

Achievement

2015-2016 Annual Report



*Celebrating a successful year of providing
quality services and advocacy for
individuals with intellectual disabilities and
their families to support development and
achievement at every stage of life.*


The Arc[™]
of Somerset County
Achieve with us.



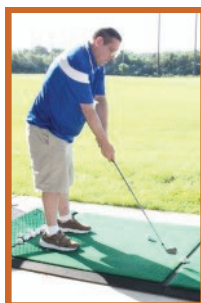
OUR MISSION

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.

Values Statement

The Arc of Somerset County believes that each person will have the opportunity to live and participate in the community regardless of the level of her/his abilities. We further believe that:

- *Each person is inherently valuable*
- *Each person can dream, grow, and learn*
- *Each person deserves the right to make meaningful choices about how and where they live, learn, work, and play*
- *A dedicated, highly qualified staff is essential to The Arc's ability to best support people with developmental and intellectual disabilities*
- *Each person deserves the opportunity for meaningful relationships*
- *Family and community involvement, at all levels, is essential to our mission*



Message from the Executive Director

Dear Family, Friends & Colleagues,

As we reflect on FY 2016, we are thrilled to share with you how The Arc of Somerset County continues to be a leader in disability advocacy and services in the community. On a county level, The Arc of Somerset County has launched important new projects in areas that showcase our expertise in the disability field.

In the fall of 2015, we launched the pilot phase of our new College based program, "The Achievement Center". Located on the campus of Raritan Valley Community College, The Achievement Center offers young adults with disabilities the opportunity to attend college alongside their peers in a supportive and collegiate environment. The goal for our students is much the same as any other college student, to engage in new experiences and relationships that will eventually guide them towards gainful employment and a career path. In the fall of 2016, the full roll out of the program will begin as well the initiation of new partnerships with several local high schools.



With the State of New Jersey moving towards a Fee for Service system, The Arc has begun to offer new services that will provide enhanced supports to individuals in the community. Two of our new programs are based out of our PACT (Parents and Children Together) program and are designed to provide intensive in home supports to children ages 5-21 who are experiencing difficulty with daily living skills and emotional / behavior challenges. The program's goal is to work with the child in their natural setting, while also increasing the skills of the parents and the success of the family as a whole.

Our children's services have also had an active year, participating in the "NJ Race to The Top" initiatives to help develop a rating scale for childcare providers and to help enhance the quality of daycares across the state. Our Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families was one of only a handful of centers chosen to participate in the pilot phase of this initiative – and we are the only child care center that serves children with disabilities in the pilot. In addition, on November 24th, 2015, The Jerry Davis Center for Children and families was awarded the 2015 Disability Advocate Award by the Somerset County Freeholders for their outstanding work in supporting and promoting children's educational, social and emotional well-being through their program offerings.

This past year we also continued our commitment to self-advocacy, which is a vital aspect of our work. Our self advocates participated in several important initiatives that will further our efforts to ensure that all individuals, regardless of ability, are given the opportunities and rights that all community members enjoy. The Arc of Somerset County's self-advocates were awarded an advocacy award at the State Self Advocacy Annual Luncheon and several of our self advocates efforts were acknowledge through individual awards. Our self advocates are at the heart of our organization and they have worked tirelessly and passionately to move our mission and vision for individuals with disabilities forward.

While FY 2016 presented us with its share of challenges, The Arc has been fortunate to achieve new gains on behalf of the community we serve, exceeding even our own high expectations.

Please join us as we look back on this year of tremendous growth and look forward to another outstanding year of service in FY 2017.

With warm regards,

Lauren Frary,
Executive Director



Children & Family Services



The Arc offers a lifespan of services that stretches from birth through the senior years of life. For the youngest of our service recipients, we offer the following services:

- Early Intervention, a program where therapists provide a system of supports for children birth to three years of age to help meet the developmental and health-related needs of the child.
- Developmental Daycare and Preschool provide educational and fun environments for children with and without disabilities.
- Respite programs to provide families with an opportunity for a break for the 24-hour care giving responsibility.



Early Intervention Childcare & Family – A Partnership for Success

Emma started childcare at The Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families in late December 2015 at the age of 27 months. Her parents were anxious to put her in a school environment and hoped she would adapt to a new setting. She was placed in the toddler room and began learning to focus within activity areas, and socialize with other children. She exhibited some signs of anxiety and fearfulness in this new environment with structure and demands. When she started, she wore a sensory pressure vest and demonstrated her own stubborn agenda and transitional issues.

Emma received Early Intervention services from The Arc of Somerset County practitioners to address needs in speech, fine motor and sensory issues, behavior and processing. Many of the services occurred in the classroom and the strategies are mirrored by her teachers. Quickly the combination of the small ratios, the partnership with Early Intervention, knowledgeable classroom staff and communication with the family began to pay off. Emma moved to the pre-school class and began to expand her social and language world. In a few short months she has learned to choose activity centers and play within that area by herself and with other students. She enjoys the freedom of the art center and the fun with others in the music center. Emma now uses a full sentence to request items and punctuates with ‘please’ and ‘thank you’.

Emma’s parents value the attention The Arc gives to Early Intervention practitioner placement and assignment. They communicate well with the staff and appreciate the interactions between Early Intervention practitioners and classroom teachers, especially with the language and sensory strategies that are reinforced regularly.

Emma has grown to know and respond to the expectations and routines. She no longer needs a pressure vest to maintain composure and regulation. The schedule and attention has given her confidence in knowing what is next and what she is capable of doing. Today Emma is a successful, happy little girl who demonstrates increased spontaneous language, is comfortable with peer play, and enjoys running around with her girl friends, twirling scarves and dancing to Taylor Swift.

In-Home Clinical and Therapeutic Services

The Arc of Somerset County is qualified by the State of New Jersey to provide Intensive In-Home Clinical and Therapeutic Services and In-Home Individual Support Services to children and youth up to the age 21 with developmental and/or intellectual disabilities who may also experience emotional and behavioral issues.

The goal of both of these face-to-face services is to:

- Assist children and youth in acquiring, retaining, and improving the self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills needed to function successfully in home, at school, and in community based settings.

Services Include:

- Intensive In-Home Clinical and Therapeutic Services delivered by licensed clinicians to children and youth who have experienced an acute episode of physical or mental disability or a long term mental illness.
- Individual Support Services assist children and youth who exhibit challenges when performing Activities of Daily Living (ADL) which are described as skills related to daily self-care activities such as eating, dressing, personal grooming, safety and community awareness, housework, managing money and communications.



Intensive In-Home Therapy

Beginning in 2015, The Arc of Somerset County began offering two state approved fee for service programs to children and youth up to the age 21 with developmental and/or intellectual disabilities who may also experience emotional and behavioral issues: Intensive In Home Clinical and Therapeutic Services and Individual Support Services. The goal of both of these face-to face services is to assist children and youth in acquiring, retaining, and improving the self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills needed to function successfully at home, school, or in community based settings.

Raul” is a 19 year old young man who lives at home with his parents. He enjoys basketball and baseball and is looking forward to graduating high school and getting a job. He has a developmental disability and receives special education services. As Raul grew older, his emotions became more intense, the interactions with his parents became more challenging. His parents realized they required assistance to understand more about the emotional and behavioral needs of their son.

His parents contacted the NJ Children’s System of Care, the agency that is committed to ensuring children, youth, and young adults receive the behavioral healthcare they need. The Arc of Somerset County received the referral and a Family Interventionist began providing Intensive In Home Clinical and Therapeutic Services to Raul and his family. The services concentrated on helping him learn anger management skills such as deep breathing and redirection. He has learned to use these coping skills to calm himself down when he gets angry and in just over six months the interactions between Raul and his parents have improved significantly.

While in the home, the interventionist realized that Raul could also benefit from Individual Support Services, which assist children who exhibit behavior challenges when performing Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) such as eating, dressing, personal grooming, and use of telephone. He was approved for these additional services and has another Family Interventionist working with him and his family in the home. Although these interventionists work on different goals, they coordinate their services so all skills are reinforced.

Raising a child with a developmental and/or intellectual disability can challenge a family’s ability to cope. The strategies and services that are now provided are brought together to foster stability and to enhance the quality of life for Raul and his family.

Adult & Senior Services



The Arc provides a range of services for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities that allow each individual the opportunity to live, work, and recreate in their own way. We provide:

- Safe and healthy places to live in the community.
- Employment opportunities ranging from center based work to community-based jobs.
- Specialized services to meet the changing needs of our persons-served as they age.

The Arc Supports New Friendships with Community Members

The Arc of Somerset County believes that each person we serve will have the opportunity to live and participate in the community regardless of the level of her/his abilities. We further believe that each person deserves the opportunity for meaningful relationships with family and community involvement, at all levels.

Our story is about Danny and his new relationship with a Branchburg Family from the Somerset County Community. This past year, one of our long term residents, Danny, experienced a new found friendship with his Camp Jotoni counselor, Ashley. Ashley is a second-year nursing student at Raritan Valley Community College who took a summer job at Camp Jotoni during the summer of 2015, and immediately experienced the rewards of working at a special needs camp. Ashley’s specialty of nursing and one-on-one care, made her a perfect match to work with Danny. Her connection with Danny went so well, that they both felt a deep sadness when camp season came to a close, and decided they would stay in touch over the fall and winter months.

During this time, Ashley shared her friendship with Danny with her boyfriend JR and his family. JR’s parents, Brenda and John and sister Victoria were very inspired by meeting Danny and suggested they all attend church on Sunday at Stonecrest Community Church in Warren Township. A church outing led to a mall outing, which then led to a family holiday gathering and now, Danny visits with the family almost every other weekend.

Danny’s high-spirited demeanor has been evident since the start of this new family friendship with Ashley and JR’s family. He looks forward to future outings and experiences and enthusiastically speaks of them as his “Family”. The Arc of Somerset County continues to encourage the community at large to develop friendships with the adults we serve and wishes Danny much happiness with his new family friends.

The Achievement Center at Raritan Valley Community College



The Achievement Center at Raritan Valley Community College provides students with intellectual and developmental disabilities the opportunity to participate in a fully inclusive college experience.



This transitional post-secondary program is a collaboration between The Arc of Somerset County, Raritan Valley Community College, and The Arc of Hunterdon County.

The Achievement Center at Raritan Valley Community College Pilot Two Successful Semesters

The Arc of Somerset County is proud to enter its second year of partnership with Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) and The Arc of Hunterdon County this upcoming September. “The Achievement Center” at Raritan Valley College is a three year post secondary educational program for students who recently graduated from high school or who are exploring options in their final high school year. The Center, which recently completed its pilot semesters, will welcome 11 new and returning students in the Fall of 2016. Offering advanced experiences in preparation for greater or more sophisticated employment outcomes as well as exposure to accessible college courses in the liberal arts and college life. Current Achievement Center students have already completed inclusive college courses, developed college plans and enrolled in computer literacy courses. Students attend classes designed to create both a college education and career plan while gaining access to the social and interpersonal experience of a busy college campus.

Students work with a peer mentors from the RVCC community and join increasingly more integrated subject classes as the three year program progresses. As part of The Arc of Somerset County’s Employment Services Department, The Achievement Center brings the assessments, job exploration and preparation activities typically associated with the job search process into an academic environment to allow students to develop their preferences and skills at a level offering more time and depth. Success in our first year has included a partnership with The Student Development Course Committee, an expansion to bring initial classes to area school districts and other community providers and our first student for-credit grade in an inclusive RVCC class. The Arc of Somerset County and its partners wish our new students well for the Fall of 2016 as they embark on the next phase of their learning life. Congratulations!

Camp Jotoni & Recreation



Camp Jotoni provides summer recreational services for campers from the age of 5 to 70+. Our programs consist of day camp, a residential program, travel camp, and an extended summer day camp, and respite weekends. All programs are adaptable to the unique needs and challenges of each camper. Social skills are an underlying theme to our programs in order to encourage growth and development for all campers.

Camp Jotoni Capital Campaign Update

In the fall of 2015, The Arc Foundation of Somerset County helped kicked off the Camp Jotoni Capital Campaign with a full presentation led by the architects and engineers responsible for the renovation designs. The event was well attended and significant funds have been received since then as the campaign seeks to raise over \$6 million. Moving forward the Capital Campaign will continue to secure finances that will provide growth in major capital projects which will include the construction of a new “Community Center”, full renovation to the cabins and dining hall as well as major paving and pool projects. Visit the camp website at www.campjotoni.org to learn more about Camp Jotoni’s Capital Campaign or contact The Arc Foundation of Somerset County to learn how you can contribute to this campaign by calling 908-658-3805 or email: lisamariea@thearcofsomerset.org

Camp Jotoni Expands Services As We Celebrate 40 Years of Service

As the need for respite and recreational services increases, our Camp Program has expanded to meet that need. For the past two years, Camp has seen significant growth in enrollment, which has led to the expansion of our program offerings and the hiring of additional staff, including international staffers.

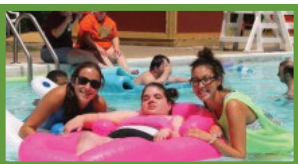
Our respite offerings now include weekend programs and travel excursions including a weekend at an indoor water park.

At the start of 2015, Camp Jotoni launched their first online application process for registration which streamlined the process for both our families and our staff.

2016 also marks the 40th year of service of Camp Jotoni. A celebration is planned for August 28th with a family and alumni party at the camp.

Camp Jotoni continues to receive immense support from corporate volunteers like L’Oreal, Chubb, Johnson and Johnson and more recently, Turner Construction.

Camp Jotoni’s mission is to provide recreation and respite services for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We look forward to the continuation of these programs in 2016 and beyond.



The Arc Foundation of Somerset County

The Arc Foundation of Somerset County

The Arc Foundation of Somerset County was created in 1999 to assist The Arc of Somerset County in meeting the increased need for community programs and services for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



Mission

The Arc Foundation of Somerset County will provide vital funding to the programs, services and supports of The Arc of Somerset County to ensure long term viability of The Arc of Somerset County for individuals with disabilities, their families and the community as a whole. The Foundation’s purpose is to promote, support, and further the interests and purposes of The Arc of Somerset County through fundraising and philanthropic activities.

Volunteer With The Foundation

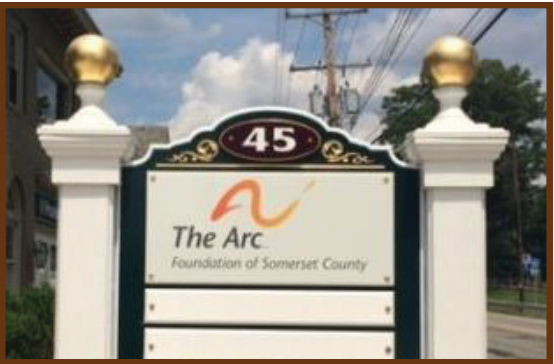
The Arc Foundation of Somerset County hosts two major fundraising events each year which help raise significant funds towards the programs and services provided by The Arc of Somerset County. These events include The Arc Angel Gala in the fall, and Step Up for The Arc Walk and 5K event in the spring. Please call for information to learn how to become an event committee member.

Request to Meet with The Foundation Director

You can request to meet with The Foundation Director, Lisa Marie Arieno to discuss the campaigns that are put in place that will help ensure the agency’s financial future. Some of these campaigns include:

- Planned Giving
- Charitable Trusts
- Bequests
- Gift Annuities
- Camp Jotoni’s Capital Campaign

Call 908-658-3805, e-mail: lisamariea@thearcofsomerset.org or stop by and visit the office at 45 Route 202 South, Ste 100 Far Hills, New Jersey.



Financial Report

THE ARC OF SOMERSET COUNTY, INC. AND AFFILIATES
 (A NEW JERSEY NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)
 Consolidated Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets (Projected)
 Year Ended June 30, 2016

	Unrestricted	Temporary Restricted	Total
Operating Support and Revenues			
Federal, state and county financial assistance	\$15,392,227		\$15,392,227
Tuition and fees	481,719		481,719
Rent	413,818		413,818
Contracts, Projects, Grants	249,866		249,866
Fundraising	120,000		120,000
Contributions	25,644	94,196	119,840
Cost of care and other revenues	484,528		484,528
Total operating support and revenues	\$17,167,803	94,196	17,261,999
Net assets released from restrictions	34,794	(34,794)	-
	\$17,202,597	59,402	\$17,261,999
Operating Expenses			
Program Services	\$13,880,565		\$13,880,565
Support Services	3,083,698		3,083,698
Total Operating Expenses	\$16,964,263		\$16,964,262
Deficiency of operating support And revenue over operating expenses	\$ 238,334	59,402	297,736
Other changes:			
Investment income:	\$ 8,272		8,272
Change in net assets	\$ 246,606	59,402	306,009
Net assets (deficit), beginning of year	\$ (439,758)	139,492	(300,266)
Net assets (deficit), end of year	\$ (193,152)	198,894	5,742

2016 Award Recipients

Employer of the Year Award
Ortho Diagnostics

Community Partner of the Year Award
Knights of Columbus Raritan

Direct Support Professional of the Year — Residential
Jackie Jones, Old Stirling Group Home

Direct Support Professional of the Year — Employment Services
Chris Raphael, Employment Services

Distinguished Community Service Award
Lori Moog, Raritan Valley Community College

Teacher of the Year
Nikki Bryant, Community Childcare Solutions

Professional of the Year Award
Lance Floden

Development Partner of The Year
Andy Burnstein, Phong Phan, Fundraiser.Fund

**The Arc of Somerset County
 acknowledges our retiring
 Board Member
*Ron Slahetka***

Achieve with us.

The Arc of Somerset County Donor Family
2015-2016

Realizing Dreams Legacy Society

The following donors have demonstrated their commitment to ensuring that The Arc Mission continues to endure by pledging to make a planned gift to the agency. These donors will also be listed in their respective giving categories for this year.

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* As of May 23, 2016

*Thank you for your
continued support of
The Arc Mission!*



Achieve with us.

The Arc Foundation of Somerset County's Corporate Volunteer Program



With over 35 children and adult residential programs in Somerset County, and a 15 acre Special Needs Camp Camp Jotoni in Warren Township, The Arc is the top choice for volunteer projects to many local businesses and civic community



Projects are coordinated with The Arc Foundation's Volunteer Coordinator and Development Director on a bi-annual calendar year (Spring/Summer and Summer/Fall)



Projects include indoor maintenance, interior and exterior repair and upkeep, landscaping projects and of course group and companion visits to those we serve which makes for memorable friendships throughout the year.



For more information on how to get a group volunteer activity organized for a team builder or to fulfill corporate philanthropic days of service, please contact:



Laura Ziegler at 908-658-3805 or email at lauraz@thearcofsomerset.org

Year in Review The Arc of Somerset County 2015-2016



Employment Services Program Continues to Provide Contract Work



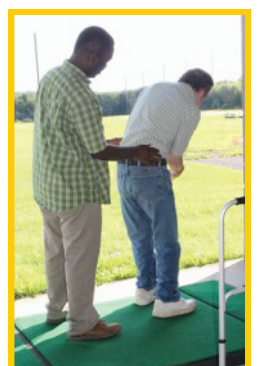
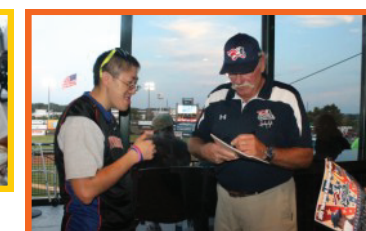
Maintenance and Clinical Services Department Host the 3rd Annual Mash Up Halloween Party

Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families Awarded the "2015 Somerset County Disability Advocate" Award



The Arc of Somerset County was represented at the 2016 Special Olympics

The Arc of Somerset County Self-Advocates Receives "Making the Difference- Group Achievement" Award



Increased Recreational Opportunities for our Residential and Day Program Adults



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