



## Walk 2016

The 13th Annual Arc/Morris Foundation Walk was held on Sunday, September 25, 2016. This year's event raised over \$33,000 to benefit the programs and services the agency provides for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout Morris County. Over 300 walkers, supporters and volunteers contributed to the event's success and we are most thankful for the following sponsors:

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| ASCO                                    | Nathans Famous                |
| Clancey Realty Group LLC                | Paul's Diner                  |
| Grand Lodge of New Jersey               | American Coachwerks           |
| The 11th Masonic District of New Jersey | The Testa Family              |
| Lakeland Charities                      | Johnson & Johnson             |
| Rose & Isadore Zeman Foundation         | Bonaventura Devine Foundation |
| Friends of The Arc/Morris               | Speer Air                     |
| The Byrne Family                        | David W. Popp                 |
| Roxbury Automotive                      | USI                           |
| Sack's Shell                            | United National Group         |
| Stop and Shop                           |                               |

THANK YOU!

## Annual Golf Outing 2017

Please mark your calendars for our 29th Annual Golf Outing on June 8, 2017, at Black Bear Golf Course in Hamburg, New Jersey. Golfer registration begins in March! Help us out! Be a sponsor! Contact the Development Office at (973) 326-9750, Ext. 211 for more information.



Touchstone

is a publication of The Arc/Morris, an association that serves people with intellectual and related disabilities and their families. If you would like to learn more about The Arc/Morris, please write us at: P.O. Box 123, Morris Plains, NJ 07950, call us at (973) 970-9326, Ext. 326, or find us on the web at [arcmorris.org](http://arcmorris.org)

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## A PLACE TO CALL HOME

In the late 1970's, spurred by the grass roots efforts of families with children with developmental disabilities, the New Jersey Legislature passed laws which permitted the development of group homes in residential neighborhoods. These new laws allowed people to move from institutional living to community-based settings in homes managed exclusively for them. Giving them, finally, a home of their own.

In the Spring of 1983 with the opening of our very first group home, The Arc/Morris began what would become our highly recognized Residential Program. Since its inception—and continuing today—we consistently provide the highest quality of



care for people with all levels of intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout Morris County.

When the Parsippany Group Home opened in 1983, Barbara was among the very first residents to move in. Today, 33 years later, she is still with us. She is our longest standing residential consumer.

Barbara was 26 years old at the time, and living at The North Jersey Developmental Center since she was 3. She spent the majority of her early years in institutional life. Coming to her new 'home' environment would be a big adjustment, but one Barbara was not only ready but able to take on. While some tasks and behaviors took a while to adjust to, Barbara did it! Today, Barbara still lives at the Parsippany Home. What could have been simply a life has become a fulfilled one, surrounded by a family who cares for her every day.

In late 2014, our respite home in Chatham began a massive renovation to be converted into the new Chatham Group Home. We were proud to open the doors in early 2016 to a new group of residents.

Nathaniel was one of the first residents to join us. When he was 12 years old, he went to reside at the New Lisbon Developmental Center. In 2001, he was transferred to the North Jersey Developmental Center. And then in 2013 he went back to New Lisbon when North Jersey was closing. As with all moves, some adjustments were needed. But Nathaniel came through them and is proud to show off his room to you when you visit! When he isn't dancing and singing around the group home while listening to music, he attends the Hanover Adult Training Center working on recycling and paper shredding. Being one of 6 children, his parents are happy to have him living closer to their home in Paterson. And now, at 43, Nathaniel has finally found a place to call his own.



Both Barbara and Nathaniel came from Developmental Centers in New Jersey, over 33 years apart. At times it is unfathomable to think that they still exist. But with the push from the state's Department of Human Services to close all New Jersey Developmental Centers, we at The Arc/Morris will continue to provide and if necessary, grow this program with more residential settings in the future. For after all, everyone deserves a place to call home. ■

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## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I can still smell the burning toast.

I had jumped in to cover staff shortages at our group home—we only had one at the time. While helping Barbara prepare her lunch for the next day, I was told she had nearly achieved that goal. But, I was warned, “Don’t help her, even if she makes a mistake.”

So, as I watched her gather her bread, her peanut butter and her banana, I anticipated success—for both of us. As she was ready to apply the Skippy to the bread, she paused. Realizing she forgot the knife, she went to the drawer. Returning to the peanut butter, she moved on. Cutting the banana was a piece of cake. As she completed the placement of the bananas on the bread, I was overwhelmed with excitement. She did it!

But, something happened. Barbara looked up, glanced over to the toaster. And I realized we were quickly heading down a difficult path. She wanted the bread toasted. So, with the staff’s warning in my ear, I stood frozen. She proceeded to jam the completed sandwich into the toaster.

The cleanup was almost fun. I am told the trip to K Mart the next day for a new toaster went well. But most importantly, Barbara never made that mistake again. And along the way, she had learned to make her own lunch.

Care, support, advancement—these values underscore our mission as an organization. They were true that incredible evening 33 years ago, and they remain so today.

Let’s remember that sometimes it’s not only achieving the goal that’s important, but all that goes into it.

B I L L T E S T A

## A Roadmap to Your County Services

The following is a list of websites where you can find answers or help with questions or problems you may be having:

### All Ages

**The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute**

▶ [thearcfamilyinstitute.org](http://thearcfamilyinstitute.org)

**The Arc/Morris County Chapter**

▶ [arcmorris.org](http://arcmorris.org)

**Mainstreaming Medical Care**

▶ [mainstreamingmedicalcare.org](http://mainstreamingmedicalcare.org)

**Special Olympics New Jersey**

▶ [sonj.org](http://sonj.org)

### Under 21

**PerformCare**

▶ [performcarenj.org](http://performcarenj.org)

**Family Partners of Sussex and Morris**

▶ [familypartnersms.org](http://familypartnersms.org)

**Planning for Adult Life**

▶ [planningforadultlife.org](http://planningforadultlife.org)

**Special Child Health Services of Morris County**

▶ [nj.gov/health/fhs/sch/sccase.shtml](http://nj.gov/health/fhs/sch/sccase.shtml)

**Office of Special Education**

▶ [nj.gov/education/specialed](http://nj.gov/education/specialed)

**Learning Resource Center**

▶ [state.nj.us/education/lrc](http://state.nj.us/education/lrc)

### Over 18

**Division of Vocational and Rehabilitation Services**

▶ [bit.ly/njdvr](http://bit.ly/njdvr)

### Over 21

**Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)**

▶ [bit.ly/dddnj](http://bit.ly/dddnj)

MORRIS COUNTY

## 2016 Annual Appeal



In this season of giving, please consider a donation in support of the programs and services we provide all year through for people with intellectual and related developmental disabilities and their families. Your tax deductible donation can be made through our website at [arcmorris.org](http://arcmorris.org). Just click the Donate Now button. Have a safe and happy holiday, and a prosperous 2017!

## Fall Membership Meeting

On Wednesday, November 16, our Fall Membership meeting featured a presentation by The Arc of New Jersey’s Family Institute. Established in 2014, The Family Institute was developed to help families and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities navigate the system of care. Their purpose is to provide timely information to families who are in need of assistance with a consolidation of information regarding services available. You can find out more information on what they do at their website: [thearcfamilyinsitute.org](http://thearcfamilyinsitute.org).



## Are you on our E-blast List?

From time to time, we send out emails to remind everyone of important meetings, webinars, Action Alerts, etc. Are you on our E-Blast list? If not, please send an email to [m.jurewicz@arcmorris.org](mailto:m.jurewicz@arcmorris.org) and ask to be placed on the list!

## Giving to The Arc/Morris

### Online Donations

You can make online donations now through PayPal on our website ([www.arcmorris.org](http://www.arcmorris.org)). Just click the Donate Now tab under the How to Help section.

### Car Donation Program

We are pleased to remind members and friends of The Arc/Morris that we have partnered with the Charity Car Donation Center to operate and manage our car donation program. Since the program started, we have received many generous donations of vehicles to support our programs and services. We are happy to accept donations of your used cars, vans or trucks, all of which are tax deductible.

To donate your car, please call 1-877-ARC-CAR0

### Matching Gifts

Your donation to The Arc/Morris can be matched if your company participates in a Matching Gift Program. Check with your Human Resources Department to see if your donation qualifies for a matching gift.

### Memorial Donations

Honor the memory of a loved one with a donation to The Arc/Morris. Please remember us in your wills and trusts.

### United Way Contributors

If your company participates in the United Way, please designate your gift for The Arc/Morris. Our agency identifier number of 003864 must be included as well as our address of P.O. Box 123, Morris Plains, NJ 07950. Thanks to our many supporters for their continued participation.

### AmazonSmile Program

Smile.amazon.com is an easy way to support our programs and services! When signing up, please select The Arc/Morris to receive donations from eligible purchases. Visit their website for more information.

### Combined Federal Campaign

We are pleased to announce that we are eligible again this year for the 2016 Combined Federal Campaign of Northern NJ. This campaign is for Federal employees. CFC donors should use 15788 to designate their contribution to The Arc/Morris.

For more information, please contact the Development Office at (973) 326-9750, Ext. 211.