

Reflections on the Memory Garden

This morning I walked back to the Circle of Family and Friends Memory Garden to take a look at the new memorial stones that the group placed into the garden this past weekend. It was both a sad and inspiring experience. Seeing the names of all of the folks we have served over the years who have passed on; reading the names of the family members who have devoted their whole lives to supporting their sons and daughters; the names of staff who have worked to better the lives of our folks; as well as names of people who have supported our efforts in one way or another was pretty overwhelming. I invite all of you to find a quiet moment to just roam around the garden and ponder the names on the bricks and to understand the enormity of what we do every day. Please invite your staff to do so as well.



SEND A “LOVE” LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR

Direct Support Professionals Need Our Support

Without the dedicated and committed army of Direct Support Professionals who come to work every day there would be no community services for people with disabilities. For too long our DSP's have worked without meaningful wage increases despite the hard work of numerous advocates who, over the past two years, have been able to obtain a %3 increase in 2018 and a small bonus in 2017. As advocates we know this is not enough, and we also know that our DSP's are not minimum wage workers. While we are in favor of a minimum wage increase, our message to the legislature is that the work our staff do is not minimum wage work. Any increase in wages through out the state must factor in an additional increase to ensure that DSP's are adequately compensated for the skilled work they do.

Enclosed in this newsletter you will find an Action Alert letter that we hope you will sign and send to Governor Murphy. The Governor is working on the budget for the next fiscal year now, and so it is critical for him to hear from you about the impact of services and Direct Support professionals in your life. Personalize the message if you can, and mail to:

The Honorable Phil Murphy Office of the Governor

PO Box 001 Trenton, NJ 08625



Mr. & Mrs. Santa Clause

Mr. & Mrs. Claus, aka our CFO Tom Mannion and his wife Liz, made the rounds this December to help our consumers celebrate the holiday. From handing out more than 250 candy canes at the Adult Day Program, to distributing gifts to the workers in the OTC shop, Tom and Liz brought joy and excitement to everyone they touched with their resounding “Ho-Ho-Ho” and faces wreathed in smiles.

The Arc donation to the Circle of Family and Friends

The members of the Circle of Family and Friends are a critical part of The Arc of Camden County. It is thanks to their efforts that our consumers get to bowl every Friday during the season, and attend countless other activities all sponsored by and paid for by the COFF. One of the uses of our Walkathon dollars is to help fund some of these activities, and so CFO, Tom Mannion was pleased to present this check to President Cara Shaffer.



The Arc Residential Christmas Party

Even though it was a rainy night, everyone had a great time at the Residential Holiday Christmas party held at Lucien’s. The evening was filled with great music, dancing, and delicious food. Party items were handed out by the DJ, who played all the music that the consumers love, bringing everyone out on the dance floor to dance the night away. Another bright highlight in the evenings’ festivities was when our Executive Director, Peggy Englebert recognized our staff for their years of service with our agency.

Employee News:

Welcome to the following new employees: **Adeline Kamara, CAN, Magdalene Nsubuga, LPN & Marie Ludy Cherisca, Home Health Aide, Amherst GH - Charniece Brittingham & Tiffany Purnell, Residential Aide, Garden State GH - Sarah Dunlop, Manger, Sherwood GH - Marjorie Graves & Amanda Walters, Employment Specialist, Supported Employment**

With our deepest gratitude and appreciation we thank the following donors who so generously responded to our annual end of year solicitation. Each dollar goes directly to programs for the people we serve.

Kate Lorenz
Hiral Patel
Charles & Dawn Bernato
Dorothy Bonadies
Ellen Gartzman
James Gribb
George Fey
Judith Melchiorre
Wilbur & Margaret Jones
Barbara Coppens
Mr Mike Kapral
Joseph & Rita Ziemba
Dorothy Smith
Todd Mielewski
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John & Kitty Longo
Urvik Patel
Maureen DiPaolo
Hing Hong Chan
Cynthia Michael
Joseph & Louise Neidert
Joseph & Janice Mann
Mary Paylor
Sharon Strauss
James & Carol DeMarco
George and Norma Painter
Michael & Linda Tender
Tom Baffuto
Thomas Passanza

Paula Solomon in honor of Sydney Solomon
Dr. Bruno Dattilo in honor of Frank Dattilo
Sally Mischlich in honor of Michael Mischlich
Robert & Janet Tag in honor of Paul Dufresne & David Tag
Carole Clark in honor of Christopher Clark
Frank and JoAnne Vesci in honor of Heather Vesci
Joyce Warren in honor of Anthony Langston
Michael Daley in memory of Thomas & Josephine Daley
Anthony Dattilo in honor of Frank Dattilo
Bill English in honor of Gilbert English
Penny Fields in honor of the Arc staff at Blossom Towers
John Gallimore in memory of Sarah Gallimor
Edward McDonnell in honor of Peggy Englebert
John Caulfield in honor of Frances Caulfield
Linda McFadden in memory of Esther & Ernest McFadden
Anne Gundle in memory of Kenny Gundle
Mr & Mrs Michael Imperato in honor of Patrick Fields
Greg & Darlene Ribbaudo in honor of Jason Ribbaudo
Deborah Wynn in honor of Darrell Wynn
Curtis Butler in honor of Jerry Butler
Bonita Schopfer in memory of Louis Schopfer Sr.
Mr & Mrs Martin Mango in honor of Christopher Mango
Dr Frank & Doris Wilczynski in honor of Jillian Wilczynski
Barbara & Frank McCulley in honor of Tammy McCulley
Kathleen McDonnell in honor of Amanda McDonnell
Dawn Weiner in honor of Colleen Carrara
Loretta McKenna in honor of Lynne McKenna
James Green in honor of Matthew Green
Florence Celletti in honor of Leonard DiGuiseppe

Vehicle Donation

The Arc of Camden County will gratefully accept donations of your used cars, vans or trucks.

Vehicle donations made to a charitable non-profit organization are tax deductible.

Benefits: Free Towing, Tax Deductible, hassle free way to get rid of your unwanted vehicle, and it Supports the mission of The Arc of Camden County

Donate your vehicle please check out our Website at arccamden.org or call 877-ARC-2270. Please remember to designate our chapter and we will receive a percentage of the net proceeds from your vehicle donation.

Thank you for your support



215 W. White Horse Pike
Berlin, NJ 08009
www.arccamden.org

Keep Your Eyes Open For

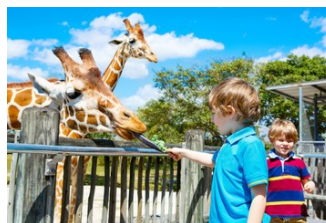
Up Coming Events

The COFF Painting Party March 15, 2019

The Arc Designer Bag Bingo March 30, 2019

COFF Trip to the Zoo May 18, 2019

Flyers and more information to follow



Achieve with us.