

January 6, 2015



Save The Date

Stay up to date with what's happening at The Arc of New Jersey and our local county chapters. Save the Date and mark your



calendars for these upcoming events. For more information, click <u>here</u> to view the calendar

1/14- PFAL Monmouth County Prep Club

1/14- DDD Provider Seminar

1/20- PFALMercer County Prep

The Arc of New Jersey Celebrates Passage of the ABLE Act

The ABLE Act, also known as the "Achieving a Better Life" Act was signed into law by President Barack Obama on December 22nd. This legislation will allow individuals and families to save for long-term needs without jeopardizing an individual's eligibility for critical federal entitlement programs such as Medicaid. In recognition of the law's passing, Bob Hage, President of The Arc of New Jersey recently wrote a letter to the editor that went out to several NJ newspapers. In his letter, he expressed his gratitude to the members of the New Jersey congressional delegation who sponsored and supported the bill and President Barack Obama for signing it. The letter was published in The Times of Trenton, The Asbury Park Press, The Hudson Reporter, The Daily Journal, The South Jersey Times, and The Record, among others To read Bob Hage's letter to the editor, please click here. 1/21- DDD Family Seminar

1/22- The Arc of Bergen & Passaic Counties Meet and Greet

1/22- PFAL Salem & Hunterdon County Prep Club

1/27- PFAL Cumberland County Prep Club

1/28- PFAL Middlesex County Prep Club

Chapter Spotlight:The Arc of Warren County

The Arc's local county chapters have a number of amazing programs which offer resources and support to



individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. The Arc of Warren County offers a summer camp program for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Camp Warren offers day camp program for ages 5 and over as well as residential camp program for individuals ages 21 and over. During the off the camp season, Camp Warren offers both a Saturday adult and children respite program. For more information about Camp Warren and Saturday respite programs, visit www.arcwarren.org

Project Hire's Own Speaks Out About Their Disability

Established in 1985, Project HIRE is The Arc of New Jersey's CARF-accredited, statewide employment placement and training program for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



Ross Yellin, a staff member of Project HIRE spoke to students about his disability this past December at Union City High School. Ross, who has Tourette's Syndrome, takes the time out to educate others about his disability. Despite his disability, Ross doesn't stop from living an active life and participating in numerous activities. Ross is dedicated to continuing to raise awareness about Tourette's Syndrome, and how he strives to overcome challenges every day.

For more information about Project HIRE, click here.

DDD Update: Supports Coordination Seminars and Day Habilitation FAQs

With implementation of the new Medicaid-based, fee-for-service system anticipated in July 2015, The Division of Developmental Disabilities is continuing to develop resources to assist you in understanding this transition and how it is expected to impact individuals, families and providers.

Seminars Offered

The Division of Developmental Disabilities is pleased to offer two seminars in January - one



open only to providers and one open only to families - that will provide a basic understanding of the function of Support Coordination in the new system. *The presentation, How is Case Management for DDD Services Changing? An*

Help Keep The Arc of NJ Strong!

The Arc of New Jersey relies on charitable contributions to continue our strong advocacy. Please help keep our efforts moving forward by making a donation to The Arc of New Jersey.

There are several ways you can help us:

- Make a donation at www.arcni.org
- 2. If your company has a matching gift program, be sure to register your gift so you can double your contribution
- 3. Make your donation count all year long by becoming a monthly Sustainer. All you have to do is note on your online donation that you would like it to be a monthly contribution.
- 4. Donate a vehicle by calling (877) 272-2270.
- 5. Shop through Amazon Smile. Simply select The Arc of New Jersey from the charities at Amazon Smile, and shop like you always do at Amazon.

Overview of the Support Coordination Model in the New Fee-for-Service System, is intended to walk stakeholders through the Support Coordination process, including differences between the Case Management model currently used and the new Support Coordination model.

Day Habilitation FAQs Now Available

The Fee-for-Service FAQs: Day Habilitation document is now available on the Division's Fee-for-Service Implementation web page. Additional FAQ documents will be posted as they become available.

To register for the seminars, please send an email with the names of each attendee to Diane Flynn, Division Communications at diane.flynn@dhs.state.nj.us

The Arc of New Jersey Keeping Families Informed

With all the changes taking place in the service systems for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, The Arc of New Jersey is committed to providing the best, most up-to-date information possible. The best place to get information is on our website at www.arcnj.org. There you can access archived webinars on numerous topics, download fact sheets that will guide you through the changes and contact information and resources to help you find the information you need.

March is Developmental Disability Awareness Month

"Don't DIS My Ability; look at what I can do!"

March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and those directly impacted by an intellectual and developmental disability (I/DD) are in the best position to raise awareness about I/DD. Take advantage of any or all of our resources leading up to and during March and join The Arc of New Jersey in putting I/DD awareness front and center this year!

In addition to our annual Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month bulletin board contest for middle and high school students, we have created a DD Awareness Family Ambassador Kit. As an Ambassador you will carry on the tradition of families working together to improve the quality of life for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). In your role, you can help raise awareness about the contributions people

with I/DD make to society every day. The kit was designed to aid you in that advocacy effort. Please feel free to download all of our DD Awareness Month materials at www.DisabilityAwarenessNJ.org.

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