debra Albanese  
Treasurer ..... Stefanie Irwin  
Immediate Past President . Eric Mandelbaum

### *The Arc acknowledges members of the Board of Directors*

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Michael Stefani              Jay Reyes

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Information Technology..... Lance Flooden  
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Parents and Children Together (PACT)  
..... Jeanne Guarnieri  
Quality ..... Lisa Intili  
Director of Residential Services.. Stella Ecep

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141 South Main Street  
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## Arc Celebrates the Fall and Holiday Season with Friends in Our Community

Each year, The Arc of Somerset County is thrilled to work with various local organizations, groups, and individuals to ensure that the holidays are a truly special time for those we serve. We would like to acknowledge the following for their contributions toward a festive season at The Arc:

- The Arc's Maintenance & Clinical Services Departments for sponsoring dinner and dancing for our persons served. This collaborative effort created a fun Halloween party for all. Special thanks to Herr's Potato Chips and The Somerset Patriots for helping support this very special event. Additional thanks are owed to the VFW Post 2290 of Manville and Cyle Conners for their donations!
- The Lion's Club of Warren for coordinating the Thanksgiving basket-drive for close to 100 Arc families and group homes. We are truly thankful for this drive that the Lion's conduct annually.
- Jewish Family Services of Somerset, Warren, and Hunterdon Counties for hosting a Hanukkah Celebration at The Arc Main Office. 2014 marked the fourth year for this partnership.
- The United Way of Northern New Jersey for including persons served by The Arc of Somerset County in their annual "Gifts of the Season" program. This gift drive ensures that all members of the community receive at least one special present for the holidays. Santa came on the morning of December 18<sup>th</sup> to surprise the children at The Jerry Davis Center and distributed these gifts to each child at the center. Smiles were miles wide!
- The Courier News for featuring several stories about Arc consumers and families in their 2014 Wish Book. We are happy to report all



Continued on page 3





Arc individuals will have their wishes granted by the generosity of the Courier News readers!

- Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for hosting their annual holiday celebration for the Commons Apartments.
- Henkel Corporation's B-Now group celebrated the holidays for the third consecutive year with the residents at Commons Apartments by hosting a pizza and ornament making party along with Santa stopping by bringing gifts for all!
- The Kiwanis Club of Somerset Hills hosted a Holiday pizza and cupcake party at The Warren Group Home on Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>
- L'Oreal's Franklin Manufacturing Plant adopted two families from The Arc; a PACT Program Family (Parents and Children Together) and an Early Intervention family Thursday and Friday December 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, and gave Christmas gifts to their children, gift cards to local retailers to the parents and a prepared meal from Kettlebell Kitchen.
- The Arc's many generous donors that ensure that Arc consumers and families will continue to enjoy lives filled with growth, development, and achievement well beyond the holiday season.



*Message, continued from page 1*

This year we have had the distinct honor to work side by side with over 1,000 volunteers. From grade school students to interns; from corporate volunteer efforts to individuals; from local churches to local businesses, our volunteer partners have been a consistent presence in our programs supporting the individuals that we serve.

All of our volunteers have collectively and individually played a vital role in the success of The Arc and, more importantly, have positively impacted the children, adolescents and adults who participate in our programs. Certainly, their efforts have created lasting effects and friendships in our organization.

Our volunteer's commitment to community service has had an enduring impact on The Arc of Somerset County and the over 1,000 individuals and families we serve. Through volunteerism, leadership and philanthropic efforts, volunteers helped to shape The Arc's vision for individuals with disabilities and have created possibilities for those we will serve in the future.

We celebrate all of our volunteers for their extraordinary contributions to The Arc of Somerset County, the individuals and families we serve, and the community as a whole.



# Arc Celebrates Volunteers, and

The Arc of Somerset County celebrated their 42nd Arc Angel Gala “Celebrating Volunteerism” on Friday evening November 14<sup>th</sup> at Fiddler’s Elbow Country Club in Bedminster, New Jersey.

The event Chairman Circle Sponsor was B.W. Bosenberg Corporation. AT&T was the Media Sponsor, Henkel Corporation, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, David & Kristin Lees, Andy and Ann Silwanowicz were the Benefactor Sponsors. For the seventh consecutive year, NJ Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli served as the event emcee.

The evening began with Assemblyman Jack Citarelli who recognized three Somerset County High School seniors who were honored with the “*The Angels Among Us*” award, which celebrates the volunteer accomplishments of high school seniors who make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities.

Among the three recipients were Leanna Caswell, a senior at **Watchung Hills Regional High School in Warren** who was honored for her active role in the High School’s **Peer Outreach** elective course, where mainstream students work collectively with their special needs peers on a daily basis, as well as her work as a special needs swim instructor.

Laura Clarke, also a student of **Watchung Hills Regional High School** was awarded for her over 250 volunteer hours at a preschool and as a therapeutic equine instructor for students with special needs.

Laura Cavanaugh, a senior at **Immaculata High School** was honored for successfully exceeded over 1,000 hours of volunteer service working with HAPHA (Higher Achievement Programs for Handicapped Adults) and many other smaller groups that serve the special needs community.

The “*Halo Award*” for advocacy went to Evelyn Ramundo, an active member of The Arc of Somerset County community since 2003. Evelyn received the Halo Award for her role in the New Jersey Self Advocacy project where she has held a leadership position for several years and most recently lead the “Advocates for Change” group who met with New Jersey State Legislators on important disability issues where she gave testimony during an assembly budget hearing on March 18<sup>th</sup> and again on March 20<sup>th</sup> for National Disability Awareness Month.





# Students at 42<sup>nd</sup> Arc Angel Gala

Three very prominent corporate supporters of The Arc of Somerset County were honored with **"The Arc Angel Award"**. L'Oreal, Henkel and Janssen have collectively played a vital role in the success of The Arc and more importantly have positively impacted the children, adolescents and adults who participate in The Arc's various programs. All three companies have dedicated hundreds of hours over the course of the past 5 years in efforts that have enhanced the mission of The Arc and have created long lasting friendships within the organization.

This event would not have been possible without the efforts of the Arc Angel Committee. Thank you, Eileen Bradbury, Barbara del Grosso, Carol Fanning, Gail Maureen Ferraro, Kristin Lees, Lisa Pancoast, Carol Penn, Ann Silwanowicz, Carol Simonse, Barbara Vanderberg and Sue Vanderoeff!



## 2014 Arc Grant Achievements in Qtr 3 and 4

We are proud to recognize the following grant achievements this fall for The Arc of Somerset County:

- United Way of Northern New Jersey awarded \$15,750 for The Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families Playground upgrades
- Temple Har Shalom awarded \$1,284 for adaptive equipment to The Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families
- Ronald Mc Donald House awarded \$3,182 for The Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families
- Investors Bank awarded \$5,000 for Childcare Subsidy's to The Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families
- Janssen Pharmaceuticals awarded \$4,000 for Arc respite services.
- Dombal Vogel Foundation for \$5,000 toward The Arc of Somerset County's PACT (Parents and Children Together) Program

## 2014 Arc Donations in Qtr 3 and 4

- Bishop Janes United Methodist Church donated \$1,000.
- Knights of Columbus - NJ State Council donated \$1,109.
- Spooky Brook Ladies Golf League donated \$1,500.

## Volunteers Brighten The Arc

Companies from the local community shared their time, talent, and supplies during the fall of 2014 to spruce up an Arc group home and Camp Jotoni.



**October 9<sup>th</sup>** – Volunteers from CHUBB came to Camp Jotoni for some exterior painting work.



**October 16<sup>th</sup>** - Volunteers from Johnson & Johnson's IT Group painted our Rocky Hill and Cedar Grove Group Homes.



**October 21<sup>st</sup>** – Volunteers from Johnson & Johnson's IT Group also painted our Union Ave. supervised apartments and Warren Group Home.



**November 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Volunteer members from Janssen Pharmaceuticals came to Camp Jotoni for some winterization projects to help us close camp for the winter.

Thank you volunteers of Johnson & Johnson, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, and CHUBB!

For additional information about scheduling a volunteer project for your organization, team or group, contact Laura Ziegler at 908-725-8544 x 608 or via email at [lauraz@thearcofsomerset.org](mailto:lauraz@thearcofsomerset.org).

## Planned Giving and Foundation Information

### Did you know....

The Arc Foundation of Somerset County will work with you on planned giving deferred gifts for our agency?

Planned Giving is a gift a person decides to give at some future date or at the time of their death. Donors make planned gifts to charities to help ensure that the programs and services of a favorite charity continue to benefit others. Consult your attorney or tax advisor if you wish to explore your options on planned giving with The Arc Foundation of Somerset County or contact Lisa Marie Arieno to be invited to our free Seminar that will be held on March 31st at The Olde Mill Inn from 7:00pm-8:30pm. Refreshments will be served. Call 908-725-8544 x 610 to reserve your seat in advance.



## Home for The Holidays...

Fond memories of holiday traditions usually involve family and friends. The idea of HOME is at the center of these traditions.

For “Sunny”, home is a three bedroom ranch in Hillsborough, New Jersey – operated by The Arc of Somerset County, and family, are her two house-mates and the many Arc employees who support them on a daily basis.

“Sunny” was born with multiple and significant disabilities which made it difficult for her family to care for her at home. After attending a specialized residential school for children with disabilities, “Sunny” came to The Arc of Somerset County, where she has lived past 15 years.



As her name implies, “Sunny” has a happy outlook on life and, despite her many challenges, she enjoys her home and family very much. Depending on others to accomplish even the most basic of daily tasks, Sunny has come to trust and rely on her Arc family to help her live the life she truly enjoys. Whether visiting friends, working, going to the movies, shopping or attending summer camp, “Sunny’s” Arc family is always there to support her and to ensure she has what she needs. “Sunny” does not only receive support from The Arc, she also gives back by lighting up the home with her smiles and her caring nature.



During the holidays, family is particularly important and at The Arc, we are first and foremost, a family. Our family extends to those we serve, the families we support and the over 360 employees who help to pursue our mission and vision for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We provide more than just services; we provide care and unconditional positive support in a warm and welcoming environment that many, like “Sunny”, call home.

The Arc has been there for Sunny~ will **YOU** be there for The Arc?  
Would you like to pledge your support for the future of The Arc Mission?

Join the Realizing Dreams Legacy Society! ☐ I pledge to make a contribution of at least \$500 per year for the next 5 years.

Consider The Arc of Somerset County in your will. ☐ I would like to include The Arc of Somerset County in my estate plan.

How can I learn more about Planned Giving? ☐ Please contact me about Planned Giving opportunities and upcoming seminars.

Enclosed is my **tax-deductible donation of:** ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ (other) \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make my contribution by: ☐ Enclosed check made payable to The Arc of Somerset County

☐ Credit card (circle one) Visa, MC, Amex Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I work for a company that will match this gift: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

To make a contribution online, visit us at [www.thearcofsomerset.org](http://www.thearcofsomerset.org) and click the DONATE button.

The Arc of Somerset County • 141 South Main Street • Manville, NJ 08835 • 908.725.8544 x610



For people with intellectual  
and developmental disabilities.

141 South Main Street  
Manville, NJ 08835



**Somerset County  
United Way**  
Affiliated Agency

The Arc of Somerset County is a  
501(c)(3) organization.

***Achieve with us.***

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PERMIT # 1002  
NEW BRUNSWICK NJ

## Save the Date

### ***Step Up For The Arc Walk & 5K Run***

This year's event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at Duke Island Park in Bridgewater. This date will be confirmed in mid January. Visit our website for more information or to sign up as a runner or walker. T-shirt sponsorship opportunities are currently available.

Questions? Contact Lisa Marie Arieno at 908-725-8544 x610 or via email at lisamariea@thearcofsomerset.org

### ***Income Tax Reduction and Estate Tax Elimination Seminar***

Tuesday, March 31st 2015 from 7:00pm - 8:30pm at The Olde Mill Inn,  
Basking Ridge, NJ

You will discover how:

- The new tax law impacts you and your current estate plan
- Your IRAs and 401 (K)s are still targeted for double taxation and how you can avoid it!
- You can use your "Hidden Assets" to create substantial income tax deductions!
- You can use a "Zero Estate Tax Plan" to pass down more wealth!

This FREE seminar is hosted by Sal Salvo, co-founder of Summit Financial Resources and cofounder of the Institute for Family Wealth Counseling.

### ***Annual Membership Meeting & Awards Ceremony***

The Arc will honor its volunteers, staff, consumers, supporters, and community partners on June 9th from 5:30pm-8:30pm. Light refreshments will be served. The event is free and open to the public. Contact Lisa Marie Arieno at 908-725-8544 X 610 for additional information.

## Are you a member of The Arc of Somerset County?

There is still time to join The Arc in  
membership for 2015!

By becoming a member of The Arc,  
you lend your voice to a network  
of advocates dedicated to ensuring  
quality services are available for  
individuals with intellectual and  
developmental disabilities and their  
families.

Simply send your dues payment of  
\$25 to The Arc of Somerset County at  
141 South Main Street, Manville, NJ  
08835. All membership dues are tax  
deductible.

Questions? Contact Laura Ziegler  
at 908-725-8544 x608 or via email at  
lauraz@thearcofsomerset.org.