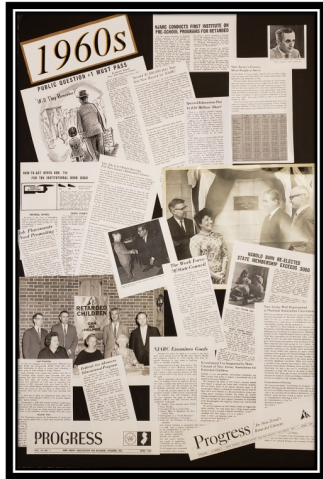


# Celebrating 70 Years of Advocacy 1949-2019



October 17, 2019 | Volume 3 - The 1960'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 two volumes, [click here](#).

Join us for a celebration of our past and present at **The Arc of New Jersey 70th Anniversary Dinner and Awards** on Thursday, November 21st. Tickets, journal ads and sponsorships are available by visiting our [website](#), emailing [cfortin@arcnj.org](mailto:cfortin@arcnj.org) or calling 732.733.6013.

## Increasing Supports and Services

### April 1960

NJARC conducts first-ever institute on pre-school programs for children with I/DD.

### July 1960

The State office moves from Trenton to Morris St., New Brunswick. It then moves to Bayard St., New Brunswick in September 1965.

### March 1961

Eighteen local units of The Arc now covered all 21 counties in New Jersey.

### August 1963

NJARC negotiates the first ever life insurance policy for people with I/DD through the Columbian Mutual Life Insurance Co. Premiums were \$20 a year.

### July 1965

The State of NJ is operating 6 institutions with 6,220 residents. Overcrowding is so significant that NJARC successfully advocates for the creation of community "purchase of care" placements.

### 1967

The NJARC State Council adopts its first official Constitution and By-Laws.

### June 1967

Elizabeth Boggs represents the USA at an international conference on legislative objectives for individuals with I/DD in Stockholm, Sweden.

### Elizabeth Monroe Boggs 1915-1996



No history of The Arc would be complete without the story of Elizabeth Boggs. Born in 1915 in Cleveland, OH, Elizabeth attended Bryn Mawr and Cambridge University, pursuing a career in the field of theoretical chemistry. During the early years of World War II, she secured a position at Cornell where she met her future husband Fitzhugh Boggs. They were married in 1941 and both worked on secret projects during the war. Their son David was born in 1945 and while still an infant, developed a severe infection which caused his disability. With David's diagnosis, Elizabeth shifted her focus to advocacy and the development of public policy for people with I/DD. She and Fitzhugh became involved with The Arc, both serving as President of NJARC, Fitzhugh in 1956 and Elizabeth in 1966. Elizabeth became the first woman president of the National Association in 1958.

It is impossible in this small space to convey the breadth and depth of Elizabeth Boggs' involvement and contribution to the I/DD community. She was a principal author of the United Nations Declaration of General and Special Rights of the Mentally Retarded. With Justin Dart, she co-chaired the congressionally appointed Task Force on Rights and Empowerment of People with Disabilities, an important impetus to the development of the Americans with

### Summer 1967

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation promises NJARC grants for 2,000 employers, to promote on-the-job training for individuals with I/DD.

### January 1969

After the resignation of Theodore Lucas in Fall 1968, Alvin Finkelstein becomes NJARC's second Executive Director.

The NJARC State Council is replaced by two bodies - a Board of Directors and a Delegate Assembly.



Disabilities Act. Elizabeth served on the SSI Modernization Project and, at the time of her death, was serving on the Social Security Administration's Task Force on Representative Payees.

Elizabeth's work spanned from local to state to national levels. She organized the first classes for children with I/DD in Essex County, was intricately involved in the Camphill movement, and was part of a small group that wrote the Developmental Disabilities Act and shepherded it through Congress. Elizabeth was equally respected and sought after for her knowledge and expertise by parents, County Freeholders, Governors and members of Congress. In 1960 she was appointed to the President's Panel on Mental Retardation. Elizabeth was an integral member of The Arc of New Jersey Board of Directors and its Governmental Affairs Committee until her death in 1996.

We in New Jersey were blessed and proud to have Elizabeth Boggs as our leader, mentor and champion. Those of us who had the pleasure of working with her personally will never forget her incredible intellect, wit and extraordinary compassion.

*Elizabeth Monroe Boggs is pictured above and left. To read more about Elizabeth Monroe Boggs' life and work, [click here](#) to see a special 1995 edition of The NJ Council on Developmental Disabilities' *Families* magazine commemorating Elizabeth's 80th birthday.*

**FUN FACT:** The NJARC FY 1953-54 operating budget was \$1,758. By FY 1966-67 it had grown to \$65,000. The total combined operating budgets of the State Council and local units was \$1,498,530 for the 1964-65 fiscal year.

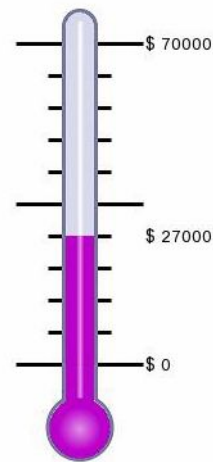
**Have you enjoyed reading about our history?  
Then please support our work with a donation today!**

### The Arc of New Jersey 70th Anniversary Campaign

It's been a lot of fun researching and telling the story of the history of The Arc of New Jersey. **But in order to keep the story going, we need the support of everyone in the community.** Our 70th Anniversary Campaign has a goal of raising \$70,000. These funds are critical for The Arc of New Jersey to be able to continue to give individuals with I/DD and their families the help they need.

**Please make your tax-deductible contribution today!!**

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