



The Arc Middlesex County Newsletter, Quarter 4, November 2016

CELEBRATING DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS WEEK



The Arc Middlesex County is pleased to announce the success of the DSP (Direct Support Professionals) Week which was held during the week of September 11th-September 17th. The monthly group home staff meetings were well attended by many of our Administrative Staff Representatives. The staff at the group homes were extremely appreciative of our presence and support. Our Vocational Department held a group celebration for DSP Week as well to celebrate our amazing staff. The Arc Middlesex continues to strive in providing services to our residents in need as we produce great outcomes in customer service because of our faithful and dedicated staff. The services in which we have continuously rendered are outstanding and make us very proud as an organization.

Leadership, positivity and growth is the excelling motto in our Direct Support Services. Our staff are constantly reminded that *'They Can't Lead Where They Don't Go and They Can't Teach What They Don't Know'*. The Management Team of the Residential and Vocational Services Department are striving to reach a new level where growth and person centered services will be our focus as we climb the ladder of success.



OCTOBER: NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

Inclusion Works for Opportunity

Inclusion Works for Business

Inclusion Works for Innovation

National Disability Employment Awareness Month
#InclusionWorks

OFFICE OF DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT POLICY
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
dol.gov/odep

Previously this month, the White House issued a Presidential Proclamation in honor of National Disability Employment Awareness Month 2016. President Obama states:

"Americans with disabilities are entitled to the same rights and freedoms as any other citizen -- including the right to dignity and respect in the workplace. Too often in our Nation's history, individuals with disabilities have been eager to work but could not find a job, facing red tape, discrimination, or employers who assumed that disabled meant unable and refused to hire them. This month, we recognize the significant progress our country has made for those living with disabilities, and we honor the lasting contributions and diverse skills they bring to our workforce... This year's National Disability Employment Awareness Month theme focuses on the importance of inclusion, especially when it comes to business, opportunity, and innovation. When we diversify our workforce we create opportunities for growth and improvement -- not just for those with disabilities, but for everyone."

To read the rest of the President's proclamation, please click [here](#).

6TH ANNUAL WINE AND CHEESE NIGHT



Save the Date

**Wine
& Cheese
Night**

11.30.16

A Toast To The Evening's Honorees

Public Partner Award
*Mayor Frank Gambatese,
Mayor of South Brunswick*

Lifetime Support Award
Robert Mizerak, Board President

Corporate Partners Award
Dom Fanuele, Fanuele Financial LLC

Giving From The Heart Award
Jeanine Valenti & Francine Senerote

Community Partner
Knights of Columbus, Council #11378

Please RSVP by November 18th.
**For more information: www.arc-middlesex.org/events
or call 732-821-1199 x134.**

Join us for a memorable evening on Wednesday, November 30, 2016.

Join us for our **6th Annual Wine and Cheese Fundraiser!**

The evening will be filled with wine, beer and delicious hors d'oeuvres. We will also feature a basket raffle with many wonderful prizes such as 4 Park Hopper Passes to Walt Disney World, Florida and a mid-week overnight stay and dinner for two at Harrah's Casino in Atlantic City! Be sure to celebrate with us as we honor those who have supported The Arc Middlesex County!

The honorees of the night are as follows:

Public Partner Award
Mayor Frank Gambatese, Mayor of South Brunswick

Lifetime Support Award
Robert Mizerak

Corporate Partners Award
Dom Fanuele, Fanuele Financial LLC

Giving From The Heart Award
Jeanine Valenti and Francine Senerote

Community Partner Award

To purchase tickets, sponsorships and more information, please contact:
Leela Prendergast, Director of Development
732-821-1199 ext. 134 or by [email](#).

To purchase your ticket online, please [click here](#).
For sponsorship information, please [click here](#).

PAINT PARTY FUNDRAISER SUCCESS



Our Painting Party attendees and their glass works of art

On Thursday September 15th, The Arc Middlesex County held our first Painting Party! Our wonderful instructor came to our office to teach our attendees how to paint beautiful designs on glasses. Attendees could choose from many different glass options such as wine glass, champagne flutes, mason jars and mugs. Each attendee left with a beautiful work of art! We look forward to having more Painting Parties in the future.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DUNELLEN SUPPORTS THE ARC.

The Arc Middlesex County would like to graciously thank the brothers of the Knights of Columbus Council of Dunellen for their generous donation to our organization. This money goes towards helping enrich the lives of individuals with disabilities. Our Director of Development, Leela Prendergast, met with The Knights of Columbus at their meeting on Wednesday September 21st to accept a check on behalf of The Arc Middlesex County.



CARF ACCREDITATION

The Arc Middlesex County Earns 3-Year Accreditation

On September 22-23, 2016, The Arc Middlesex County invited CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) survey team to our organization to evaluate how well we meet international standards for quality. CARF accreditation signals a service provider's commitment to continually

improving services, encouraging feedback, and serving the community. The mission of CARF is to promote the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process and continuous improvement services that center on enhancing the lives of persons served. The survey is designed to evaluate what we are doing well and ways we might improve. As a result of this survey, The Arc Middlesex County earned a 3-year accreditation, the highest level of accreditation.



This accreditation is required by The New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) which funds our Support Employment and job coaching services. The Arc Middlesex County is proud to state that we received praise for the comprehensive support that we provide to people with disabilities in finding and maintaining integrated, competitive employment. We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to our dedicated staff members.

If you are interested in learning more about our Supported Employment Services, please contact Debbie Aidelman, Director of Support Services, at 732-821-1199 ext. 163 or by [email](#).

YOUR VOTE MATTERS!



Remember to vote on Tuesday November 8, 2016. Elections matter and so does your right to choose! The Arc National has launched a new website to help answer questions regarding voting.

"In 2012, one in five voters with disabilities experienced a barrier at the polls. To help resolve problems in real-time, The Arc is launching our new Voter Support Service! Working with Election Protection's national network of support, we are aiming to make it easier for people to report problems and get help as quickly as possible. This site is a simple, mobile-friendly way for people with disabilities to ensure that their vote counts."

Looking for Real-Time Help on Election Day? Please visit The Arc's [Voter Support Service Website](#).

THE ARC MIDDLESEX COUNTY AND THE EDUCATION SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY PARTNERSHIP.

The Piscataway Career Center

The Piscataway Career Center is designed for adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities who at 21, have aged out of their public schools. The Piscataway Career Center was developed through a partnership between The Arc Middlesex County and The Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ).

The Piscataway Career Center represents a significant step towards the larger goal to offer support and resources for adults as they transition from graduation to young adulthood. The Piscataway Career Center is hopeful that with the success anticipated, the demand for this service will grow and increased

services will be developed. The Arc Middlesex County is an approved provider of services for the Supports Program funded through the Division of Developmental Disabilities.

The services include:

DAY HABILITATION: Services that provide education and training to acquire the skills and experience needed to participate in the community.

COMMUNITY INCLUSION SERVICES: Services provided outside of a participant's home that support and assist participants in educational, enrichment or recreational activities.

PREVOCATIONAL TRAINING: Services that provide learning and work experiences, including volunteer work, where the individual can develop general, non-job-task-specific strengths and skills.

CAREER PLANNING: Person-centered, comprehensive employment planning and support service that provides assistance for program participants to obtain, maintain or advance in competitive employment or self-employment.

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT: Individual and/or group activities needed to help an individual obtain and maintain an individual job in competitive or customized employment/self-employment in an integrated work setting in the general workforce.

RESPIRE: Services provided to participants unable to care for themselves that are furnished on a short-term basis because of the absence or need for relief of those persons who normally provide care for the individual.

TRANSPORTATION: Service offered in order to enable participants to gain access to services, activities and resources.

The Piscataway Career Center is located at 1670 Stelton Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854.

To learn more about our vocational programs, please contact Denise Beckles, Director of Vocational Services, at 732-821-1199 ext. 165 or by [email](#).

The Arc Middlesex County

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STAY CONNECTED

