



October 2016

UPDATE FROM THE STATE HOUSE

The Arc Advocates on Both State & Federal Legislation

The New Jersey Legislature was back at the State House in September after the summer recess, and The Arc of New Jersey weighed in on a number of bills making their way through Committee. This included supporting S2476 which would provide Medicaid coverage for services to treat and prevent Zika virus infection and associated health outcomes. Zika is a big threat to pregnant women, as the virus can cause developmental delays to unborn babies. The Arc of the United States and The Arc of New Jersey support increased funding to prevent the spread of Zika. The legislation was approved by the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee in early September and must now be heard by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee. (To continue reading, click [here](#).)



CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

New Development Dir. Brings Business Background to Role

Mary Ruley Moyer took on the role of Director of Development and Community Outreach at The Arc of Atlantic County in March 2016. Today we learn a little more about the work she's doing to promote the Chapter and the wide-array of services available to individuals and their families.

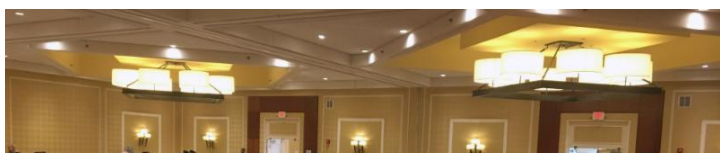


Mary Ruley Moyer serves as the Director of Development and Community Outreach at The Arc of Atlantic County.

1. Tell us a little bit about your background and how you're using your past experiences in your new role:

Before I started at The Arc of Atlantic County, I worked at the Greater Atlantic City Chamber of Commerce. I knew about The Arc through my mother who is an educator of special education, but it wasn't really on my radar. I have a background in advertising, marketing and public relations and I've held several posts with Atlantic City casinos, including the Tropicana Casino and Resort and Trump Entertainment Resorts. My greatest skill involves connecting people and telling a story. When working at the casinos, you're promoting leisure products: hotel rooms, dining, entertainment, etc. Applying that to a nonprofit is a little bit different, but the skill set is the same. Instead of talking about hotel rooms, we're talking about housing. Instead of entertainment, we're talking about recreation, education and opportunities for people with I/DD in the community. Instead of products, we focus on the services we provide. (To continue reading, click [here](#).)

Self-Advocacy Project Hosts Hundreds at Conference

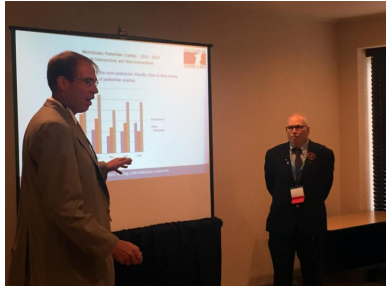


The Arc of Somerset to honor

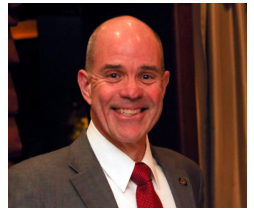


Pictured above, Self-Advocates at the 2016 Conference.

On Saturday, September 17, more than 350 Self-Advocates from across the State gathered at the Doubletree Somerset Hotel & Executive Meeting Center for the New Jersey Self-Advocacy Project's (NJSAP) Annual Conference. Self-Advocates spent the day learning about transportation, communication skills, the new fee for service system, employment, and housing among other things. In addition, the day included opening remarks by The Arc of New Jersey's Executive Director and Board President, and the Executive Director of the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities (NJCDD). NJSAP thanks the NJCDD for sponsoring the morning breakfast and supporting our event.



Bob Hage, Odette Adrian



The Arc of New Jersey's Board President Bob Hage and his wife, Odette Adrian, will receive an award at The Arc of Somerset's Annual Arc Angel Gala.

The Arc of New Jersey congratulates our Board President Bob Hage, and his wife Odette Adrian, on their upcoming honor from The Arc of Somerset County. Bob and Odette will receive the 2016 Arc Angel Award for their outstanding advocacy and support of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families in New Jersey and across the nation. Through the years, they have worked tirelessly to support initiatives that have and will continue to positively impact those we represent. Congrats to Bob and Odette on this wonderful honor. [The Arc Angel Gala](#) will take place on Friday, November 4, at Dolce in Basking Ridge.

The Arc Recognizes Departing Self-Advocacy Director

The Arc of New Jersey would like to thank New Jersey Self-Advocacy Project (NJSAP) Director Dennis Donatelli for his nine years of service to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities as he moves on to other employment. Under his direction, the New Jersey Self-Advocacy Project has flourished and grown. The Arc of New Jersey and Self-Advocates from across the State will miss working with Dennis, but we wish him all the best and we hope he comes back to visit in the near future.



NJSAP Director Dennis Donatelli, left, is awarded a plaque for his years of service, by Executive Director Tom Baffuto, right.

Check Out Webinars & Events Throughout October

Webinar - Supporting People with I/DD to Identify Appropriate Housing

There are many options for where adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) could live. Some people with I/DD may live independently, with other family members after they leave their parents' home, or in a community-based setting with support. It is important to balance the wishes of the person with I/DD and the level of support needed when identifying housing options available in your community.

[Thursday, October 6 at 2 pm](#)

Planning for Adult Life - FREE Parent Forum and Opportunity Expo

Hear from experienced parents and professionals in the field addressing eight (8) core areas that students with intellectual/developmental disabilities ages 14-21 and their families need to know to plan. For a list of our workshops and the forum agenda, [click here](#). A limited breakfast will be available.

[Saturday, October 15 from 8:30 am to 1 pm in Somerset, NJ](#)

Webinar - What Are Pre-Employment Transition Services and How Your Student Can Explore the World of Work

Join Planning for Adult Life as they discuss the Pre-Employment Transition Services (PETS) program from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services. The presentation will help identify required activities under PETS, other authorized activities and the next steps to be taken. This webinar is geared for students, their families and professionals in the field.

[Wednesday, Oct. 19 at 6 pm](#)

Mercer County College Tour

Join The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute for a tour of Mercer County Community College's DREAM program. You will have an

The Arc Publishes Get Out the Vote Guide, Web Site

The Arc of New Jersey's 2016 Get Out the Vote (GOTV) Guide, which aims to help families and self-advocates in advance of Election Day, is available now! At the polls this year, New Jersey residents will cast a vote for



opportunity to visit Mercer County Community College and learn about the different aspects of a college experience. Families will learn all about the DREAM program and the Office of Special Services. The DREAM program is student-centered, which means that each student's course of study is determined by the student's goals and needs. Areas of study include: Academic Experiences, Career-Related Experiences, Independent Life Experiences, and Socialization Experiences.

[Saturday, October 29 at 10 am](#)

Supporters 'Step Up' for Local County Walkathons

Step Up For The Arc is an annual statewide initiative of The Arc of New Jersey, with walkathons held locally by every county Chapter. Here are the October dates:

- **October 1:** [The Arc of Cape May Walkathon](#)
- **October 8:** [The Arc of Union Walkathon](#)
- **October 15:** [The Arc of Atlantic Walkathon](#)
- **October 15:** [The Arc of Hudson Walkathon](#)



Pictured above: Supporters at The Arc/Morris annual walk which was held on Saturday, September 25th.

Looking to make a donation in the meantime? Be sure to contact the [local county Chapter](#) in your area.

PLANNED GIVING CORNER

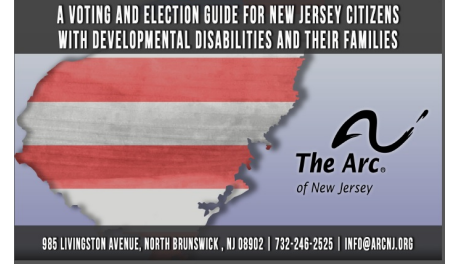
Support Your Loved Ones and The Arc

Creating a Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT) allows you to put assets into a trust and provide income for life or a specific period of time, after which the remainder provides a gift to The Arc of New Jersey. For families with a member with intellectual and developmental disabilities who needs access to public benefits, a CRT with a Special Needs Trust offers a great choice.



For more information, email Céline Fortin at cfortin@arcnj.org or call 732-733-6013.

Representatives of the United States and Congress. Our Guide includes important dates, vote by mail information and outlines your rights in the voting booth. In addition, the GOTV Guide features an "In Their Own Words" section where family members and self-advocates explain why casting a ballot is a must this November. Be sure to [download a copy](#) and check out our [web-exclusive content](#) before Election Day!



Self-Advocates Invited to Healthy Lifestyles Event

The New Jersey Self-Advocacy Project will visit Masker's Barn at Watchung Reservation, as part of the Healthy Lifestyles Project (HLP), on

Wednesday, October 5. HLP is a project of The Arc of New Jersey and receives funding through a grant awarded by the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey. The goal of the project is to provide people with I/DD with functional education about the importance of health choices related to diet, exercise, and stress

management. The event at Watchung Reservation will include adaptive yoga, a Get Fit Session, lunch, and a group trail walk. Self-Advocates that are interested in attending must preregister by calling or emailing Ashley Ritchey at Aritchey@arcnj.org or 7232-246-2525 ext. 37. All attendees are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and shoes or boots for the group trail walk.



Pictured above: Self-Advocates going on a trail walk at last year's Watchung Reservation event.

Andersen Foundation Supports Self-Advocates



Help Us 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:

1. Make a donation at www.arcnj.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.



From left to right: The Arc of New Jersey's Executive Director Tom Baffuto, Associate Executive Director Celine Fortin, Self-Advocate Barb Coppens, Andersen's Project Specialist II Jean Fitzpatrick, Customer Service Supervisor Laura Gribble and Supply Chain Analyst I Janet Baile.

We are happy to share some wonderful news! Andersen Corporate Foundation, on behalf of Silver Line by Andersen, recently presented the Self-Advocacy Project with a very generous donation. We thank them for their continued support of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

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