

Achieve with us!

We're making a difference in lives all over Hunterdon County, join us!



Vol. 1 No. 4

Arc of Hunterdon

December 2016



Giving Tuesday Funds Give Back to the Community

Yes, it's the season of giving! We've seen the commercials, we're all deciding where to [contribute this holiday season](#). But, for The Arc of Hunterdon, it's ALWAYS the season for 'giving back'! Winston Churchill said, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by

what we give." The individuals we support at *The Arc* spend their lives giving back to their neighbors through volunteering, friendship, and partnerships.

If you choose to donate to *The Arc of Hunterdon* on Giving Tuesday, here are some ventures you are making possible:

1. A partnership with local churches in Hunterdon County that could easily hire any group of people to keep their grounds clean, but they choose us! Each week, we have a team who cleans for the local churches, teaching them the skills needed to obtain gainful employment in the community.
2. Volunteer opportunities with Puppies Behind Bars, an organization that trains dogs to be explosive detection assistants for law enforcement. Our folks assist in socializing the dogs as a key part of their training.
3. Volunteering to feed seniors throughout Hunterdon County. *The Arc* has a strong partnership with Meals on Wheels and we deliver

for the organization about four times per week.

4. Volunteer opportunities with all the local food banks. We deliver leftover food to the neighborhood banks in Flemington, Clinton, Lambertville, and more; all from various restaurants in the community who participate in this give-back program.

5. Partnerships with pet stores and animal organization like Common Sense for Animals. Our folks shred paper waste and deliver it to local animal places so they can use it for bedding. This is a great alternative for those places who are also non-profits on tight budgets.

This is just a short list of some generous ventures our individuals work on each and every day. They also have relationships with Habitat for Humanity, The Red Cross, ASPCA, Hunterdon County Library, Independence Manor, United Way, and so many more! The Arc may be a non-profit, but we do a whole lot more than ask for help... we strive to be your contributing neighbor, your friend, your partner. But that's only possible... because of you!

Consider [making a donation](#) for Giving Tuesday, or commit to a smaller recurring donation we can set up monthly.

Friends Re-United

You all remember Sandy from our last newsletter? We learned about her life within The Arc. After sharing her story with us, old classmates were able to find her after years of separation...

Not only did they reconnect, but they sent her two tickets to their upcoming class reunion. How sweet! Here's Sandy enjoying some 'catch up' with her old high school pals!



'Tis the Season for Re-Gifting

Please keep us in mind this holiday season! If you have new/unused items, why not donate them to *The Arc of Hunterdon*, as a tax-deductible charitable contribution? We'll even arrange for pick up!

Welcome Home to Alexandria Township

The Arc of Hunterdon just opened two new residences in Alexandria Township. Thanks to the township, the State of NJ, and lots of other hard working advocates, we'll be able to assist a total of eight individuals in living independently in their community. For community support providers such as ourselves, this is a successful accomplishment! We wish our new Arc family members great success in their new homes, and know their new neighbors will enjoy their enrichment of such a beautiful community!



Corrie in her uniform

Making an Impact in Local Business

Our friend, Corrie, has been employed by WalMart in Flemington since March of 2016. She is a cashier and loves what she does. Corrie says she loves it because she is able to interact with customers who are usually very friendly.

Corrie has gained a natural community support with her Customer Service Manager. If she has a problem, she just puts the light on and gets help from her CSM. She has become friends with co-workers and her boyfriend works at WalMart, too.

Corrie accomplished a long-term goal of getting her driver's license in October. Being employed by Walmart is helping her save money for her own car! She admits she needs to practice driving more, and like so many other new drivers, her father told her he is too nervous to help her practice. She'll get there!

Corrie is working on 'staying in the present, focusing on being healthy and loving herself for who she is'. Seeing Corrie's life so fulfilled is a reminder that being competitively employed leads to so much. It enables independence, makes long term goals achievable, builds confidence, and connects us to the community.

Community Connections

Our ArcWorks program has developed quite the relationship with the Puppies Behind Bars program. We now have the distinctive honor and privilege to volunteer for the Puppies Behind Bars program at the Edna Mahan Correctional Facility located in Clinton, NJ.



The dogs there are trained by the inmates at the facility to become service dogs used for explosive detection in law enforcement. Our job as volunteers for the program is to socialize the dogs. We have a dog out on the town one day a week, and a group from ArcWorks will introduce the pup to people and places within the community. The dog is always a big hit while visiting ArcWorks and our main offices, and the groups that volunteer socializing the dogs are providing a very special service to the Puppies Behind Bars program. They love giving back! And who doesn't love spending their day with an adorable puppy?



Happy shoppers at our LuLaRoe event

Fundraiser Success

We didn't let the cold weather get us down this season! We had wonderful fundraisers throughout the fall months. A great day at Frank's Italian Restaurant in October, and a wing night at Buffalo Wild Wings in September, both helped us raise money for our Spirit Committee; the team who assists in morale/team building events all year. The Spirit Committee helps bring joy to all of our employees, surprises them with treats, celebrations, and little acts of kindness throughout the year.

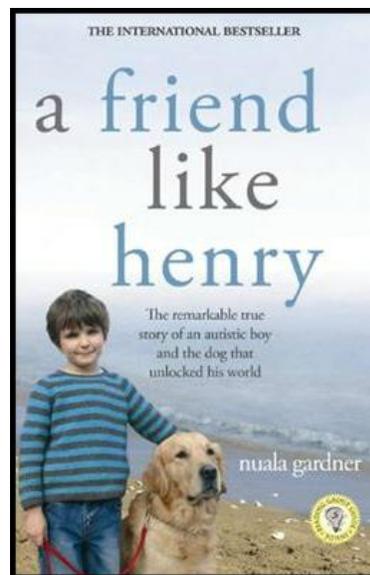
We also sponsored another LuLaRoe clothing boutique fundraiser which assisted raising funds for our day programs. These programs assist our teams in supporting adults with their employment goals, volunteering in the community, and building meaningful social relationships. Who doesn't love retail therapy? Especially when it's for a good cause! We have lots more fundraising ventures up our sleeves, stay tuned for details!

Disability in the Mainstream

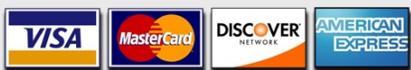
A Friend Like Henry, by Nuala Gardner

The Gardner family struggled with their son Dale's autism during his early years. They sought a diagnosis and help, and seemed to be going in circles with no way out. Then Henry, a Golden Retriever puppy, entered Dale's life and things began to change for the better.

This is a remarkable, true story written by Dale's mother Nuala Gardner. Their story continues in *Because of Henry*, which follows the family as their daughter, Amy, is also diagnosed with autism. Dale's successes continue, but not without setbacks.



**MONTHLY
PLEDGE**



Make your monthly pledge to impact the life of a neighbor near you by visiting [our website](#).



From the Corner Office

Did you know the Knights of Columbus have been supporting *The Arc of Hunterdon* for over 10 years? They've donated over \$125,000 in that time. These donations are solely from The Hunterdon County Knights of Columbus Chapters. They have

fully embraced The Arc of Hunterdon in their mission.

As a self-advocate, agency member, parent of an individual supported by The Arc, friend of the agency, or an employee ...what better way to say 'thank you' than to write a personal note expressing your gratitude for the tremendous support from Knights' volunteers.

Following are addresses for Hunterdon County's Knights Councils:

Knights of Columbus Council #10024 -- C/O Roy Dwyer
82 Sandy Ridge Road -- Stockton, NJ 08559

Knights of Columbus Council #15217 -- St. Catherine of Siena
2 White Bridge Road -- Pittstown, NJ 08867

Knights of Columbus Council # 3294
105 Mine Street -- Flemington, NJ 08822

Knights of Columbus Council # 6930
-- Our Lady of Lourdes
PO Box 248 -- Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889

Knights of Columbus Council # 7581 -- Mr. Joseph DePinto
PO Box 127 -- Baptistown, NJ 08803

Knights of Columbus Council # 6245
316 Old Allerton Road -- Annandale, NJ 08801

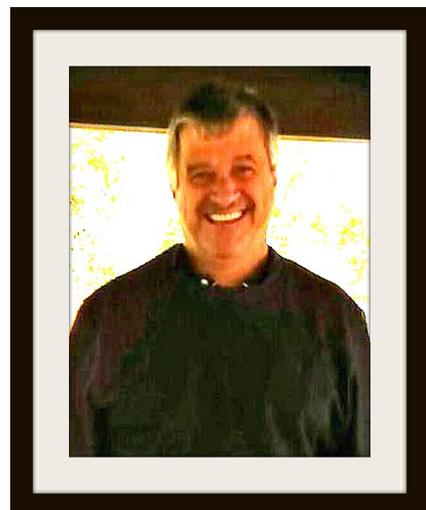
Knights of Columbus Council # 15540 -- Mr. Robert L. Wright
105 Summer Road -- Three Bridges, NJ 08887-2307

Knights of Columbus Council # 10627 -- c/o St. Joseph's Church
59 Main Street -- High Bridge, NJ 08829

Donations like those from our friends at the Knights of Columbus help us bridge the gap created by the recent loss of Hunterdon County and United Way funding. Thank you in advance for sharing your appreciation by sending a note today!

A Day in the Life

Our Self-Direction program supports a large group of fascinating individuals. One in particular stands out to us for many reasons, but his enthusiasm towards everything definitely puts him in the spotlight this month. His name is Emil. Emil always greets everyone with a smile and a big 'hello'. He is sure to brighten up anyone's day. Emil's typical day starts when his support staff comes to pick him up. He usually starts by chatting about what he would like to do for the day.



Emil is supported by our Self-Direction program two days per week, but his days are far from boring when he is not with us. Emil has support staff from a different organization on other days, he attends Recreation events with The Arc, and fills his time with various crafts. Emil says his favorite activities are Arc Recreation dances, bowling, and going to baseball games in the summer.

"My favorite part of the day is getting out of the house and seeing my friends." Throughout the day, Emil can be found around The Arc office looking for people to chat with or doing a myriad of crafts; painting is his favorite. Emil is the epitome of a social butterfly. He spent "too long" working at Walmart gathering shopping carts and bringing them into the store, so now he enjoys relaxing, spending time with his friends, and making new friends.

Although Emil does not have paid employment anymore, he still loves to volunteer. He recently worked at the Touch-a-Truck event at Deer Path Park, handing out brochures to the patrons. Emil also volunteers every Tuesday at the Flemington Food Pantry. He really enjoys giving back to the community, because he loves to see people smile.

Emil lives at home with his sister and her husband. They are a wonderful trio and do many fun things together. This past summer Emil went to London, and came back with many stories and photos of his trip to show all of his friends.

Emil is always buzzing around looking for new things to do. It would not be a surprise to anyone if he is absolutely worn out by the time his day ends at 3pm. Emil's caring nature and energy bring a positive energy to any room. He is really a pleasure to chat with, and anyone who knows him could probably say the same.



Annual Tricky Tray Returning

Our annual Tricky Tray event is returning! Save the date for April 22nd, we'll be returning to North Hunterdon High School with hundreds of incredible prizes. And of course we didn't forget the

CASH RAFFLE that you all know and love! Event and raffle tickets are ON SALE NOW, you won't want to miss this!

More details are available [at our website.](#)

**Hunterdon & Warren Arc
Chapters to Co-Sponsor
Support Coordination
Seminar in New Year**



On January 10th, at the North County Branch Library, 65 Halstead Street in Clinton, the Arcs of Warren and Hunterdon Counties will co-host a seminar examining the transition from traditional DDD case management to the new Support Coordination system. Flyers describing the event will be made available shortly. Parents, self-advocates, guardians, and caregivers will want to attend this important seminar. Mark your calendars for 7pm - 9pm on 1/10/17 at the library in Clinton! See you there!

The Arc of Hunterdon County | 908.730.7827 | www.archunterdon.org

See what's happening on our social sites:



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Annandale, NJ 08801

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