

# WE ARE BACK!

*COVID-19 brought the world to a halt, but we are still smiling!  
Find out why below*



## MORE THAN A PAYCHECK

### *Looking to join our team?*

Here at The Arc of Hunterdon County, we are always looking for new team members with a passion for helping others. All staff members contribute to our culture of inclusivity, empowerment, and positivity. Every day that you work for us, you will also be working to improve the lives of those we serve.

The Arc of Hunterdon County is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer. We are seeking candidates to work various shifts in our programs across the county. Flexible schedules for full time, part time, days, evenings and weekend shifts available. We hire Direct Support Professionals, LPNs, RNs, and Supervisors.

*Please contact HR for more information.*

### CONTACT HR:

[BSTRING@ARCHUNTERDON.ORG](mailto:BSTRING@ARCHUNTERDON.ORG)

OR

GIVE BARBARA A CALL AT

**908-730-7827**

**X227**



# PATTY BRAZDOVIC- 50 YEARS WITH US, AND GOING STRONG!

*Serving The Arc of Hunterdon since 1971*

It takes an incredibly special person to serve us for 50 years. Today we celebrate you, Patty B!

For the past 50 years, Patty has been the heartbeat of The Arc of Hunterdon. Her kindness, compassion, and dedication have helped us grow into the organization we are today.

Patty's journey at The Arc began in September of 1971, before we had group homes.

Patty recalled her time with us fondly: "I have been privileged to be part of the growth of the Arc and have ongoing relationships with our clients. It has been quite an exciting time for me and has given me a whole new insight and understanding of people with developmental disabilities."

Patty, you are one of a kind and so truly loved!

*With love, Your Arc Family*



**"THERE ARE NOT  
ENOUGH WORDS TO  
EXPRESS MY  
GRATITUDE. YOUR  
CARING AND LOVING  
WAYS ARE AN  
EXCEPTIONAL PART  
IN TODAY'S WORLD.  
I THANK YOU ALL"  
-PATTY B**





**"EACH TIME I GO ON  
A BIKE RIDE, I  
ALWAYS TAKE MY  
WHOLE CREW WITH  
ME. THEY HELP THE  
PEOPLE OF THE TOWN  
FEEL BETTER IF THEY  
ARE EVER FEELING  
DOWN"**

**-E.J. SAYS OF HIS PLUSH TOYS**



## **EJ COLLINS, THE UNOFFICIAL MAYOR OF FRENCHTOWN**

### *The meaning of true community*

E.J. Collins has been a local superstar in Frenchtown following the passing of both of his parents. On his bike, with his plush toys behind him, E.J. delivers smiles to locals every day.

"You could call E.J. the unofficial mayor of the town," said Denise Snyder, associate director in the family support office for The Arc of Hunterdon County in Hampton. "He could be a tour guide for Frenchtown and tell everybody everything they need to know about Frenchtown."

In a video produced by Andre Malok with NJ Advance Media for NJ.com, Frenchtown locals were asked to describe E.J. He is "a light to the town," and an "incredibly amazing guy," they said.

We are living through a pivotal point in history when individuals who may not have been embraced by their communities before are becoming beacons of change, inclusion, and hope. E.J. is a perfect example of the true power of kindness and empathy.

We would like to thank the members of the Frenchtown community for embodying the true meaning of what it means to be a community- embracing E.J. with open arms and warm hearts sends the message that all people are welcome here, regardless of your differences. This is a message our world needs now more than ever.

Our very own Denise Snyder has worked closely with E.J. Denise's dedication to The Arc of Hunterdon's mission to empower individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in leading happy, healthy lives is undeniable. Thank you, Denise! You're a superstar!

To watch NJ.com's video feature on E.J., check out the link below. You won't want to miss it!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BsuoBYS\\_mpo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BsuoBYS_mpo)

# TEEN CAFE IS COMING BACK!

*Teen Cafe is a monthly event hosted by The Arc of Hunterdon for young adults of all abilities to get together. If you are interested in attending or volunteering, please reach out to Heather!*



**CONTACT HEATHER CLAWSON:**  
[HEATHER@ARCHUNTERDON.ORG](mailto:HEATHER@ARCHUNTERDON.ORG)  
**OR**  
**908-730-7827**  
**X241**

## WHAT TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR

***We've got A LOT to look forward to!***  
**TRICKY TRAY 2022**

With heavy hearts, we have had to cancel our past two annual Tricky Tray events due to the nature of COVID-19, but have no fear! At this point in time, we are optimistic that we will be back in full swing with our annual Tricky Tray in April of 2022! You will all be the first to know as soon as we choose a date and a location. Your ongoing support means more to us than we can express, and we are so excited to see you all again very soon!

### **STAFF APPRECIATION**

It is no secret that we always appreciate the work of each of our staff members, but the past two years have tested us in ways we were not prepared for. This December, we will celebrate the hard work and dedication of our staff members who helped us weather the storm that is COVID-19. Many staff here at The Arc of Hunterdon lived selflessly throughout quarantine because the health and happiness of our clients was of utmost importance. Their dedication and sacrifice did not go unnoticed or unappreciated. A big thank you to all of our staff for keeping us afloat during such a trying time!



# "SANDY'S PLACE" IN MEMORY OF SANDY LUZZO

It is with heartfelt sadness that we share with you the passing of a beautiful person, Sandra Luzzo. Sandy touched every life she met, with her courage, her determination, her deep faith, and her unceasing positive spirit.

Sandy's life and the enormity of her impact on every person who crossed her path is something beyond words. Mention of Sandy's name in nearly any venue brings immediate recognition of a person who in all things was genuine: her love for people and animals, her interest in making people smile and her radiance of happiness, her curiosity about another person's interests and her memory for those things that are important to that other person. Always intuitive about how others were feeling, she'd often ask: "You happy?" When one couples that with her anticipatory smile and clasping of her hands, she had the ability to instantly uplift your spirit.

Without question Sandy's strength and determination came from her beautiful family and in particular from her Mother. In the early 1960s when Sandy was born there were no services for children with special needs, no early intervention, preschool, special therapy, special education. Sandy's family talks humbly about "becoming involved" with The Arc when Sandy was two years old, but the reality is that The Arc of Hunterdon was also in its infancy then, and so it was Sandy and her Mother, together with several other families, who began to truly build the agency, to plan for a preschool, to build support for other families, to work with legislators, to work with communities, to develop programs and later group homes and all of the things that we consider today to be at the heart of the agency. Indeed, Sandy is at the heart of the agency.

In honor of Sandy and her spirit, our Point Breeze day program location will be renamed "Sandy's Place" and be converted to a center where young people (ages 18 – 30) will receive transitional services, independent living instruction and skill-building opportunities. A monthly schedule of activities will be offered so that individuals can select from an array of available options.





**The Arc.**

of Hunterdon County

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**The Arc.**  
of Hunterdon County

We are the future of training, employment, recreational, residential and day services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We are a fiscally responsible agency serving individuals in partnership with their families and are the provider of choice for quality person-centered services throughout Hunterdon County.

# our MISSION



# our VISION

The Arc of Hunterdon County supports and empowers individuals experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. The agency enables those it supports to live and work in the community on their own terms as proud, vital members of society.

The Arc of Hunterdon County is committed to a person-centered philosophy in supporting individuals experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities, along with their families, to foster a lifestyle that reflects the needs, goals, and desires of the person.

our

# COMMITMENT

ArcWorks is our day program facility for adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities in Annandale, NJ. They offer day-time services to help individuals build work skills, socialize with their friends, and get connected to community events of their interest. The program is designed for people who want to take advantage of every opportunity the Hunterdon County community offers. All participants reside in the county and have made a conscience effort to give back to their friends and neighbors.

day

# SERVICES

The Recreation Department offers a richly varied program that includes active and spectator sports events, cultural events, crafts, camping, hiking, square dancing, extended vacations and a host of other social and leisure time activities. Programs are held on Tuesday's, Thursday's, Friday's and Saturday's. This locally funded program offers many opportunities for developing social skills, increasing self-esteem and self-worth and building friendships. Our program also provides respite for families.

# REC SERVICES

# RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

The Arc of Hunterdon provides residential placement services for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities throughout Hunterdon County. We currently support group homes, supervised apartments and supported living arrangements.

**Achieve with us.**

