

For people with intellectual and development disabilities

141 South Main Street Manville, NJ 08835



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

Achieve with us.

SAVE THE DATE!

Camp Jotoni's 3rd Annual "Clubs for Cabins" Golf Outing

Camp Jotoni's Third Annual "Clubs for Cabins" Golf Outing is Monday, September 14th at the Raritan Valley Country Club. Check in at 10:00am, lunch starts at 12:00pm. Cocktails/Dinner/Awards 5:00pm-8:00pm.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) is October

During the month of October, The Arc will honor our many community business partners that provide employment opportunities for adults with disabilities. Please check our website for future updates about NDEAM events.

The Arc Angel Gala is November 6th

Join us for the 2020 Arc Angel Gala on Friday, November 6th, at the Bridgewater Marriott as we step back in time and roar into the 20's. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

For additional information, please contact Lisa Marie Arieno at 908-658-3805 or e-mail: lisamariea@thearcofsomerset.org



HERALD

July 2020 thearcofsomerset.org

Celebrating Over 45 Years of Service





Message From The
Executive Director, Lauren
Frary and Mike Stefani, Board
President

Fiscal Year 2020 has proven to be a challenging year for the Arc of Somerset County thus far. In 2019 we completed a fundamental change in our funding structure and made great progress on our strategic plan. For the first time in a long time, it felt like the wind was at our back.

The Covid-19 pandemic has interrupted all of lives. As an organization we have been met with great adversity, from the necessary closing of programs to losing longtime friends and loved ones. This hardship has given us time to pause and reflect on what is truly important. This difficult time has also given birth to resiliency in our ranks. True acts of care and love have been happening on a daily basis at the Arc of Somerset County.

Our focus this year both in our strategic plan and department goals was centered on expanding and deepening our community partnerships and the full inclusion of the children and adults that we serve.

See continued message on page 2

In This Issue... Step Up for The Arc Walk Transitions to a Virtual Event

COVID-19 Brings Together Community and Corporate and Family Support to our Agency

COVID - 19 certainly changed all of our lives and it had a tremendous affect on our operations, our employees, those we serve and their families.

In late March 2020, The Arc Foundation of Somerset County led a successful online campaign to help support The Arc of Somerset County with both monetary and inkind donations of Personal Protection Equipments (PPE), weekly prepared meals and various supply donations as the Arc of Somerset County suspended day programs and began the 3 month "shelter in place" at our group homes and supervised apartments.

The results of our request for help reached thousands of local Somerset County residents, civic organizations, churches and corporate companies who came to the call, and delivered hand made masks, various PPE supplies, "at home" crafts and activities to keep our folks busy in the comfort of their home as well as over \$12,000 in COVID-19 relief funding.

Despite the closure of many of our programs and services, our Adult Services staff and caring volunteers managed to stay connected to our Arc families through ZOOM recreational programs and events that kept them busy during the prolonged uncertain time-frame at home.

The Arc Foundation of Somerset County would like to thank everyone who has donated to our agency and who have participated in a zoom call with our folks over the last few months.

(see page 3 & 4 for a list of our local community donors who helped us get through this difficult crisis)

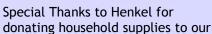






Special Thanks to the Watchung Hills Elks Lodge #885 For their weekly home-made meals to our group homes and supervised apartments April—June







Special Thanks to Wegmans of Bridgewater for donating fresh fruit to our adult residents.

The Arc of Somerset County MISSON

The Arc of Somerset County provides a lifetime of comprehensive services, advocacy and support to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families to promote growth, achievement and ongoing involvement in the community.

The Arc Board of Directors:

President.....Michael Stefani Vice President...... Donna Pasek Treasurer.....Mark McDonough Secretary.....Christopher Korenowski

The Arc Board Members:

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Sharon Booker Ron Slehetka **Darlye Peterson**

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Kristen J. Basista

Executive Director... Lauren Frary Associate Executive Director..Chris Corvino

Department Directors:

Adult Services	Karen Kowalski	
Camp Jotoni	Josh Burke	
Early Childhood Serv	icesJill Glassman	
Clinical Services	Sharon McClellan	
Finance	Herbert McMullen	
Foundation & Communication		

.....Lisa Marie Arieno Human Resources......Monimali Joshi Information Technology.....Lance Floden Maintenance & Safety......Jason Schieb Parents and Children TogetherJeannette McClew

Quality & Compliance.....Chris Gunning



The Arc of Somerset County 141 S. Main Street Manville, NJ 08835 P: 908.725.8544 F:908.704.0850

The Arc Foundation of Somerset County 45 Route 202 South P.O. Box 903 Far Hills, NJ 07931 P: 908.658.3508 www.thearofsomerset.org

CAMP COVID RAISES MONEY FOR **CAMP JOTONI CABINS**

students organized summer camp while fundraising for The Arc Foundation of Somerset County's Camp Jotoni.

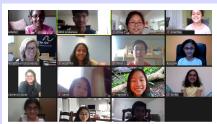
BRHS rising junior Akhil Arularasu along with rising sophomores Harshita Kalyan and Peter Lin organized and ran a two week early summer camp for young children and coupled it with a fundraiser that went toward construction of Cabins 3 & 4 for Camp Jotoni.

The virtual camp was designed to be an opportunity for elementary & intermediate school students to learn and take part in STEM related activities in a fun, safe, creative, and engaging way. Aside from learning about valuable positive through these difficult times life lessons like responsibility, teamwork, perseverance, and humility, students also learned computer programming, art, science, and public speaking and debating skills.

Bridgewater Raritan High School (BRHS) The children also took part in educational games and thought provoking activities.

> Throughout the week, special guest speakers visited the camp and shared their experiences with the campers. Lauren Frary, the Executive Director of The Arc of Somerset County joined the virtual session on 6/25 and talked about The Arc Foundation's campaign to help raise money to continue building the last 2 of 4 ADA accessible cabins at Camp Jotoni before next summer, and also had a engaging discussion with children on the topic of "Staying positive during COVID-19".

Children also presented short speeches on their experience on how they stayed





Message from the Executive Director Continued...

Unfortunately, the organization's focus on "getting" We will continue to triumph out" into the community has been temporarily halted. However, our team has been hard at work embracing technology to bring much needed services directly to consumers when they need it most. Through this technology, they've brilliantly brought laughter, learning, and opportunity straight into our consumer's homes.

Our community partners and supporters have shown great dedication to The Arc of Somerset County and have literally been a life line for many of our programs. Our community provided vital supports and donations that warmed our hearts and enhanced our ability to keep everyone safe and healthy. I want to thank everyone who has and continues to provide these resources. From handmade masks, to prepared meals, from music concerts on ZOOM to story time for our children the community's response to the pandemic and our needs has been over whelming and greatly appreciated.

during this challenging time and we look forward to a time that we can gather together to celebrate in person and to take a moment to recognize those we have lost during this terrible event.

I wish all of you continued health and safety and hope to see you in person soon.

CAMP JOTONI CABIN RENOVATION UPDATE 2 CABINS UP- 2 MORE TO GO!

"It Takes a Village" is more than just a saying for of Arc of Somerset County's Camp Jotoni. With nearly half a century of quality camp and respite services for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, Arc of Somerset County has worked hard to ensure that our campers and their families experience the joys of a supportive community.

Since 2014, The Arc Foundation of Somerset County started an aggressive capital campaign to raise \$1million to start this renovation project from scratch for Phase 1.

Our Phase 1 Renovation Plan for Cabins 1 & 2 which began in October 2019 is now complete and our plan for the remainder of 2020 is to continue with the building of Cabins 3 & 4 as we seek to fulfill a financial goal of \$800,000.

To date, since January 2014 we have:

- * Raised over \$1 Million from families, individuals, and private and corporate foundations.
- * Hosted 2 Annual "Clubs for Cabins" golf fundraisers that raised over \$150,000.
- * Solidified financing options with a local bank.
- * Broken ground on the new cabins in preparation for full utilization of our campers by 2021.

With Cabins 3 & 4 completed, our plan is to have a full year of respite services available to over 300 families that register their child or adult to Camp Jotoni each year.

We are requesting your help to achieve success, and success starts with your financial support. If we don't have external financial support- we simply will not succeed.

For local corporations looking to invest in making a difference in the lives of over 300 families of special needs children and adults- this campaign is more than just brick and mortar. Your partnership will allow the many children and adults that attend camp to have a more dynamic experience, with more efficient and comfortable buildings and expanded services. In addition, it will allow the opportunity for their families who are also caretakers, to seek the respite needed when caring for an individual with extensive intellectual or physical limitations.

We hope you will join us in investing in our campers, our families and our future.

Click Here to Make A Donation Towards Cabins 3 & 4 TODAY!



Old Cabins Did Not Have

- Heat
- Air conditioning
- ADA Accessible Bathrooms
- Slept 6



4 New Cabins will:

- Sleep 12
- Have Heat and AC
- Have 2 ADA Accessible Bathrooms and Shower





Please Help Us Demolish and Renovate Cabins 3 & 4 Donate to this Campaign TODAY!

THE ARC OF SOMERSET COUNTY **2020 ANNUAL MEETING**

As we could not host the Annual Meeting in person, we created this postcard to share our Stats for our 2020 Fiscal Year as well as a short video by Lauren Frary, Executive Director





THE ARC GRANT ACHIEVEMENTS AND DONATIONS 3 &4

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

Somerset Healthcare Foundation RWJ Barnabas Health: \$75,000 PACT program

The Segal Foundation: \$5,000 Camp Jotoni Capital Campaign B.W. Bosenberg: \$5,000 COVID-19 Relief

St. Joseph's Church: \$1,500 Camp Jotoni Campership Roselle Bank: \$1,500 The Arc of Foundation Somerset County

COVID-19

Thank you to everyone who donated to The Arc during the start of this crisis

Allison Murray	Anna Mahler	Aruna Karra
B.W. Bosenberg Corp.	Bruce Friedman	Casey Coyle
Christine Bice	Daryle Peterson	Denise Midthas
Dongho Choi	Eric Frary	Glen Delaney
Henkel of America	HEA	Hoing Family
Jay Reyes	Jean Mazalewski	Jim Richart
Joanne Kaiser	Josh Burke	Karen Bove
Katie Andrews	Kimberly Cocuzza	Laura Garcell
Lauriene Tschang	Lynette Klar	Mask Squad
Meena Arvind	Nancy Mastriano	Nicole Poyer
Pat Carlson	Patrick Purcaro	Ralph Trksak
Razi Health Foundation	Richard Skorupski	Rob Delaney
Robert Beringer	Robert Canavan	Robert Schaffe
RWJUHS	Sandra Dodd	Sarada Ganti
Scott Ritter	Talla Family	The Mandelbau
The Pasek Family	The Ritter Family	The Singer Fan
Theresa Fritsch	Thomas Applegate	Tom Flatley
Walter Roecker	Watchung Hills Elks Lodge #885	
Wegmans of Bridgewater	William Armas Landau Victory Suba	
William Ellis	Xiong Family	
Barbara Lutsky	Raritan Valley Composite Squadron	

Nahler Aruna Karra Casey Coyle Friedman Denise Midthassel Peterson Glen Delaney ary Hoing Family Jim Richart Nazalewski Karen Bove Burke rly Cocuzza Laura Garcell e Klar Mask Squad Mastriano Nicole Pover Ralph Trksak k Purcaro rd Skorupski **Rob Delaney** Canavan Robert Schaffer Dodd Sarada Ganti The Mandelbaum Family amily The Singer Family itter Family as Applegate Tom Flatley nung Hills Elks Lodge #885 m Armas Landau Victory Subaru





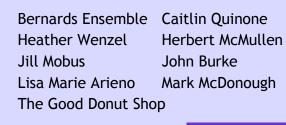
BUNNY BRIGADE EASTER DONATIONS

Thank you to everyone who provided meals for our Group Homes during Covid-19 for their Easter Meals



Barbara Lutzky Danielle Burt Jill Glassman Laura Ziegler Michael Stefani Trina Trent









Chris Gunning

Jason Scheib

Ken Eriksen

Tom Applegate





Thank you to our Students who volunteered their time and resources for The Arc of Somerset County

Bound Brook High School: Maida A. made posters thanking our healthcare heroes

Raritan Valley Community College: Ryan B. & Deysi R. donated plants for our GH's



ZOOMING ACTIVITIES AT THE ARC

Thank you to everyone who has participating in a zoom call with our folks

Alex OT Student Bernards Ensemble Bob Canavan Brian The Mailman Camp Counselors Casey Coyle Chris Corvino Coffee House Project Juana & Colleen Justin Brown Katie Colucci Lauren Frary Marian Magarik Mary Scibelli Patty Turse Rosie & Trigger the Therapy Dog Shuel-li Ongs The Royal School of Yoga The YMCA of Somerset



Tommy Strazza Vinnie the Accordion Player

COOKING IT UP WITH LAUREN & CHRIS

A cooking series sponsored by Lauren and Chris C. in which they taught the group how to prepare delicious dishes! Such as lemon chicken, cilantro lime potato salad, Aloo Gobi and Slow Cooker Chicken Tacos. For dessert they were taught how to make red, white and blue parfait and lemon coconut cake.







MUSIC FOR HOPE AND INSPIRATION

Twice per week, a group of musicians gather virtually for the "Music for Hope and Inspiration" class with the goal of spreading just that...hope and inspiration...within the agency and out into the world! The group has collaborated with a number of outstanding community musician friends such as Justin Brown, Tommy Strazza, John Fitzpatrick of The Coffeehouse Project, Vinnie the accordion player, and Felix Reid







FITNESS AT THE ARC

The Royal School of Yoga provides weekly virtual relaxation, every Monday at 1:30pm with Yoga instructor Jane. The Somerset Valley YMCA provides a weekly Adapted Fitness class (Wednesdays @1:00pm) which involves chair exercises in addition to adaptations for individuals who may be able to do some exercises in standing.



STEP UP FOR THE ARC VIRTUAL 5K & WALK June 1st—June 20th

The Arc Foundation of Somerset County hosted it's annual "Step up for the Arc" 5K and Walk event virtually this year from Monday, June 1st through Saturday, June 20th!

Special thanks to the new friends who joined the virtual walk as well as our loyal supporters of The Arc of Somerset County and helped us raise over \$13,000



Thank you!

RACE SPONSORS:

Santander Bank



GOLD MEDAL SPONSORS

Deluccia Commercial Group PSE&G Cerminara Architect

Somerset County Library System

Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital

Inspiring NJ LLC

Willis Tower Watson

SILVER SPONSORS

Gregory D. Hirsch, MD Meeker Sharkey & Hurley Pizza & Pasta

APS Corporation

Cleanest Management Services

Flemington Car & Truck Country



CONGRATULATION TO OUR CONTEST WINNERS

Best Walk Scenic Route—Matt Adams & Family Fastest Run Time—Thomas Robinson Most Miles Walked—Jill Glassman Best Dog Walking- Melany Erazo Best Hiking Hill Range—Carlie Wheeler

Best Movement in Place - Alyssa & Kelly Blochingers

