

# ANNUAL AWARDS 2023







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George T. Barnard IV

Award Ceremony 2023

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ARC



As President of the Board of Directors, I am thrilled to present the 2023 awards to this evening's honorees and I can't think of a group more deserving of this incredible recognition. It gives me great pride to share with you just a snapshot of all the incredible work I get to see and experience at The Arc of NJ. The people highlighted this year have truly gone above and beyond for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. As the organization's Board President, and as a parent, I am in awe of the Local County Chapters of The Arc, families and self-advocates, lawmakers and members of the Administration, and partner organizations we are here to celebrate. The Arc of New Jersey relies on all of this evening's awardees to advocate and to educate, and to bring forward positive change for people with IDD and their families.

It is easy to get caught up in the daily challenges that come before us. I hope you will use this evening as an opportunity to pause and reflect on how much we are accomplishing as a community and how fortunate we are to have so many dedicated individuals and professionals who are willing to step up on behalf of people with IDD. I hope you enjoy this evening's festivities and I thank you for being here tonight, for supporting our 2023 Awards Celebration and for making this event such a special occasion.

*-Kevin Sturges*

Award Ceremony 2023

## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I am delighted to have you all here this evening to celebrate this year's incredible awardees. Each year, a small group assembles to make and review nominations and it is no easy task to select the winners. However, tonight's honorees bring something truly remarkable to the table. They give of themselves: their time, their resources and their heart. And they do this not because it will improve their own lives, but because it will improve the lives of others. These individuals and organizations have made extraordinary efforts to help people with intellectual and developmental disabilities lead the best lives possible in all regions of New Jersey. We are grateful for all that they do, and although they are not seeking praise, we must recognize their incredible contributions to this field and those we represent.

I am heartened by the way we've pushed through the pandemic and come out the other side. And as we celebrate tonight, we honor incredible people and organizations, but also the ability to come back together as a community. Our strength is in our solidarity and I appreciate you all being here tonight, in solidarity with The Arc of New Jersey.

*-Thomas Baffuto*

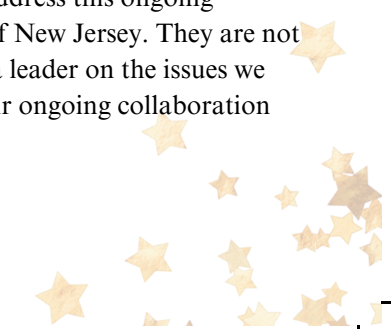


## President's Award



The President's Award is reserved for a recipient that truly goes above and beyond to help our community and to be a friend and supporter of The Arc of New Jersey. We can think of no group who more clearly exemplifies that description than the New Jersey Business and Industry Association. Charged with championing a competitive business climate and facilitating partnerships among business, government and academia, NJBIA has been and continues to be an incredible proponent of employment opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. They have devoted tremendous time and energy to bringing together industry leaders with a goal of educating businesses and exposing companies to the benefits of hiring a person with IDD. Whether it's webinars or resource sharing, NJBIA has done extraordinary work to promote people with disabilities as a viable pool of workers who should not be overlooked.

In terms of public policy, NJBIA supports initiatives aimed at attracting people to the Direct Support Professional workforce. This includes building up DSP course offerings at county colleges, focusing on career development, and helping to build a pipeline of workers that will reduce staff vacancies across the state. NJBIA has also worked with the Department of Labor to connect job seekers with open DSP positions. During the pandemic, NJBIA started a Healthcare Workforce Coalition aimed at addressing workforce challenges and the care crisis and the ways in which business, academia and providers can work together to address this ongoing challenge. NJBIA is an outstanding partner to The Arc of New Jersey. They are not just participants in the disability conversation. They are a leader on the issues we care about and we are grateful for their work and for their ongoing collaboration with our organization.



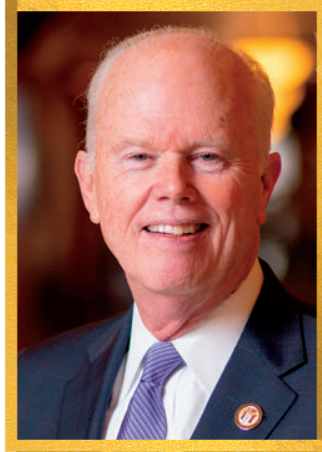


## **Spirit of The Arc Award**

### **Jennifer Langer Jacobs**

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities living in New Jersey are very fortunate to have Jennifer Langer Jacobs serving as Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS). It would be hard to find a more dedicated public servant than Jenn. A hands-on and truly caring individual, Jenn is always responsive to the needs of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and an incredible partner to The Arc of New Jersey. As we worked through the challenges brought about by the pandemic, and now the Medicaid Unwinding, our community is grateful to have the Assistant Commissioner at the helm. Always proactive and interested in stakeholder feedback, Jenn is laser-focused on preventing people who are eligible for NJ Family Care/Medicaid from being removed from the Medicaid rolls. In advance of the Unwinding's start, Jenn brought together a small group of stakeholders to discuss how best to approach the monumental task of reevaluating eligibility of the state's Medicaid enrollees. The Assistant Commissioner wanted to hear first-hand from those on the ground about the best way to plan for the future.

She is incredibly invested in the well-being of those we represent and her care and concern comes through in everything she does. She has cultivated an incredible high-level team at DMAHS and she sets an amazing example for all of those at the Department who work alongside her. Whether it's information sharing or communicating or brainstorming ways to make the system better, Jennifer Langer Jacobs does an incredible job as the State's Medicaid Director and we look forward to honoring her this evening and continuing to work closely with her and her office in the weeks and months ahead.



## **Legislator of the Year**

### **Senator Patrick Diegnan, Jr.**

Senator Diegnan is a true friend to The Arc of New Jersey. The Senator is always standing up for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families, and those we represent can always count on his support. As Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee, Senator Diegnan ensures transportation issues impacting people with IDD are at the forefront of his Committee's agenda. He frequently sponsors bills that aim to improve transportation accessibility or that make travel throughout the State of New Jersey a more seamless process for those with mobility challenges. Recently, legislation he sponsored (Senate Bill 147) was signed into law by the Governor. This bill will require the Department of Transportation to develop universal design concepts that advance the mobility options for persons with IDD and autism spectrum disorder. He is also the sponsor of many other bills aimed at improving mass transit utilization for people with disabilities, including legislation that would allow certain caregivers of person with IDD to make use of reserved parking zones, legislation that requires the Motor Vehicle Commission to allow a person to indicate special needs with their motor vehicle registration and a bill that requires certain transportation research to consider the unique needs of individuals with physical, sensory, intellectual, and developmental disabilities. With transportation being a top issue for Self-Advocates, we are thankful that Senator Diegnan has prioritized these matters throughout the year.

Additionally, as a member of the Senate Budget Committee, we can always count on Senator Diegnan to support the appropriations that allow people with IDD to live successfully in the community. He is always accessible to our organization when we need him and he is a wonderful partner at the State House. We are very pleased to be naming him as Legislator of the Year.



## **Legislator of the Year**

### **Assembly woman Carol Murphy**

Since being elected to the Assembly in 2017, Carol Murphy has demonstrated a true commitment to improving the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, and community provider organizations. In her role with the Assembly Human Services Committee, Assemblywoman Murphy was always supportive of legislation that would advance important policy impacting those with IDD. She is always inquisitive about disability issues and interested in hearing from stakeholders about how proposed legislation would affect this community.

In her role on the Assembly Budget Committee, Assemblywoman Murphy is a strong supporter of the community's funding needs, including Direct Support Professional wage increases and early intervention services. She demonstrated just how much she understands the needs of people with IDD when she sponsored Assembly Bill 5262 which greatly improves the eligibility requirements for the NJ WorkAbility Medicaid program. The first phase of the NJ WorkAbility enhancements was implemented on April 1st, eliminating asset limits for persons who have NJ WorkAbility! Furthermore, recipients whose employment ends through no fault of their own, can continue to have Medicaid for up to a year while seeking new employment and allow a person with a disability who is employed to maintain WorkAbility beyond the age of 65. These are all significant changes that will have real and meaningful impact on individuals with IDD.

The Assemblywoman is also a sponsor of many other pieces of legislation that will benefit people with IDD and their families, including bills to incentivize businesses to hire people with IDD, bills that target the need for accessibility, and bills that recognize the need to increase rates for the provider community. Assemblywoman Murphy is very worthy of this year's Legislator of the Year Award and we are grateful to have her as an advocate in Trenton for people with IDD.





## **Professional of the Year**

### **Renee White**

Renee White, a highly-skilled professional with extensive experience as a nurse, lawyer, and psychiatric nurse practitioner, has done a great deal to assist individuals served by The Arc of New Jersey's Criminal Justice Advocacy Program. Renee, a Supervising Assistant Prosecutor in New Jersey for more than 15 years, and the President of the Assistant Prosecutors Association of New Jersey, is the OAG Special Needs Training Coordinator for law enforcement in Ocean County and the assistant prosecutor liaison to the Ocean County Police Academy, the Ocean County Jail and the Department of Human Services. She has exhibited incredible empathy and support for individuals with IDD who are charged with crimes in Ocean County.

The Criminal Justice Advocacy program has had numerous cases brought to her office and she has proven herself to be an amazing advocate. She has extensive experience working with individuals with significant mental health challenges, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and veterans and that makes her very well-suited for her current positions as Director of the Special Offenders Unit and Coordinator of the Prosecutor-Led Mental Health Diversion Program and Veterans Diversion Program.

As someone who understands the challenges facing people with IDD who become involved in the criminal justice system, Renee established a diversion program for individuals with mental illness and intellectual and developmental disabilities who have been charged with a crime. Other county prosecutors look to her knowledge and experience in being fair and setting reasonable expectations beyond incarceration. Her compassion and dedication have made a significant difference in the lives of many people, and she is highly respected as an advocate, teacher, and friend. We are very pleased to recognize her with the Professional of the Year Award.





## **Martin Papish Award**

### **Kathleen Hinnigan- Cohen**

Kathy is a life-long advocate for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families, dedicating her life's work to delivering needed services and assisting those served by The Arc of Essex to navigate the various State systems. Starting as a social worker helping young children served by the Stepping Stones School and Early Intervention Program, Kathy has always put a strong emphasis on early childhood supports and services, strongly believing that a solid foundation is essential to putting youth with IDD and their families on a strong path for the future. In her initial role with the Chapter, Kathy provided tools to help families effectively advocate for the needs of their children, shared resources and offered guidance. In the years that followed, Kathy spearheaded the expansion of the Chapter's early intervention, school and respite programs. She also worked to create and develop new programs in response to the ever-changing needs of those who depend on The Arc of Essex County for support.

While over the years Kathy's titles changed and progressed, her unwavering commitment and sincere dedication to people with IDD remained steadfast. As the Chapter's Chief Operating Officer, Kathy now oversees all programs and services including adult and children's services as well as the operational support departments, including human resources and information technology. And though her responsibilities have grown, she remains a tremendous advocate for young children as the Governor's appointee to the Statewide Interagency Coordinating Council where she greatly enhances the voice of EI providers in the decisions being made about the system. After nearly 30 years at The Arc of Essex County, Kathy has impacted countless lives, smoothing what can be a challenging road for families, providing a guiding hand along the way, and helping each individual realize a lifetime of achievement and community inclusion. She is an incredibly valued member of The Arc family and very deserving of this year's Martin Papish Award.



## **Legacy Award**

### **Frank Caragher**

During Frank's 33-year career at The Arc of Union County, protecting and improving community services for people with IDD and their families was always at the forefront of everything he did. From the beginning, Frank ensured that the state government understood the significance of adequate funding for services including advocating for legislation that was friendly to service delivery. Arriving at the agency in 1990, Frank pushed the Chapter forward, growing services and setting forth a vision for the organization that has led to expanded development, high-quality comprehensive services and a family-friendly focus. Under Frank's leadership, the Chapter and its offerings truly exploded and The Arc of Union now delivers services to more than 1,000 families across the county. Throughout Frank's career he also advocated for the system at large.

For a number of years Frank served as the Public Member of the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities advocating on various issues and challenges impacting people with IDD. He also represented CEArc as Chair of the Contracted Services Committee, an advisory group with high-ranking members of the Division of Developmental Disabilities. In this capacity, Frank communicated the needs of the Chapters and pushed for changes to ensure appropriate service delivery across the State. He was also a constant presence each year at the Disability Policy Seminar in Washington, DC where he advocated to protect federal entitlement programs and to pass legislation that would improve the lives of people with IDD and their families living across the country. As the Executive Director at The Arc of Union County, Frank established exceptional services for those living throughout the county and at the same time he was an advocate for the entire system and for all people with disabilities living in New Jersey. He is truly worthy of this year's Legacy Award.



## **Legacy Award**

### **Richard Lecher**

Richard Lecher's impact on people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in Sussex County is absolutely unmatched. As the only President and CEO the Chapter had ever had, he recently retired after more than 50 years with SCARC, Inc. Richard is truly the architect of services in Sussex County, growing and expanding to meet the needs of those with IDD. Starting with a small day program and no residential programs, SCARC now operates more than 20 group homes, a vibrant supportive living program, multiple day programs, employment opportunities, family support services and recreational activities. This is no small feat. And it is one that Richard built alongside local Sussex county town officials, businesses, and community members. In addition to creating a wide range of services and supports, Richard established strong bonds with mayors and county commissioners, state lawmakers, local law enforcement, businesses large and small, and other area nonprofits. This is because Richard believes that people with disabilities are members of the community, and that all people with IDD should be able to access that community. That is why Richard worked very hard to engage and involved the community in every aspect of SCARC's work so that the integration of those with disabilities, and those without, was seamless and natural.

Some of Richard's standout accomplishments include SCARC's Transition Services program which was designed to assist students, families and schools to work together in a team atmosphere to implement strategies for a successful transition from school to adulthood. He also started SCARC's highly successful Harvest Home programs that provide people with IDD a chance to meaningfully contribute to the Sussex County community. The programs provide local residents with much-needed nutritious food while also helping individuals develop vocational and social skills. Richard is an incredible advocate and very deserving of tonight's honor.



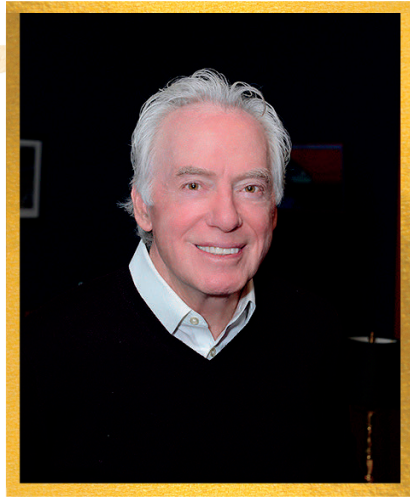
## **Volunteer of the Year**

### **Susan Fegely**

Susan Fegely is a dedicated volunteer that motivates others to give back and who takes great pride in helping members of the community. Susan has been a member of The Arc of Burlington Board of Directors for 36 years. She became an officer in 1995 and president in 2011, a post she holds today. Susan is one of those people you can count on for everything. She is always available to discuss issues and she and her family can be found volunteering at every event including the walkathon, golf outing, and carnival to name a few.

The Arc of Burlington relies on Susan for her unwavering commitment to people with IDD and for her willingness to lend a hand whenever the need arises. Although she's not a fan of being the center of attention, Susan is an incredibly-hard worker and accomplishes a great deal behind the scenes to make any given event or fundraiser a success. She is organized and a sought-after volunteer in many worthwhile organizations both related and unrelated to disability.

Some of her service to her community includes heading up the Parent Support Group of the Special Services School in Burlington for more than 20 years and working with the Mercer and Burlington County Knights of Columbus during their annual Tootsie Roll drives. She is beloved by her community and The Arc of Burlington County and we are honored to recognize her this evening.



## **Distinguished Community Service**

### **Norm Worth and WRNJ Radio**

Norm Worth is a true community partner for The Arc of Warren County. Norm, and WRNJ Radio, have donated countless hours of on-air time to support the Chapter and their initiatives. However the one event that stands out the most is The Arc of Warren County's Radiothon which WRNJ has sponsored for 33 years. This annual event would not be possible without Norm, the President and General Manager of WRNJ, who is incredibly generous and supportive. Because of Norm and WRNJ, the Radiothon has raised more than \$1.5 million in funds throughout the years.

Through the event, The Arc of Warren is able to spread the news about the many services the Chapter provides to individuals and families. As part of the Radiothon, an entire day is devoted to sharing stories about the impact of The Arc of Warren County's work with individuals with IDD, families, community leaders and employees. Norm plays a big role with the Radiothon and has served for five consecutive years as the event co-chair. The success of the event would not be possible without Norm and his staff who put in countless hours to support the Radiothon and the Chapter. We are thrilled to be recognizing Norm with tonight's Distinguished Community Service Award.





## **Self-Advocacy Leadership Award**

### **Pamela King**

Pam King is a tremendous advocate for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and an incredible example for other self-advocates who want to hone and grow their advocacy skills. Independent Advocate of the Council 4 of the New Jersey Statewide Self-Advocacy Network, Pam is a strong, talented advocate and a person who goes above and beyond to fulfill her responsibilities with Council 4. Her long standing commitment and dedication to the self-advocacy movement are well known.

Pam has participated in legislative hearings on important topics and has served as a panelist and speaker at various events highlighting best practices in supporting self-advocacy. Just a few weeks ago, Pam testified before the Senate Budget Committee. She advocated for a more effective system of support for people with disabilities who live on their own. She addressed helping people move out of nursing homes and institutional settings and obtain reasonable housing, expanding Supportive Housing Connection (SHC) Housing Vouchers, and adding further options for people with disabilities seeking low income apartments.

Pam is proud to be her own guardian and she uses Supported Decision Making, a tool she promotes as an option for other people with disabilities and their families as an alternative to guardianship. It's something she spoke passionately about while meeting with the Governor's Office last year. Whether it's participating in self-advocacy panels with up and coming physicians and teachers, or co-presenting the keynote speech at the NJSSAN fall conference, Pam King is at the forefront of advocacy issues in New Jersey and is ensuring the needs of people with disabilities are heard throughout the State.



## **Outstanding Community Service**

### **George T. Barnhard IV**

In 2002 the Grand Lodge of NJ Free and Accepted Masons began a partnership with Local County Chapters of The Arc in New Jersey to support their annual walkathons. For The Arc of Bergen & Passaic Counties, this partnership has been a Godsend, as the members of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Masonic Districts have remained tireless volunteers for all these years. This is due in very large part to the commitment and dedication of George Barnard. For more than 20 years, it has been George's hard work and leadership that has brought out the Masons, year after year to help make the annual walkathon a success. Each year they provide water, breakfast and lunch to the walkathon attendees, coming onsite early to set up, cook and serve.

As the partnership between The Arc of Bergen & Passaic and the Masonic Districts grew, George was instrumental in the Chapter's being named a recipient of the proceeds from the Annual North Jersey Masonic Charity Ball. For many years now The Arc of Bergen & Passaic has benefitted from this annual fundraiser along with the Children's Dyslexia Centers, the Masonic Charity Foundation of NJ and the Rainbow & DeMolay Chapters in Northern NJ.

George's community involvement goes well beyond his service to The Arc. He has volunteered for the NJ Wheelchair Track and Field Regional meets for more than two decades and has a lifelong involvement in Scouting. An Eagle Scout himself, George has served in numerous roles within the Boy Scouts including President of the Patriots' Path Council. He has been honored by the Boy Scouts with a District Award of Merit, as well as the Silver Beaver Award, Scouting's highest recognition for volunteer service at the Council level.

George Barnard is an amazing volunteer, a man of integrity and character who is committed to helping his community. The Arc of New Jersey is grateful for all his support and is pleased to present him with the 2023 Outstanding Community Service Award.

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# Congratulations to The Arc of New Jersey's 2023 Annual Award Honorees

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## Congratulations to the Honorees!

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*Congratulations to all of the 2023 Honorees*

*Your caring, commitment and dedication is inspiring  
and makes a world of difference to  
children and adults with IDD and their families.*

*Thank you for all you do!*

*Tom and Gerri Baffuto*

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*Congratulations  
to all the 2023 Honorees.*

*May we continue our service  
to The Arc.*

*George T. Barnard IV*

**Congratulations to The Arc of New Jersey 2023 Award Winners**

Thank you for your support and service to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

*The Programs of The Arc of New Jersey:*

*Mainstreaming Medical Care*

*Criminal Justice Advocacy Program*

*The NJ Self-Advocacy Project*

*The Arc of NJ Family Institute*

*Planning for Adult Life*

*Project HIRE*

*Training and Consultation Services*

Congratulations!

*Frank X. Caragher*  
*Executive Director*

2023 Legacy Award

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What is a legacy? For The Arc of Union County, Frank Caragher is a legacy. Frank's love of our mission, the individuals that we serve, kindness, humor and approachable manner will forever live in the hearts of all who have spent time with him.

We all graciously thank you, Frank, for the legacy of a good heart.

---



  
**The Arc**  
Union County



*Congratulations!*

THE ARC OF MONMOUTH  
CONGRATULATES ALL  
THE ARC OF NEW JERSEY'S  
2023 AWARD HONOREES

***Thank you for your  
commitment and support  
to individuals with  
intellectual and  
developmental disabilities  
and their families.***

The Arc of Essex County  
is proud to honor  
Martin Papish Award  
winner

**Kathleen  
Hinnigan-Cohen**

Congratulations to  
Kathy and all of  
tonight's award  
winners!





# Congratulations to all of the 2023 honorees

Thank you for dedicating your time and talent to The Arc and the individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families who we serve.

The Executive Committee  
of The Arc of New Jersey

Kevin Sturges  
Karen Murphy  
Lauren Zalepka  
Pamela Corrigan  
Andy Sharick  
S. Paul Prior  
Robert Hage  
Steve Shallop  
Ruby Goyal-Carkeek  
Marnie McNany  
Charles Pinto  
Joanne Bergin

# *Congratulations to tonight's honorees!*

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# ***Congratulations***



***Norman Worth and WRNJ Radio***  
for receiving

**The Arc of New Jersey's  
Distinguished Community Service Award**

***Your commitment to the betterment of  
The Arc of Warren County and beyond  
has resulted in an enormous positive  
impact on our community!***

***Congratulations  
to all of the honorees!***



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**THANK YOU TO  
THE ARC OF NEW JERSEY  
FOR THIS INCREDIBLE HONOR**

***It is a privilege to be in a position  
to advocate for individuals with  
intellectual and developmental  
disabilities.***

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Patrick J. Diegnan Jr.", written in a cursive style.

**SENATOR PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.  
18th Legislative District  
The Arc of New Jersey's  
2023 Legislator of the Year**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**BEST OF THE BEST!**  
**AWARD WINNERS!**

**KATHLEEN HINNIGAN-COHEN**

**MARTIN PAPISH AWARD**

**RICHARD LECHER**

**LEGACY AWARD**

**FRANK CARAGHER**

**LEGACY AWARD**

**NEW JERSEY**  
**CEARC**

**AND ALL OF TONIGHT'S**  
**2023 AWARD HONOREES**

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# *Congratulations!*

## **The Arc Mercer Congratulates**



# Congratulations to the honorees.

“The greatness of a community  
is most accurately measured  
by the compassionate actions  
of its members.”

*Coretta Scott King*



  
**The Arc.**  
of Atlantic County  
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CONGRATULATES

# **The Arc of New Jersey's 2023 Annual Award Honorees**

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Congratulations!

To

George T. Barnard IV

**OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY  
SERVICE AWARD HONOREE**



Thank you for your years of dedicaon to The Arc.  
Your leadership and support has made a posive  
impact on the lives of the individuals we serve.

# **The SCARC Family of Services**



**Congratulates and Applauds**

**Richard C. Lecher, Ph.D.**

**Retired, President & Chief Executive Officer  
SCARC, Inc.**

**For His Honor of Receiving**

**The Arc of New Jersey 2023 Award Celebration  
Legacy Award**

**And Also Congratulates  
Today's Distinguished Award Honorees**



# CONGRATULATIONS

On behalf of everyone at The Arc Middlesex County, we would like to congratulate The Arc of New Jersey on the meritorious Annual Award Celebration. This is a wonderful event which recognizes individuals, organizations, and corporations for their efforts in ensuring children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families have access to a deserving life.

Our special appreciation goes to:

**Richard Lecher**, (SCArc, Inc.) - Legacy Award

**Frank Caragher**, (The Arc Union) - Legacy Award

**Kathleen Hinnigan-Cohen**, The Arc Essex - Martin Papish Award



*"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant."*



**Congratulations, Frank Caragher and The Arc of New Jersey!**

**From, the Caragher family**

Kathy Hinnigan-Cohen  
Richard Lecher  
Frank Caragher

*Congrats!*

FROM  
THE ARC OF HUNTERDON  
COUNTY

And All of New Jersey 2023 Award Winners

*Congratulations!*  
from **Arc**  
M O R R I S

ArcMorris congratulates all of The Arc of New Jersey's  
2023 Annual Award Honorees!

**President's Award** - NJ Business and Industry Association

**Spirit of The Arc Award** - Jennifer Langer Jacobs, NJDHS, DMAHS

**Legislator of the Year** - Senator Patrick Diegnan, Jr. (D-18)

**Legislator of the Year** - Assemblywoman Carol Murphy (D-7)

**Professional of the Year** - Renee White, Ocean County Prosecutor's Office

**Volunteer of the Year** - Susan Fegely, The Arc of Burlington

**Self-Advocacy Leadership Award** - Pam King, Council 4, NJSSAN

**Distinguished Community Service** - Norm Worth, WRNJ

**Martin Papish Award** - Kathleen Hinnigan-Cohen, The Arc of Essex

**Legacy Award** - Richard Lecher, SCArc, Inc.

**Legacy Award** - Frank Caragher, The Arc of Union County

**Outstanding Community Service** - George Barnard



Congratulations  
to all the honorees  
and thank you  
for your  
wonderful work

Andy and Alice  
Sharick

Congratulations to  
all tonight's honorees  
and thank you to  
everyone who supported  
The Arc of New Jersey's  
2023 Award Celebration

Céline Fortin  
and  
Bernard Viggiani

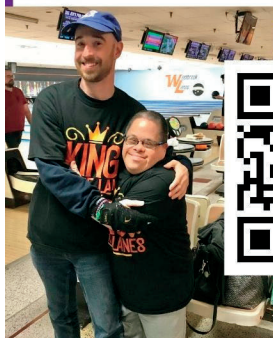
*Congratulations  
to all the  
2023 award winners!*

*Tom Mannion  
Executive Director  
Amanda Paoletti  
President*



*Empowering individuals with intellectual and  
developmental disabilities and their families to  
achieve their highest potential through advocacy,  
education, and quality services for over 66 years!*

**Congratulations to the  
2023 award winners!**



Congratulations to the  
2023 honorees!



**Congratulations to**

**Sue Fegely**

**On your well-deserved**

**Volunteer of the Year Award**

**from all of us at**

**The Arc of Burlington County**

Thank you to  
to all the  
2023 Honorees  
for your support of  
The Arc of New Jersey  
and congratulations!

Michael and Deborah  
Prendergast

Congratulations  
to all the  
Award  
Recipients



The Arc of New Jersey is the state's largest nonprofit advocacy organization for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. Started by the parent of a child with developmental disabilities, the organization remains a parent-directed membership organization, with a firm belief in the effectiveness of grassroots advocacy. The Arc of New Jersey is affiliated with The Arc of the United States, which has more than 600 affiliated chapters, and community-based services are available statewide through a strong network of local county chapters.

The state office of The Arc of New Jersey is responsible for general statewide activities, including:

- Public Policy and Governmental Affairs
- Communications and Public Relations
- Information and Referral
- Community Outreach
- The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute, advocating for and helping families of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities navigate service systems

The Arc of New Jersey also runs six programs:

- Project HIRE, an award-winning supported employment and school-to-work transition program
- New Jersey Self Advocacy Project, supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to become stronger advocates for their own lives
- Mainstreaming Medical Care Program, providing information, referral and advocacy regarding the health care needs of people with developmental disabilities
- Criminal Justice Advocacy Program, helping people with developmental disabilities navigate the criminal justice system, and providing training for law enforcement and the courts
- Planning for Adult Life, assisting young adults 14-21 years old and their families to plan for their adult life after graduation
- Training and Consultation Services, providing a wide array of staff training and technical assistance to Supported Employment Providers, Self-Advocates, Families and Schools

For more information about The Arc of New Jersey, or any of our programs or projects, visit our website at [www.arcnj.org](http://www.arcnj.org).







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