

Arc of Somerset celebrates National Disability Awareness Month

The Messenger-Gazette By The Messenger-Gazette

on October 28, 2014 at 3:59 PM, updated October 28, 2014 at 4:11 PM



Featured is Gary Kummer, Keith an employee of KWG and Kurt Grimm of KWG Industries. (courtesy photo)

The Messenger-Gazette

The Arc of Somerset County celebrated National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) which takes place each October to inform the public about the issues involving employment of individuals with disabilities and to recognize the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities.

Much has changed since the Department of Labor began sponsoring this annual campaign in 1945, but the fact that individuals with disabilities want to work and are a vital part of the American workforce still remains as the central part of the

message.

The companies we honored all have been long-term consecutive employers for some of the people we serve. This year, four companies were visited and congratulated and thanked personally with coffee and donuts by The Arc of Somerset County's Executive Director, Lauren Panarella and Associate Executive Director, Chris Corvino, Britt Blomgren and Gary Kummer of The Arc of Somerset Employment Services. The four companies that were honored were Oticon, Synergy Marketing, Mara Shipping and KWG Industries.

Oticon is a global company that helped to pioneer the hearing industry more than a hundred years ago. Oticon has supplied The Arc with employment services for the past 15 years with various healthcare related fulfillment. Synergy Marketing is a fulfillment center that provides marketing materials for the pharmaceutical industry. Mara Shipping host employment of an individual of The Arc who has been with them for the past seven years as a Janitor. KWG Industries is a local machine parts, assemblies, and raw materials manufacturer located in Hillsborough.

For more information about The Arc of Somerset County's Employment Services program, call 908-707-0606 or email garyk@thearcofsomerset.org or visit

http://www.thearcofsomerset.org/programs/adult_employment_services.html