

Atco & Garvin ATC

October was the start of the fall holidays. Our consumers enjoyed going out to eat in the community, shopping in area stores, bowling, and of course celebrating Halloween. Many crafts were made preparing for our annual Halloween costume party. The holiday culminated in a dance party with holiday treats and music. We also celebrated National Chocolate cupcake day and National Candy corn day. Our consumers enjoyed tasting all the new flavors available in candy corn, with the original flavor the favorite among the consumers. November brought a mixture of warm and cold temperatures. Our consumers enjoyed a carnival outside with face painting, tie dying clothing, and many games, as well as treats and contests for a fun day! We also celebrated Thanksgiving with a holiday luncheon and all the trimmings - everyone had a great time!

We welcomed a new Instructor, Hanif Register to our Atco Center Team. The consumers instantly felt comfortable with him, and we are all looking forward to working with him.

The month of December brought holiday cheer and many, many parties, the favorite of which is the agency party at the Palace in Blackwood which brings together all the consumers and staff from all of the Day Programs. We all enjoyed a delicious lunch, dancing, and a visit from Santa. We also had a center Christmas Party where all our consumers enjoyed dancing, singing Christmas songs, and a holiday lunch, with gifts and goody bags distributed to all.

Now we are all looking forward to 2019 and all the adventures ahead!!

Berlin ATC

In October we continued our volunteer work at Holy Redeemer Hospice and The Berlin Methodist Church. We shopped at Walmart, Goodwill, The Dollar Store and Berlin Farmer's Market. We continued to exercise at Planet Fitness and visited Camden County Library on two occasions. We snacked at McDonald's and picked up donations at WaWa. Some consumers visited an animal shelter and others went to Duffield's Farm. The highlight of the month was on 10/26 when Betty S.'s family treated everyone to Mr. Softee. Decisions, decisions as we lined up to choose a special treat from a picture board on the side of Mr. Softie's truck. Which flavor? sprinkles? sundae or cone? - even staff had trouble deciding. On 10/31 we had our annual masquerade party. Whether consumers chose to dress up or not, everyone danced up a storm and enjoyed Pizza followed by cake in celebration of everyone's birthday in October.

November was rainy and cold. We even had one day with significant snow. Whether the weather was good or bad we had fun at the Berlin Center. On November 8th staff from the Berlin Center accompanied three consumer volunteers to a thank your dinner

sponsored by Holy Redeemer Hospice at Mona Lisa in Williamstown. We shopped at dollar stores, BJs Wholesale, Goodwill, Produce Junction and Walmart. We exercised at Planet Fitness. We recycled soda cans and profited \$20.00. We visited friends at Hammonton Center for lunch and a movie. On November 16th we enjoyed our Thanksgiving lunch of traditional turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and green bean casserole. Dessert was a choice of pie a la mode. After lunch each consumer placed a leaf they had created on our Thankful Tree. The back of the leaf was printed with what each person is thankful for.

The month of December went by quickly at the Berlin Center. On December 7th we joined the five other Arc ATS centers for a gala holiday party at Palace Caterers in Blackwood. After cream of broccoli soup, everyone enjoyed their choice of turkey and stuffing or pasta and meatballs. The entrée was followed by cake and ice cream. The DJ played everyone's favorite tunes and even Santa joined in on the dance floor to everyone's delight. Berlin center was beautifully decorated with trees, wreaths and many handmade ornaments and decorations. A Santa Shoppe was set up in our garage and consumers purchased Pollyanna gifts for each other on 12/12/18. On 12/13 Santa and Mrs. Claus (alias Ed and Sherri Gilio) arrived with a professional photographer and each person at Berlin Center was individually photographed with Santa and his sleigh (created by Pat Morris) wearing Christmas hats provided by Pat Faulls. The framed photos were delivered on 12/20 and everyone was impressed with the exceptional beauty of each photo. On 12/20 we had our Holiday Luncheon of lasagna and meatballs. Consumers wore antique blue sweatshirts compliments of the center and thanks to our fundraising efforts and kind donations of families and friends. Pollyanna gifts were exchanged after lunch. We are all looking forward to 2019 with new activities, excursions and learning experiences on the horizon.

Hammonton ATC

The fall months were fleeting but full of fun for everyone at the Hammonton Center. We enjoyed many outings to the Dollar Store, Walmart, and Goodwill in the month of October. We enjoyed two Star Wars themed Fun Flick Fridays with the viewing of the movies, "Star Wars-The Last Jedi", and "Star Wars-Rogue One". These Fridays are especially enjoyed by our individuals as we served popcorn during the movie and sell an optional Hot Dog Lunch for those interested. In our monthly All Center Meeting we discussed all the exciting events and holidays coming up. Our individuals help to plan the menus and offer suggestions for holiday activities. We held a very successful Fall Yankee Candle Fundraiser and will use those funds to purchase Christmas gifts for our consumers. The month ended with "Spooktacular" fun as we celebrated Halloween with crafting, a costume parade, and many tasty treats for all to enjoy.

The month of November was spent getting ready for our Annual Harvest Luncheon which was held at Rocco's Townhouse Restaurant on Thursday November 16th, 2018. We all enjoy this annual outing where we celebrate what we are thankful for and how much we have accomplished as a Center in 2018. We feasted on a very tasty turkey dinner, and after coffee and cake, each individual and staff received a framed certificate which celebrated how we all "Make a Positive Difference" in our Center and in each other's lives. The three days before the Thanksgiving holiday were spent crafting and enjoying treats. We enjoyed our Fun Flick Friday with our friends from the Berlin Center as we watched the movie "Avengers Infinity War".

The month of December was filled with holiday fun and laughs. We celebrated with our entire Agency at our annual Christmas Party at Palace Caterers on December 7th. It was a fun event for everyone with lots of socializing, dancing, enjoying a hearty meal and a visit with Santa. We enjoyed a Friday Fun Flick "The Star" on Friday December 14th. The week prior to the holiday was spent wrapping Pollyanna presents, crafting holiday ornaments, and preparing for our Pollyanna Luncheon. Patrick H's family donated a catered lunch from Applebee's for everyone on Thursday December 20th. We enjoyed Penne Pasta, Fiesta Lime Chicken, Caesar salad, Mozzarella sticks, and various pastries and cookies for dessert. Before everyone left we exchanged Pollyanna gifts and each consumer received an embroidered sweatshirt shirt from the Center as a Christmas gift. Our last day of Program for 2018 was spent eating Christmas cookies, singing holiday songs, and watching classic Christmas movies. Everyone said they were looking forward to the holidays and relaxing during our time off.

Mortka ATC

During the month of October, we started to get the Center dressed up in the bright and beautiful colors of Fall. We had a couple of groups go to Say It With Clay to make ceramic items which they really enjoyed, as well as to go to Gloucester Township Park for a good weather day to play basketball. We continue to go to Shop Rite, Walmart, Sam's Club, and other local stores for supplies for the Center. At end of the month, we started our annual Giambri's Pretzel Fundraiser to raise money for Center projects. A Halloween party with lots of fun costumes was a big hit around here.

In November, we celebrated Veteran's Day and remembered all the servicemen and women who have served, or currently serve, in our military. We also started getting ready for Thanksgiving by heading to A.C. Moore to start some decorating projects.

One of our staff, Dana H., visited the Cathedral Kitchen in Camden and made centerpieces for the tables at the Cathedral Kitchen. The Cathedral Kitchen is a kitchen that serves over 7,500 meals a month for the poor and hungry who live in Camden. The Cathedral Kitchen sent the Center a letter thanking us for the centerpieces. We cooked a big Thanksgiving meal with all the fixings, and the consumers enjoyed every bit of it.

December was festive month as we went to the annual ATS Christmas Party at The Palace Caterers next door to the Center. All the consumers enjoyed a Christmas lunch, dancing, and of course, Santa Claus arrived to hand out candy canes to everyone. Two of our staff were recognized at the party for their time with the agency. Dana H. has been here for 8 years and Tia S. has been with us for 5 years. Our Program Specialist, Taneesha S. was recognized for 10 years of working with the agency. Congratulations to all three ladies, as well as the others who were also recognized from other ATS Centers. Our Giambri's pretzel fundraiser was a success, so thank you to everyone who purchased. We ended the month with a Center Christmas Party at which everyone received a hooded sweatshirt with the Center's name printed on it. We also made floral arrangements for Christmas and passed them out all to the Centers. We hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

PENNSAUKEN ATC

The cooler weather didn't slow us down at the Pennsauken Center. We welcomed the fall with trips to the store for Harvest decorations for the Center so that we can all get into the spirit of the upcoming holidays.

Amongst some small trips in the community to Burger King, Wendy's and Dunkin Donuts, we enjoyed an All Center trip to Golden Corral. Everyone promised to save their appetite so that we could enjoy our fill of a vast variety of luncheon choices. We enjoyed our own private dining area and chatted away with each other before choosing dessert. Most of us went for the hot fudge sundaes!

Of course, no one can appreciate the crisp fall weather without having a little fun on a pumpkin picking hayride. We had a blast riding the tractor and then walking through the pumpkin patch to choose our favorite holiday decoration.

We spent the last week of October with an All Center pumpkin painting party. Everyone grabbed an apron and gloves and chose their favorite design to apply to their own pumpkin. Halloween brought all the imaginations to the front burner with some of the creative costumes. We enjoyed our own spin on Trick or Treating by taking turns knocking on group area doors awaiting the treats that each staff had to offer. Afterwards, we began our Halloween party with a piñata. Each one of us took a turn swinging a stick at the candy filled target until it finally burst open spilling sweet treats for us to grab.

What's Thanksgiving without a huge spread to satisfy our taste buds? Along with turkey and gravy, we included stuffing, yams, green bean casserole and cranberry sauce. To top off this delicious cuisine was apple and pumpkin pies. But sharing our thoughts on what we are most thankful for was the highlight of the afternoon. The majority shared was family and friends!