



Message From The Executive Director, Chris Corvino

Happy summer all! I am so pleased to be writing to everyone in the midst of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. Our recent celebrations at The Arc Angel Gala and Somerset Patriots game have been highlights after much time spent in relative isolation. In many ways this feels like a celebration not just of the last 50 years but of our resilience and community spirit. To this end there are many to thank and acknowledge within our community who have supported this agency, our consumers, and the work we do through the best and most challenging of times. In keeping with our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary we look both back and ahead to find these important figures.

First, an overwhelming debt of gratitude is owed Lauren Frary for her leadership and guidance to this agency - importantly, for the last 15 years as our Executive Director. It is a humbling experience to lead this work from her former office. I can confidently say that our consumers and agency will never be far from an encouraging word from her and we look forward to seeing her as a friend and supporter on into the future.

See continued message on page 2

Meet Sandee Miller, Associate Executive Director...  
The Arc of Somerset County

# JULY 2022 HERALD

Now Celebrating 50 Years of Service

## The Arc of Somerset County Celebrates 50 Years

The Arc of Somerset County celebrated a milestone 50th Anniversary the last 6 months as a service agency for children and adults with intellectual and Transition was made as Lauren Frary, Executive Director of The Arc of Somerset County for the last 15 years stepped down and Chris Corvino, moved up from Associate Director to Executive Director. Congratulations Chris! We will miss you Lauren- good luck on your new venture.



The agency is both honored and proud to celebrate this golden anniversary with the Arc community of families and friends as well as loyal supporters and volunteers.

Starting in late January, The Arc of Somerset County offered various opportunities to celebrate their past as they look forward to the next 50 years of service.

Some monthly celebrations included:

A monthly "Disability Advocacy Milestone" highlight on The Arc of Somerset County's web and social media pages.

Saturday May 7th we celebrated the 50th annual "Step Up for the Arc" 5K run and walk, and featured a 50th anniversary commemorative T-Shirt designed by a Bridgewater Arc resident, Marcia who was recently recognized for Excellence in the Arts from the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission.



Marcia J. of Union Ave design featured in the back of our annual Walk T-Shirt in May 2022

The Arc Foundation hosted a 50th anniversary GALA on Friday, June 10 at the Bridgewater Marriott. (photos on page 6)

The Arc of Somerset County were the featured charity guests of the Somerset Patriots at the July 8th 2022 ball game and fireworks.



Marc Rusinoff, VP of Somerset Patriots joins Chris, Sandee and Laura Z. and Bobby S. for a photo

Additionally, The Arc of Somerset County launched a new strategic plan to kick off the agency's new direction in 2022 earlier this spring.

Chris Corvino, Executive Director states: "It is an honor to be a part of the agency at this exciting time. We will spend the rest of the year celebrating those people and efforts that built the last 50 years while looking ahead to the next 50 and beyond. I look forward to the many achievements of our clients, staff and stakeholders".



# The Arc of Somerset County MISSION

The Arc of Somerset County provides a lifetime of comprehensive services, advocacy and supports to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families to promote growth, achievement and ongoing involvement in the community.

## The Arc Board of Directors:

President.....Tom Applegate  
Vice President.....Donna Pasek  
Treasurer.....Mark McDonough  
Secretary.....John R. Zajac

## The Arc Board Members:

Daryle Peterson Diann Robinson  
Sandra Lynch Mike Stefani- Past President  
Cliff Leon

## Executive Staff:

Executive Director... Christopher Corvino  
Associate Executive Director...Sandee Miller

## Department Directors:

Adult Services.....Karen Kowalski, MPH. OTR  
Camp Jotoni.....Josh Burke  
Early Childhood Services-Jill Glassman, MSW  
Clinical Services.....Sharon McClellan, LSW  
Finance.....Edward Perez  
Arc Foundation & P.R.—Lisa Marie Arieno  
Human Resources Moni Joshi, PHR, SHRM-CP  
Information Technology.....Lance Floden  
Maintenance & Safety.....Jason Scheib  
Parents and Children Together  
.....Jeannette McClew  
Quality & Compliance.. ...Chris Gunning  
Post Secondary Programming-  
The Achievement Center.....Bob Hulit

## Message from the Executive Director Continued...

Similarly, after many years of service as our Board President, Michael Stefani will move into his new role as Immediate Past President to support our new slate of officers at the governance level. Michael has led this organization through some of its most challenging years imaginable during COVID with a calm, focused demeanor. We are so pleased to retain his involvement and expertise this year.

With equal feeling and an eye toward our future, I am excited to introduce some new names in important roles - namely, Tom Applegate as our current Board President and Sandee Miller as the agency's new Associate Executive Director. You will hear from both Tom and Sandee in this issue and I can only extend to them the thanks of the entire constellation of Arc stakeholders for joining us in these positions at such an important time. I look forward to working with them in the coming year and beyond.

I am happy to say that in my estimation, our [annual report](#), despite many obvious challenges in the past year, shows we have emerged with crucial projects completed and a wide ranging menu of services that have been largely growing in size. Our Achievement Center Program in partnership with Raritan Valley Community College continues to expand and is approaching work with its 100<sup>th</sup> student, in home respite services through Family Support are supporting over 220 families and Camp Jotoni additionally celebrates the opening and dedications of all four of its new, accessible cabins serving campers even as I write this.

The list goes on as I have had occasion to say to many this summer. Our work, and in truth, our restoration after the impact of the past many years is not done. We look forward to full day programs for individuals yet to return, fall and spring respite opportunities at Camp Jotoni and beyond, new capacities in our PACT program and new housemates to meet and welcome in residential settings. And much, much more.

Its clear we will continue to spend time this year thanking important players, acknowledging our past successes and quickly then returning our eye toward the future. This is both a position of privilege and an assignment in our milestone anniversary year. I thank you in advance for your interest, partnership and most importantly, your membership in this Arc community. I look forward to our first steps together into the next 50 years.



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Sandee Miller, Associate Executive Director, Christopher Corvino, Executive Director and Lauren Frary, outgoing Executive Director celebrate Lauren's tenure with The Arc on June 29th 2022



Chris Corvino, Executive Director and staff Celebrate Chris Day on July 1st by dressing like Chris!

## Welcome Tom Applegate, Newly Elected Board President for The Arc of Somerset County as of July 2022



During my time as a member of the Board of Directors I have continued to be impressed and inspired by the dedication of our staff at all levels. From our direct service providers who deliver outstanding care and compassion; to our program directors and administrative & executive management team who work tirelessly to find creative ways provide our consumers and their families with programs and services that enrich their lives. Each and every one makes the Arc feel like one big family where everyone is welcome.

I am honored, humbled and excited to be the incoming Board President knowing that I have such a strong team of creative individuals to work with. Going forward I am confident we can “stand on the shoulders of those who came before us” and live up to their legacy of helping those we serve achieve their dreams and goals, whether they be playing an instrument, getting a job or going to college. We have, and will continue to make those things happen. As times and the needs of our consumers change we will adapt accordingly, by listening, reacting and breaking down barriers when needed. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

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## Welcome Sandee Miller as Associate Executive Director for The Arc of Somerset County

Sandee Miller is a professional with 25+ years senior leadership experience in non-profits serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities as well as working in colleges and universities in Student Affairs as a Senior Administrator and Dean of Students Sandee has her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Surface Pattern Design and Masters of Science in Higher Education, with a concentration in Personnel Administration both from Syracuse University.



Sandee has supervised Residential and Adult services departments in multiple agencies serving Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental disabilities as well as serving as a Chief Compliance Officer. She has stewarded strategic and business planning initiatives executing major system changes including transitions to fee for service. Sandee is a Certified Trainer for Therap Services and has implemented electronic health record management systems at multiple agencies. She has guided agencies through independent licensing and accreditation reviews as well as assessed departments and made recommendations for improvements in staffing and practices creating more cohesive environments. She is a skilled facilitator for groups ranging in size both locally and nationally.

Sandee is thrilled to be at The Arc of Somerset continuing her work in improving the lives of individuals with Intellectual and Development Disabilities. In her personal time she enjoys attending art shows, especially hand-crafted markets, and spending time with her rescue dogs.



## Welcome Ed Perez, Director of Finance

Ed Perez has been working in accounting and finance for over 24 years. He earned a bachelor's degree in Accounting from CUNY Brooklyn College. He has worked in non-profit organizations with missions around women's reproductive health and domestic violence.

Ed joined The Arc of Somerset County in December 2020 and worked as the Assistant Director in the Financial Services Department from May 2021 until January 2022 when he was promoted to Director of Financial Services. Ed enjoys spending time with his wife and two children and playing with their two mini goldendoodles, Teddy and Bella.

## Camp Jotoni Hosts Official Ribbon Cutting of Cabins 3 & 4 Completing Phase 2

On Wednesday June 22nd, Camp Jotoni held the second ribbon cutting for cabins 3 & 4—which completes phase 2 of 4 for the Capital Campaign that has been active since 2014. The completion came just days before our camp open house and we would like to thank everyone who worked feverishly hard to make our deadlines, especially Warren Twp. Committee for getting us the Certificate of Occupancy just in time for our first respite camp week July 3rd, and our camp staff and Rutgers Master Gardener's of Somerset Volunteers for preparing in and around the construction site.



CAMP JOTONI PHASE 2  
CABINS 3 & 4 Complete June 29, 2022



2022 Camp Jotoni Counselors



Lauren and DiBiasi Family and Chris



Lauren, Cirincione and DeDecker Family with Chris



Downs Family with Lauren and Lisa Marie

## Camp Jotoni Campers Return to ALL 4 Newly Constructed Cabins

There were miles of smiles and excitement at the entrance of the Camp Jotoni parking lot in late June and early July as our beloved campers and their families returned to their favorite summer camp to see ALL 4 NEW CABINS Ready for their use.



## Camp Jotoni Capital Campaign Grants in Qtr 3 & 4 FY 2022

- Columbia Bank \$25K
- Hyde & Watson Foundation \$15K



### A message from The Arc Foundation of Somerset County...

Thank you for helping us on our journey to make camp an even better experience. It is because of your belief in our mission, your love for our campers and staff that we will now be able to expand our services beyond the summer camp season.

We are seeking an additional \$400K for cost increases that took place for this phase 2 construction:

Foundation Lumber Windows Siding & Trim

Please consider donating toward the costs of the above which occurred during the inflation of prices and supply shortages. These donations must be received before August 31st 2022. Click the link below to donate TODAY toward this immediate need.

[Generations will feel the impact for many years to come because of your support](#)

# 2022 SPRING SEASON PROJECTS OUR VOLUNTEERS



The team at [Zebra Technologies](#) beautified the outdoor garden at The Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families. Zebra's team donated daycare safe plants and flowers for the project. Thank you so much for this amazing work!

The group from [Keller Williams Greater Brunswick](#) volunteered their time to our Hillsborough Steinmetz home and helped us spruce up the grounds just in time for summer!



A group of educators from [The Hillsborough Education Association](#) gifted their time and mulch to update the landscape around the Ardsley home.

A big thanks to the group from [Teva](#) for reviving the vegetable garden at the home in Cedar Grove. We are looking forward to seeing the vegetables grow!



The group from [Willis Towers Watson](#) returned to Camp Jotoni for their annual project of cleaning and organizing the pavilions. We greatly appreciate the work from our returning volunteers!



A group of students from [Ridge High School](#) cleaned up the nature trail of Camp Jotoni for their annual day of giving. We are grateful to our student volunteers that give of their time!



[L'Oreal Clark and Franklin](#) shared their Day of Caring with friends from our day programs at Jill Court and Camplain Road as well as a planting project at the Old Stirling home.

Special thanks to our friends at [Fulton Bank](#) and [Everest](#) for their help in preparing Camp Jotoni for its summer opening!



The duo Angie and Deb stopped by The Jerry Davis Center playground to refresh the herb garden!



# The 50th Anniversary Arc Angel Gala Friday June 10th 2022

The Arc Foundation of Somerset County celebrated the Annual Arc Angel Gala. This year highlighted 50 years of milestones and successes of those members of The Arc of the United States and our Somerset County Chapter that helped shape history around advocacy and inclusion.



Celebrating 50 Years Pictured at the Gala on June 10th are Pat Carlson, one of our founding family members and Roe and Lou Baldino, Past Board member, President and Executive Director of The Arc of Somerset County



Incoming Board President Tom Applegate with his wife Cathy with Board Member Daryle Peterson and partner Paula Cincotta



Incoming Associate Executive Director - Sandee Miller with Lauren Fray and Chris Corvino Welcome The Gala

Jack Ciaterelli joined us for his well wishes to another 50 years!



Some of our long time resident adults came out to celebrate and dance the night away for this special milestone evening!



Our Quality Department Team celebrated our milestone event—shown: Laura Ziegler and Chris Gunning



Members of Composecure celebrated with a great group of caring donors and volunteers

Sabrina Smith, Assistant Director of Finance was on hand with our volunteers for the Wine Pull



Black Tie Groove Band- The Entertainment for the Evening.



Outgoing Board President Mike Stefani and wife Linda celebrate in style at the gala



Moni Joshi and members of Willis Tower Watson honor The Arc of Somerset's 50th Anniversary



**For people with intellectual  
and development disabilities**

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Somerset County  
United Way

The Arc Foundation of Somerset County  
is a 501(c) (3) organization  
EIN: 30-02005474  
***Achieve with us.***

## **What's Happening This Summer and Fall?**

The next “Arc’s Got Talent” show is happily confirmed for Friday 9.9.22 at 6:00pm - 8:00pm at St. Joseph’s Church in Hillsborough - under the stars outside in a tent

To RSVP: contact [Karenk@thearcofsomerset.org](mailto:Karenk@thearcofsomerset.org)

### **[Join Us for our 5th Annual Clubs for Cabins Fundraiser](#)**

The Arc Foundation of Somerset County will be hosting the 5th Annual “Clubs for Cabins” golf event fundraiser. Monday, September 12th at Raritan Valley Country Club

[Sponsorships](#) and [Foursomes](#) are NOW available

For additional information, please contact Lisa Marie Arieno at 908-658-3805 or e-mail: [lisamariea@thearcofsomerset.org](mailto:lisamariea@thearcofsomerset.org)

## **DID YOU KNOW THE ARC FOUNDATION OF SOMERSET COUNTY CAN ASSIST YOU WITH A GIFT OF ESTATE OR A PLANNED GIFT?**

The Arc Foundation of Somerset County accepts the following gifts

- Stocks
- Wire transfers and ACH payments:
- IRA: (qualified charitable distributions)

For more information, please contact Lisa Marie Arieno, Director of The Arc Foundation of Somerset County at 908-658-3805 or email: [lisamariea@thearcofsomerset.org](mailto:lisamariea@thearcofsomerset.org)