



Kevin Sturges Elected New Board President



The Arc of New Jersey is excited to welcome Kevin Sturges as the new Board President, effective July 1, 2021. Prior to this role, Kevin served as our organization's First Vice President and the Chair of our Governmental Affairs Committee. We would also like to recognize Joanne Bergin who concluded her four years as President on June 30. We thank her for the outstanding leadership and her commitment to those we represent. In addition, we are pleased to announce the following individuals will serve as our organization's Executive Committee:

Karen Murphy, First Vice President
Lauren Zalepka, Second Vice President
Pamela Corrigan, Treasurer
Carolyn Hayer, Secretary

Members-at-Large include: Andy Sharick, Marnie McNany, S. Paul Prior, Charles Pinto, Steve Shallop, Robert Hage Joanne Bergin, Immediate Past President

We look forward to continuing our advocacy work with Kevin's leadership and advancing the organization and our mission under his direction.

Governor Tours Future Playground Site for Children with Special Needs & Disabilities



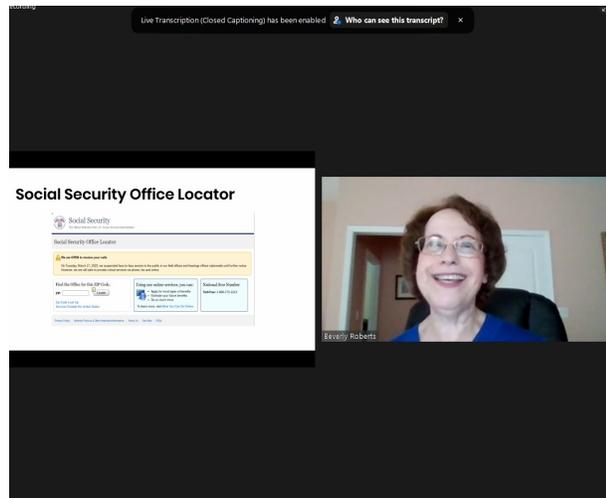
Executive Director Tom Baffuto was on-hand last week when Governor Murphy toured the future site of the "Toms River Field of Dreams."

When complete, the site will serve as an inclusive, three-acre outdoor complex geared toward children with special needs and disabilities. The FY22 Budget signed into law in June included \$400k to help complete the project. Pictured left is Tom with the Governor at the event on July 30, and pictured above is the Governor with the Toms River Mayor and Council members, as well as the family that helped to advance this project.



Summer Leadership Institute Includes Presentation from Mainstreaming Medical Care Director

Mainstreaming Medical Care Director Beverly Roberts presented last month, alongside Bethany Lilly from The Arc of the United States, at the annual Summer Leadership Institute. The presentation was entitled: "Income Support for People with Disabilities: COVID and Social Security." Additional forms of income supports, such as stimulus payments, unemployment insurance, and revisions to tax credits benefiting low-income individuals, were passed as part of COVID relief and many of have helped, but some have also had unintended consequences. The session detailed these changes as well as strategies to address these complications. If you have questions about these issues, contact Beverly at Broberts@arcnj.org.



Act Now: Tell Congress to Pass the Better Care Better Jobs Act, a Historic Investment in Disability Services

**CLICK HERE
to Take Action!**

For years, the service system that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and their families rely on, Medicaid, has needed an update. People are stuck on waiting lists, the direct care workforce is underpaid, and too often, unpaid family caregivers are filling in the gaps in service. The COVID-19 pandemic has magnified these problems and exposed the cracks and gaps in the care infrastructure when it comes to supporting people with disabilities. Now, following the Administration's proposals, Congress has introduced the Better Care Better Jobs Act. This bill includes a

long-overdue investment in the disability service system as part of a COVID-19 economic recovery to support care for Medicaid recipients and create more and better jobs for the workforce that provides that care. We must ask Members of Congress to enact legislation that lives up to this plan and do more for people with disabilities, their families, and the direct care workforce. [Click here to take action](#)

The Arc Warren Hosts Triathlon at Mountain Lake



Congratulations to The Arc of Warren County on their Tri Mountain Lake Sprint Triathlon held July 17, in Liberty Township. The triathlon included a 1/4 mile swim, a 15-mile bike ride and a three-mile run. Proceeds from the event will support The Arc of Warren County which serves more than 1,100 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities each year. Pictured left is The Arc of New Jersey's Executive Director Tom Baffuto and representatives of The Arc of Warren County. More information about the Chapter can be found on their web site by [clicking here](#).

President Biden Recognizes Anniversary of the ADA

Events!

Click below to register for one of our many upcoming virtual events/webinars. And be sure to check out our [calendar](#) for other future events.



Zoom with Us:

- August 24 at 6 pm: [Accessing DDD Services](#)

Stay Healthy at Home - a webinar series hosted by the NJ Self-Advocacy Project - every Tuesday at 2 PM on GoToWebinar

The webinar series covers a variety of topics related to advocacy, life skills, employment, and civic engagement. Sessions are designed to be accessible to self-advocates, parents, and support staff. Live viewers can share comments, ask questions, and access resources. *SUMMER HITS! We'll be playing replays of some of our favorite past webinars all of July and August. Don't worry, we'll be back in the fall with a new and improved webinar series with brand-new topics and new accessibility features!*

- August 3: [REPLAY: The Picture Perfect Filter: Using Facebook & LinkedIn to Find Work](#)
- August 10: [REPLAY - Model Employee Perfect Your Personal & Professional Look](#)
- August 17: [Replay: Managing Minutes for Productive People](#)
- August 24: [REPLAY - So Relatable! Everyday Self-Advocacy](#)
- August 31: [REPLAY - Love Languages: Healthy Relationships & Communications](#)

Healthy Lifestyles Project LIVE! - every Wednesday at 11 AM on Zoom

This interactive series of events is hosted by the NJ Self-Advocacy Project and focuses on activities to promote health and wellness education for students and adults with I/DD. Live viewers will be able to share comments, ask questions, and participate in activities led by professionals *in real time*.

- August 4: [Food for Thought: Veggie Noodles](#)
- August 11: [SproutFlix: Movie Screening & Discussion](#)
- August 18: [Art Therapy Session](#)
- August 25: [Art Workshop: Abstract Art](#)

We also have Fitness Fridays at 1 PM: [Click here to register.](#)

A Message from The Arc of New Jersey

Thank You

Thank you to all our generous donors who, over the past number of months, have made donations to support us. These critical funds will help us in our efforts to assist individuals with I/DD and their families, as well as our local county chapters, through the COVID19 crisis. To put your donation to work for individuals with I/DD and their families, [click here](#). If you have

questions or need assistance, our staff is here to help. [Click here](#) to access information about our Programs.

Use Your Amazon App to Support The Arc of New Jersey

If you are an AmazonSmile customer, you can now support The Arc of New Jersey, Inc. in the Amazon shopping app on your Android device! Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations.

1. If you have the latest version of the Amazon Shopping App, open the App on your Android device.
2. View Settings and select AmazonSmile.
3. Follow the in-App instructions to complete the process.

If you do not have the latest version of the Amazon shopping App, update your App. Click [here](#) for instructions.



Need help or more information? Want to become

active in our advocacy network?

- **Visit our website** to access lots of great information that can help you navigate service systems, find resources and keep you informed as to the important issues facing children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.
- **Join our advocacy network** to add your voice to the thousands who are working hard to promote and protect the quality of life of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

[Visit our website](#)

[Join an Advocacy Network](#)

[DONATE NOW!](#)

STAY CONNECTED



The Arc of New Jersey | 732.246.2525 | info@arcnj.org | www.arcnj.org