

The Arc/Morris Recognizes Randolph Professionals

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Phil Sheehy, of Randolph, (center) is shown presenting the Educator of the Year Awards to Randolph School Districts Brianne McBreen and Richard Eva. Both were recipients of The Arc Morris Chapter's 2019 Educator of the Year Awards. The agency serves people with Intellectual and other Developmental Disabilities and their families. For more information call 973.326.9750 x211 or visit www.arcmorris.org.

Morristown, NJ – The beautiful Frelinghuysen Arboretum was the site of The Arc/Morris Chapter's Annual Meeting and Awards & Volunteer Recognition event last week. Over 120 guests were on hand to recognize outstanding service to people with intellectual and related developmental disabilities.

The evening was especially rewarding for Brianne McBreen, Transition Coordinator for the Randolph School District and Richard Eva, a Special Education teacher. Each received the agency's 2019 Educator of the Year Awards. They were recognized for their outstanding work in developing and operating a Transition House for students with special needs to gain real hands on experience in daily living skills leading to their independence and self-sufficiency. According to Phil Sheehy, a member of the Board of Directors, "So much of what the Arc/Morris does in our residential services area will only be enhanced with programs like the one they have developed."

The agency also honored Dr. Susan Arnold and Dr. Aaron Manella with their 2019 Health Care Professional of the Year Awards. This husband and wife team run Randolph Pediatric Dental Associates and have made an incredible impact in working with patients with special needs.

The event also honored seven other individuals and organizations for their work in support of the non-profit organization, whose mission is the care, support and advancement of people with intellectual disabilities and their families. Award winners included Ricky Bullion with the Bill Sackter Citizenship Award and Keith Cortright with the Professional of the Year Award. Kids to Kids, Inc. was recognized with the agency's Distinguished Community Service Award, while Chris Luongo received the Best Friend Award and Louis Grassi was given the 2019 Volunteer of the Year Award. Morris County Surrogate John Pecoraro was recognized with The Arc/Morris Chapter's highest honor for lifetime achievement, the Distinguished Service Award.

Volunteers and volunteer groups were also acknowledged for their contribution to the agency. They included local councils of both the Knights of Columbus and the Masons, as well as other social and civic organizations. Local foundations and a number of area churches and schools were also acknowledged for their work with the non-profit agency. Individual volunteers were also thanked for the many hours of time contributed to the organization.

Just prior to the event, the organization's Annual Meeting took place. Katherine Cascioli of Towaco, was re-elected to a second term as President of the Board of Directors of the \$16 million agency, which operates an extensive service system throughout Morris County. Tom Horn of Long Valley was re-elected as First Vice-President. Others assuming officer positions include Walter Bender also of Long Valley, who will serve as Second Vice-President, Larry McEntee of Mt. Olive, who will serve as Secretary and Phil Sheehy of Randolph, who will serve as Treasurer. Jim Gallagher of Rockaway and Barry Levine of Denville were both re-elected to the Board.

The not-for-profit agency has been serving people with special needs and their families for 65 years. Services include residential and day programs for adults; therapeutic recreation for all ages; and support and respite for families.

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