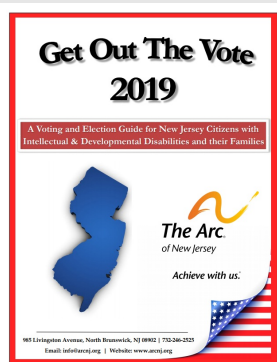




## *The Arc of Camden Hosts DSP Recognition Week Event*

Direct Support Professionals are the key to successful community integration for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and it was an honor for The Arc of New Jersey's Executive Director Tom Baffuto to celebrate their hard work and dedication at The Arc of Camden last month as part of Direct Support Professional Recognition Week. Department of Human Services Assistant Commissioner Jonathan Seifried presented DSPs with a proclamation from Governor Murphy and Lt. Governor Oliver declaring September 8th through September 14th as DSP Recognition Week in New Jersey. DSPs received letters of appreciation and gift cards from The Arc of Camden and were celebrated for all they do to assist people with intellectual and developmental disabilities served by the Chapter.



## **2019 Get Out the Vote Guide Available Now**

Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, 2019 and The Arc of New Jersey wants to help you prepare before you head to the polls. That's why we've created this 2019 Get Out the Vote (GOTV) Guide for you to download and share. (Click the image to download your copy) The Guide includes an FAQ about voting, important dates and deadlines, and submissions from self-advocates and a family member about why everyone should make sure to cast a ballot on Election Day. Also, don't forget to visit our website, [www.gotvnj.org](http://www.gotvnj.org), for additional online resources.

## **Fall Conference Attracts Hundreds of Self-Advocates**

More than 250 Self-Advocates from across the State attended the 36th Annual Fall Conference on Saturday, September 28th at the Westin Princeton. The day included workshops, education and networking opportunities. Many dignitaries attended and spoke throughout the day. This included (pictured right) the Ombudsman for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their Families Paul Aronsohn, The Arc of New Jersey's Board President Joanne Bergin, Director of the NJ Self-Advocacy Project Ashley Ritchey, the President of the New Jersey Self-Advocacy Network Evelyn Ramundo, Department of Human Services Commissioner Carole Johnson, The Arc of New Jersey's Executive Director Tom Baffuto, and the NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities' Patricia Brennan.



## Save the Date for The Arc of NJ 70th



The Arc of New Jersey is turning 70 years old in 2019! Incorporated in 1949, The Arc of NJ was started by families of individuals with I/DD with the goal of establishing a statewide organization committed to improving the quality of life of children and adults with I/DD, and their families. As part of our 70th Anniversary festivities, The Arc of NJ is planning a **70th Anniversary Dinner for Thursday, November 21 at The Imperia in Somerset**. Registration for tickets and ads for the 70th Anniversary ad journal are now available at [The Arc of NJ 70th!](#).

Congratulations to the following individuals and organizations who will receive awards next month:

**President's Award**  
**Todd Polyniak, Sax LLP**

**Advocacy Matters Award**  
**S. Paul Prior, Esq.**

**Volunteer of the Year**  
**Ralph Mastrangelo**

**Bill Sackter Award**  
**Evelyn Ramundo**

**Martin Papish Award**  
**Linda Cancro Lucas**

**Community Impact Award**  
**The Porzio Family of Companies**  
(Porzio, Bromberg & Newman P.C.,  
Porzio Governmental Affairs LLC,  
Porzio Compliance Services LLC,  
Porzio Life Sciences LLC)

## Pathways to Justice Training Aims to Educate About People with I/DD

On Wednesday, September 25, the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office, The Arcs of New Jersey, Monmouth County and the United States hosted a full-day training for law enforcement, victim service providers, lawyers and court staff, focusing on working with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The training is designed to educate professionals about the needs of victims, defendants and witnesses who are persons with developmental disabilities. National and state experts in the fields of law enforcement, prosecution, direct services and victim services discussed how we can collaboratively increase safety for people with disabilities, improve our response, and disseminate available information on resources and referrals. The training was conducted by the National Center on Criminal Justice & Disability of The Arc of the United States and the New Jersey Partners in Justice, an initiative created by The Arc of New Jersey. (Pictured from left to right: Director of the New Jersey Self-Advocacy Project (NJSAP) Ashley Ritchey, The Arc of New Jersey's Associate Executive Director Celine Fortin, Growth Through Opportunity's Travis Akins, The Arc of New Jersey's Criminal Justice Advocacy Program Director Jessica Oppenheim, Monmouth County Prosecutor Christopher Gramiccioni and the Kessler Foundation's Elaine Katz.)



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## The Arc of Burlington County's Executive Director, Who Served for More Than 20 Years, Retires

The Arc of New Jersey would like to congratulate



Tom Parente, former Executive Director of The Arc of Burlington County, on his retirement. Tom served the Chapter and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities living in Burlington County for more than two decades. We wish him all the best and we congratulate Joanna Nevadomski who will take the helm effective immediately.

*(Pictured From Left to Right: The Arc of New Jersey's Executive Director Tom Baffuto, The Arc of Burlington County's Executive Director Joanna Nevadomski, Retiring Executive Director Tom Parente and The Arc of Camden County's Executive Director Peggy Englebert)*

## Step Up For The Arc Walks Continue Through Fall

The Step Up For The Arc walks are an annual statewide initiative of The Arc of New Jersey, with walkathons held locally by every county chapter. It's a fun, healthy and easy way to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Make sure to [check out this page](#) for details about an upcoming walk near you!

*(Pictured From Left to Right: The Arc of Cumberland County's Executive Director Jacquelyn Steiner, Board President Dante Romanini and The Arc of NJ's Executive Director Tom Baffuto at The Arc of Cumberland's Walk which took place on September 15 at Parvin State Park.)*



## Take a College Tour With Us!

**Calling all students with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families!**

The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute invites you and your student to tour the different college programs offered throughout the state for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**Fall 2019 Tour Dates (More dates being added!)**

**Thursday, October 3:** Camden County College - Garden State Pathways Program

**Friday, October 18:** The Achievement Center at Raritan Valley Community College - Somerset County

**Friday, November 8:** Keep Achieving (Kach) at Brookdale Community College - Monmouth County

**Friday, November 15:** College Steps program at the Community College of Morris

**Thursday, December 5:** Adult Center for Transition College Tour (Gloucester County)

**Friday, December 13:** LACE (Learning At College Experience) at Sussex County Community College - Information Session

[Click here](#) to see more information and to register for one of the tours. These events are **FREE** but you need to register to attend.



## Chapters Celebrate with Ground Breaking, Ribbon Cutting & Grand Opening

- On September 12, [The Arc Foundation of Somerset County](#) celebrated the first



phase of Camp Jotoni's Transformation with their "Shovels and Champagne" Ground Breaking Ceremony. Camp Jotoni, which is located on Old Sterling Road in Warren, New Jersey, serves children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Following a capital campaign that began in 2014, The Arc Foundation of Somerset County will now renovate two of the camp's four cabins. Upgrades will ensure ADA-accessible bathrooms, air conditioning, heating, personal cubicle space and a front porch. *(Pictured top left, is The Arc of New Jersey's Executive Director Tom Baffuto along with officials from Camp Jotoni, The Arc of Somerset County and The Arc Foundation of Somerset County.)*



- On Thursday, September 26, **The Arc of Cape May** celebrated the opening of their new Day and Vocational Services building with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. A number of dignitaries were on hand, *(pictured top right)* including State Senator Bob Andrzejczak, John Amenhauser, Chief Counsel to Congressman Van Drew, Cape May Freeholder E. Marie Hayes and The Arc of New Jersey's Executive Director Tom Baffuto, to mark this important event
- The Arc Makes Cents, Too! Thrift Store, operated by **The Arc of Atlantic County**, held an outstanding grand opening event on September 19 in Egg Harbor Township. The event included a ribbon cutting ceremony and was attended by local dignitaries and members of the community. The newly renovated location is 10,000 square feet and offers gently used men's, women's and children's clothing, housewares, furniture, jewelry, toys, books, as well as a line of new bedding and mattresses. *Pictured bottom from left to right: The Arc of Atlantic County's Executive Director Scott Hennis, Board of Directors members Stan Kozlowski and Darren Clinkscale and The Arc of New Jersey's Associate Executive Director Celine Fortin.*

## Webinars & Events Throughout October!



Register today for one of the many events hosted by The Arc of New Jersey. Looking for more? Check out our [calendar](#).

### **Webinar: Oral Health for Children with Special Health Care Needs** **Tuesday, October 8 at 6 pm**

The following webinar is designed for caretakers of children with special health care needs. It would provide a general overview of the importance of daily mouth care and how you as caregivers can help. When your child has good oral health, it will improve the quality of both of your lives. Children with special health care needs are at great risk for dental diseases, and many times they do not know how or are unable to care for their teeth. Caregivers can play a very important role in helping a person have good health, comfort, and hygiene.

[Register here!](#)

### **Webinar: Possible Rights in Higher Education** **Tuesday, October 15 at 12 pm**

Students with disabilities are entitled to accommodations designed to "level the playing field." Post-secondary institutions and testing services must therefore provide appropriate accommodations to ensure they are not discriminating based on a student's disability. While some rights and protections guaranteed by these laws terminate when a student with disabilities graduates high school, post-secondary institutions and higher education entrance testing services (ETS, GRE, LSAT) have certain obligations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the American's with Disabilities Act to provide reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities.

[Register here!](#)

**Equal Justice Talks Series: Representing the Criminal Defendant with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities**

**Thursday, October 17 at 2 pm**

The over-representation of people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in the criminal justice system as defendants and victims is well documented. Attorney Elizabeth Kelley has been a zealous advocate for this population all over the country. Join us as she provides practical information for attorneys, people with I/DD and families about working in the system and having the best outcomes of these criminal matters.

[Register here!](#)

**Webinar: Bridging the Gap Between Assistive Technology in Your Child's IEP and How to Maximize it in the Workplace**

**Wednesday, October 23 at 6 pm**

There is a wide range of technology that can help reduce barriers in school and in employment for individuals with disabilities. This webinar will provide an overview of assistive technology, why it is important to include it in your child's IEP, and how it can be beneficial in your student's success in the workplace.

[Register here!](#)

**Free Planning Conference - Central Jersey**

**Saturday, October 26 at the New Road School of Somerset**

These events are held throughout the state and consist of Parent Workshops that include an opening session on planning for transition, a keynote presentation on SSI and Medicaid, workshops (45-60 minutes) on specific topics including: support coordination, the continuum of community services, financial planning, eligibility requirements, and where to find help. The Conference also features a variety of exhibitors including: state and county government entities, community service providers, service coordinators, local health care support, recreation providers, and information & referral services. Families will have the chance to learn more about the resources in their communities and will also have the opportunity to speak with and interview potential service providers.

[Register here!](#)

**Webinar: Let's Talk About Healthy Sexuality & Sexual Safety PART 2 \*New Date\***

**Wednesday, October 30 at 6 pm**

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities should have access to information and services that support the possibility of experiencing healthy relationships and safe sexual experiences free from violence. In this webinar, we will explore the concept of sexual health and discuss the importance of providing information and services that promote healthy sexuality and safety. Attendees will explore the definition of sexuality, and become familiar with sexuality related needs, concerns and interests that can arise as a young person with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities grows. Special emphasis will be placed upon minimizing youth's risk of abuse.

[Register here!](#)

**Facebook Live College Interview & Tour: Keep Achieving (Kach) at Brookdale Community College**

**Wednesday, October 30 at 10 am**

Learn more about different college programs in NJ for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Make sure to "Like" and "Follow" us on [Facebook](#) to receive a notice once we go live. For step-by-step directions on how to participate in our Facebook Live Events, [click HERE](#).

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**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.



## Boggs Center to Host Movie Screening

The Boggs Center is excited to offer a free screening of INTELLIGENT LIVES, a documentary by award-winning filmmaker Dan Habib. INTELLIGENT LIVES stars three pioneering young American adults with intellectual disabilities - Micah, Naieer, and Naomie - who challenge perceptions of intelligence as they navigate high school, college, and the workforce. INTELLIGENT LIVES challenges what it means to be intelligent, and points to a future in which people of all abilities can fully participate in higher education, meaningful employment, and intimate relationships. Following the screening, Dan Habib will facilitate a post-film discussion with the audience. [Click here](#) to register.



## 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

The Arc of New Jersey | 732.246.2525 | [info@arcnj.org](mailto:info@arcnj.org) | [www.arcnj.org](http://www.arcnj.org)

STAY CONNECTED

DONATE NOW!

