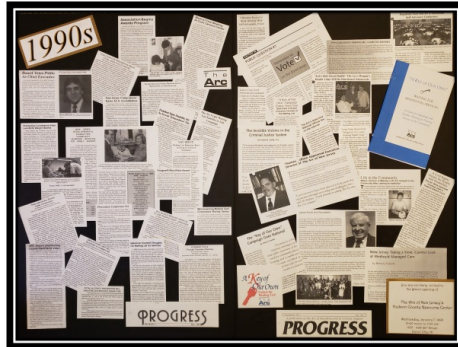


Celebrating 70 Years of Advocacy 1949-2019



November 7, 2019 | Volume 6 - The 1990's



For eight weeks, The Arc of New Jersey is relating its rich history with a series of weekly emails celebrating the people and events that have made The Arc the strong vibrant organization it is today.

To see the first five volumes, [click here.](#)

The Arc's Grassroots Advocacy Grows

1990

John Scagnelli retires and Paul Potito is named the new Executive Director of The Arc of NJ. President George H.W. Bush signs the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

1991

At the urging of self-advocates, the delegate body of NARC votes to change the name of the organization to simply The Arc, no longer having reference to disability in the national organization's name. The Arc of NJ Coalition for Prevention of VDD launches campaign to pass legislation requiring bike helmets for children aged 14 and younger. The Arc of NJ Community Trust Program is spun off to become an independent non-profit organization called the Planned Lifetime Assistance Network of NJ (PLAN/NJ).

1992

The Arc of NJ formally creates a Statewide Advocacy Network. More than 4,000 individuals and families join by returning postcards or calling the office. Project HIRE works with the Woolworth Corporation to film "Employability" highlighting individuals with disabilities from New Jersey in supported employment. The film's introduction features actor James Earl Jones. Johnstone Training Center closes, becoming the first developmental center to close in New Jersey.



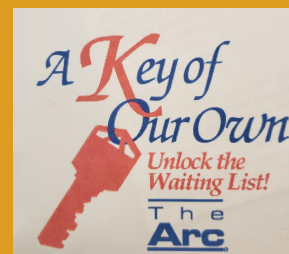
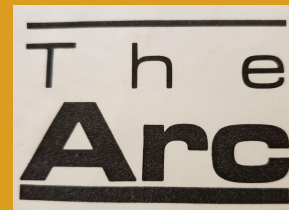
1993

After waging a massive campaign fueled by the stories of families caring for a loved one with VDD, the Family Support Act of 1992 is passed by the NJ Legislature and signed into law. As part of the campaign, 14,000 signatures are collected on petitions and a rally is held at the Statehouse in Trenton where the petitions are presented to the bill's sponsors. Legislation is introduced in the NJ Assembly that would require all official documents in New Jersey to use

people-first language.

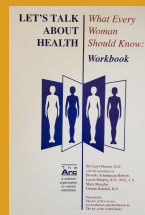
1994

Spurred on by the desperate plight of families waiting for community residential services for their loved ones, The Arc of NJ launches the "A Key of Our Own" campaign. This statewide initiative leads to the passage of a \$160 million bond act to alleviate the community residential waiting list for people with VDD. The campaign becomes a model for other campaigns across the country. The NJ Self-Advocacy Project hosts the 11th annual self-advocacy conference for a record-breaking 500 attendees in Princeton.



1995

The State of NJ begins the closure of North Princeton Developmental Center, although the last resident is not moved until 1998.



1996

The Mainstreaming Medical Care Program develops "What Every Woman Should Know" a special project that includes a workbook and video explaining the importance of women's health exams and healthcare. The film includes an intro by NBC news anchor Jane Hanson.

The Community Health Law Project successfully represents The Arc of NJ and others in an appeal before the US District Court for NJ. The case involves township zoning ordinances in NJ which were discriminatory against people with disabilities and violated the Federal Fair Housing

Amendments Act of 1988.

1998

The Arc of NJ opens the Hudson County Resource Center in Union City to serve individuals with IDD and their families, as the precursor to a Hudson County Chapter of The Arc.

On July 1, Tom Baffuto becomes The Arc of NJ's fifth Executive Director.

1999

In Olmstead v. L.C., the US Supreme Court finds that under the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with mental disabilities have the right to live in the community rather than institutions.

Fun Fact: The Arc of New Jersey created its first website in 1997. The site did not even have its own URL but was housed under the umbrella of a communications company. The new technology allowed The Arc of New Jersey to have email for the first time.

Time is running out!

With only 2 weeks to go, the time is now to purchase tickets and ads for The Arc of New Jersey 70th Anniversary Dinner.

Join us on Thursday, November 21st at The Imperia in Somerset, NJ as we celebrate our 70th Anniversary and honor six exceptional award winners.

- 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)

The deadline for ad sales is today at 5 pm. Tickets may be purchased up to November 14 at 5 pm. For information, visit our [website](http://www.arcnj.org), email cfortin@arcnj.org or call 732.733.6013.

The Arc of New Jersey 70th Anniversary Campaign

As you can see, The Arc of New Jersey has had a wonderful history of advocacy and service. To continue our wonderful work, *we need your help!*

In honor of our 70th Anniversary, The Arc of New Jersey is launching a special 70th Anniversary campaign to raise \$70,000.

Every donation has the power to make a significant difference in the life of someone with IDD and their family.

Please donate today to help us reach our goal!

DONATE NOW!

