



The Arc of Atlantic County

Annual Report

(July 1, 2006-June 30, 2007)



*Helping people with
developmental disabilities
in our community*



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with a developmental disability*



Anne M. Dillon, Chair
Board of Directors

Vision

People with developmental disabilities have the opportunities and supports they need to live the lives they choose.

Mission

The Arc of Atlantic County improves the lives of people with developmental disabilities in our community. Through direct services, advocacy, education and prevention activities, we work in partnership with individuals and their families to make choices possible about how and where they live, learn, play, and work.

Core Values

1. Quality of life is measured by the presence of personal outcomes that are important to each individual.
2. The Arc staff and volunteers enthusiastically commit themselves to meeting the needs and supporting the dreams of those we serve.
3. Improving the quality of life for people with disabilities improves the quality of our community.

Services

Residential: Residential services support adults to live in the community and lead satisfying and productive lives and include group homes, supervised apartments, supportive living and independent living.

Case Management: The Arc employs social workers who assist individuals and families with advocacy, information and referral and coordination of community services.

Vocational Training: Employment services support people with developmental disabilities to learn new skills that reflect their interests and abilities, and may lead to employment. Job coaches provide follow-along to individuals who are competitively employed.

Family Support and Respite: An array of support services provide caregivers with a break from caring for their family member with a disability. Services include summer camp, after-school, in-home respite and Saturday and Sunday programs.

Recreation: Recreation activities include social outings, sports, trips and life skills. These activities emphasize skill training to help participants engage comfortably in community-based activities and include performing and visual arts classes, socialization, self advocacy and Aktion Club.



Message from the CEO

Dear Friends,



Fiscal year 2007 ended on a very positive note with our annual membership meeting, which for the first time included a recognition ceremony for more than 100 individuals supported by The Arc in addition to the typical annual meeting activities. We acknowledged milestones; celebrated dreams come true; and honored accomplishments. The delightful and inspiring achievements ranged from a couple celebrating their one-year wedding anniversary to first-time athletes; from participants in the visual and performing arts programs to a recent high school graduate. We look forward to continuing this very successful event and

increasing our membership as a result.

Our annual meeting highlighted a new partnership between The Arc and the JCC in Margate that produced the Spotlight Players, a performing arts club for adults with developmental disabilities. This program not only provided participants with a new recreational activity—it opened up a whole new world of opportunities for self-exploration and personal growth for each member.

One of the major events of this past year was our accreditation review conducted by the Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL) in the areas of health, safety, human security and legal rights. In October we were reviewed for a four-year accreditation. CQL determined that we were almost at the appropriate level for a four year accreditation, but we needed improvement in four of the 44 basic assurance items including providing people we support with meaningful work; due process; protection from mistreatment; and appropriate application of medications in the presence of mental health issues. We remain accredited with the promise of earning a four-year accreditation next year should we improve in the identified areas. The Arc takes this accreditation very seriously and has redoubled our efforts to address the issues. We look forward to the October 2007 review.

Finally, this letter would certainly not be complete without mentioning The Arc's most successful fundraiser to date: 'A Late Lunch with Charlie and Maura Weis'. You will read about this event that captured our energy and attention for months and resulted in a fundraiser that not only raised significant funds for our programs—it raised awareness of The Arc and the important mission that the Weises and The Arc both share.

Please enjoy this year's annual report, as we most certainly enjoyed making everything you are about to read happen!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deborah Davies". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Deborah Davies, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer

Accountability

Individuals and Families

Served by The Arc in FY 2007

Residential Services	137
Employment Services	100
Recreation	234
Family Support/Real Life Choices*	400
Case Management	230

*A person may use more than one Family Support service

The Arc Employees in FY 2007

Full time	180
Part time	40
Substitutes	20

The Arc Finances for FY 2007

Revenues

Contract Revenue	\$8,216,854
Program Fees	423,934
Investments	115,733
United Way	67,757
Charitable and Foundation Support	178,277
Fundraising	234,779
Thrift Shop	71,445
Other	26,208

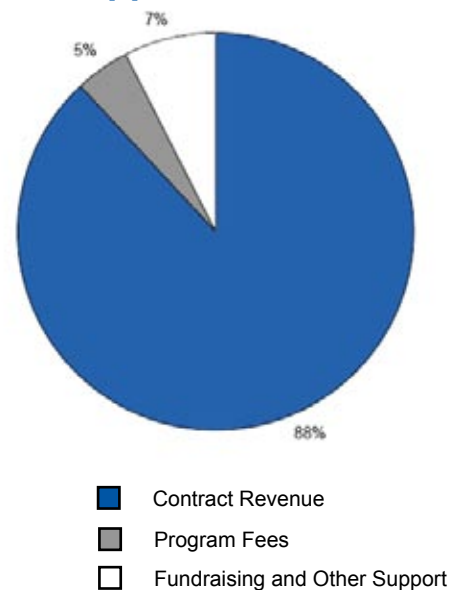
Total Revenues **\$9,334,987**

Expenses

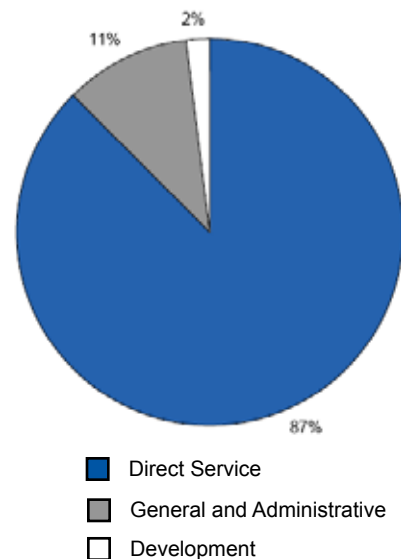
Direct Service	\$7,939,937
General and Administrative	955,179
Thrift Shop	27,307
Development/Public Information	152,843

Total Expenses **\$9,075,266**

Support & Revenue



Expenses



Audited by Capaldi, Reynolds & Pelosi, Certified Public Accountants
Audited financial statements are available by request

Programs and Services

Social Services

This fiscal year, The Arc provided well over 300 individuals and family members with case management services that included advocacy, education, information and referral, and coordination with a variety of community resources. In FY07 the requests most often received by The Arc were for information on how to become eligible for services through the Division of Developmental Disabilities, advocacy for changing or improving a child's Individual Education Plan, and guidance in finding recreation, socialization and counseling programs. There was a significant increase in the latter, especially in this past year. Due to this increase in requests, The Arc focused on providing more opportunities for a greater number of people to build their own social capital and skills that will help improve their quality of life. We started a teen social support group and a children's art program to respond to these requests.

The Case Management department's annual holiday food and gift drive, Holiday Partners, connected more than 50 community donors with individuals or families who receive case management or family support services and are in need during the holiday season. In FY07, 288 people benefited in total from the generosity of these individuals and organizations. This year Holiday Partners donors included the 5th grade classes at George Hess School in Mays Landing, who adopted 14 families; Apptis, a private contractor with the FAA, who donated food for 10 families; the AtlantiCare Surgery Center, who adopted 4 families and provided an abundance of gifts and grocery gift cards; and The Arc's own Supportive Living department staff, who instead of exchanging gifts adopted two families through Holiday Partners. The Arc's Adult Training Center participants helped to deliver the food baskets.

Through The Arc's case management department, a host of workshops and informational sessions were offered to caregivers, staff, educators and the general public. In FY07, The Arc sponsored three workshops: 1) Special Care Financial Planning, 2) Individual Education Plan issues, and 3) Family Advocacy and Overview of Adult Services for People with Disabilities. Each of these workshops provided valuable information and resources for improving the quality of life of people with developmental disabilities and the individuals who support them.



Arc staff participate in a Boggs Center training on Behavior Support held in The Arc's multipurpose room.

One of The Arc's strategic goals upon moving to our new building was to reach out to other organizations and offer our new space for meetings, training and workshops. This was done in an effort to help build our own social capital and strengthen community connections. The Arc partnered with and offered meeting sites for the following organizations in FY07: Professional Advisory Committee Training Consortium; Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN); The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities; Regional Family Support Planning Council; Council on the Executives of The Arc (CEArc); South Jersey Legal Services; South Jersey Ethics Alliance and the United Way of Atlantic County.

Programs and Services

Recreation

Performing Arts Club This year marked the beginning of The Arc's Performing Arts program, which provides adults with a structured, bi-weekly course on a variety of performing arts techniques. With support from the Alan Perskie Fund and the JCC in Margate, The Arc staff and program volunteers provided the club's 25 members with the confidence and skills to become musicians, singers, actors and dancers. Members were given the freedom to choose what they would perform, and over the course of several months these routines were practiced and perfected. Sessions began in January and culminated in June with a variety show highlighting the multiple talents of its members, performed in front of more than 100 audience members. The performing arts club offers an opportunity for people with developmental disabilities to discover their potential, make new friends and learn new skills. We look forward to continuing this program and helping more individuals discover their hidden talents.



Shirley Shafer performed 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow' as part of The Arc's variety show.



Arc HR Director Lynn Lippert and friend at the 2006 Halloween Dance.

Social and Skill-Building Events Opportunities to meet new people and learn new skills abound at The Arc of Atlantic County. This year, the Recreation Department held five dances averaging 140 participants and offered 18 adult evening classes to 57 participants. The Arc placed a stronger emphasis on offering more Adult Evening Classes this year, which are lead by volunteers and help broaden the knowledge and skill set of Arc service recipients. Classes this year included ceramics, mosaic making, cooking a variety of ethnic foods, job readiness, cake decorating, candle making and needle-point.

Sports Nearly 70 individuals from four counties participated in one or more Special Olympics sports teams through The Arc's Special Olympics training program this year, coordinated through our Recreation Department. Athletes participated in skiing, bocce ball, volleyball, floor hockey, basketball, snowboarding, softball, swimming and bowling. This year, seven members of the Arc Angels softball team competed in the July 2006 Special Olympics National Games in Ames, Iowa as part of Team New Jersey. Team members had to attend a try-out camp in order to be selected. Team New Jersey came in 4th place in their division! This year was the first year for Special Olympics New Jersey to offer snowboarding as a competitive sport.



The Special Olympics Softball Team took 4th place at the national games.

Programs and Services

Family Support

The Arc's family support and respite programs provide numerous opportunities for building the agency's social capital. The Arc's **Saturday Respite program** for children, for example, has become a popular volunteer site in the past year. Volunteers ranged from children in the 4-H Youth Council, staff and characters from the Rainforest Cafe and a volunteer naturalist who taught the children how to make birdfeeders out of pinecones and edible ingredients. Each provided a fun and engaging experience for the children.

The **After School program** continues to support approximately 20 children with intellectual and developmental disabilities of all ages at the Atlantic County Special Services School in Mays Landing until their parents get home from work. This year, a donation of a computer and printer enhanced after school activities. The program has recently seen an increase in the number of older children who attend. There are few after school opportunities for children with special needs above a certain age. Thanks to The Arc, these children can enjoy a safe learning environment with the proper support.

In FY07 the Milton and Betty Katz Jewish Community Center's **Camp by the Sea** summer camp was host to 26 children with intellectual and developmental disabilities for up to eight weeks. With the support of specially trained camp counselors and financial assistance from The Arc, these children were able to participate in an inclusive summer camp environment where they learned to surf, swim and make new friends, in addition to many other activities. The social benefits of camp are enormous for children with developmental disabilities. This inclusive camp provides them with opportunities to model appropriate behaviors and be part of a larger community.

Housing Expansion

The Arc responded to the Division of Developmental Disabilities' call for proposals from agencies to address the need for more handicap accessible housing throughout the state in FY07. We successfully proposed a project that would renovate the garage at our Odessa group home in order to make available two additional bedrooms, one of which will be accessible. In addition to providing a new home for a resident who uses a wheelchair, this renovation will also make it possible for four of the six residents of this home to have their own bedroom and the privacy that they deserve.

Another area of housing we addressed this year was the possibility of building a new affordable housing unit that would provide eight individuals from institutions an affordable place to live in the community. At the end of FY07, we submitted an application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for this project. Chairing these efforts were three emeritus board members: Gene Arnone, Carmen Bannon and Bob Frank. We are grateful for the efforts of these key members of our organization to help increase our service capacity.



Odessa residents Joe Andrade, Neil Collins, Randy Leek and Ernie Summers (Alfie Luppenger not pictured) will welcome a new housemate once the renovations are complete. Also pictured are staff members Renee McCann and Latasha Flamer.

Programs and Services

Supported Employment

The Arc supports people with developmental disabilities in learning employment skills as well as finding, securing and maintaining employment through a team of job coaches. This fiscal year, the Supported Employment department served a total of 59 individuals. Thirty-five continue to be successfully employed at the date of publication. Seven have been employed with the same company for five years or more, with one reaching his 15th anniversary with his employer. Six individuals recently celebrated their one-year anniversary with their employer. Job readiness classes were hosted four times in FY07 and an Employment Work Group began in January to discuss meaningful work for individual job seekers and improving community connections.



Sara Washington works at Johnny Carino's Italian Restaurant and has for over a year. In April 2007, she was named "Johnny of the Month" for her excellent work ethic.



The ATC participants and staff were recognized for their volunteer work with the Estell Manor Park in November 2006. Karen Zindell, top left, from the County Park System commended the group for helping to keep the park's playgrounds safe for children.

Adult Training Center

The Adult Training Center provides a productive daily program for adults with developmental disabilities who are not employed. This year, 41 people were supported through this program. They volunteered at a local thrift store, nursing home and a county park. Volunteering helps people with intellectual and developmental disabilities discover their interests and build skills that could lead to future employment. Additionally, they went on outings to various community sites including the bowling alley, movie theater, farmers market, zoo, museums, casinos and other local venues. Community outings provide a chance for people to develop a deeper understanding of their community and their leisure options.

Arts Outreach

For the past three years, a small group of Arc service recipients has participated in a weekly art class sponsored by the Ocean City Fine Arts League where they learned how to draw and paint from volunteer artists. Participants created paintings, greetings cards, decorated bags and hats and much more. The Arc's Supported Living Counselors provided staff support and assistance with coordinating activities and all other resources were provided by the generous Arts League friends and through sales of greeting cards and other materials the group created. This past year, artists participated in the Elwyn "Art of Two Palettes" juried art auction, which earned several artists a profit selling their pieces. Additionally, the group exhibited and sold work at the Ocean City Flower Show and visited various galleries.



Artist Ellen Moskowitz at the Ocean City Flower Show with a canvas painting she created in art class under the instruction of artist and teacher Jim Penland.

Public Support

‘A Late Lunch with Charlie and Maura Weis’ The 2007 Tribute Event in March honored Notre Dame football coach Charlie Weis and his wife Maura for their work on behalf of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, raising a net total of more than \$118,000 to benefit The Arc of Atlantic County’s programs and services. This was by far our most successful fundraising event to date, surpassing the previous year’s tribute event by 73%. Charlie and Maura Weis have a daughter with developmental disabilities and a foundation in her honor (Hannah and Friends). Charlie candidly shared with the audience how their foundation started, what it is like to raise a child with developmental disabilities, and how important it is to treat all people, especially those with special needs, with respect and compassion.

Photo courtesy of Tom Briglia/PhotoGraphics



Board member and Tribute Committee chair Kevin McDonnell with Charlie and Maura Weis.



Board member Dot Saatkamp with the Toyota Prius which was raffled off on October 31, 2006.

Toyota Prius Car Raffle The Arc held its second car raffle in the organization’s history from August through October 2006. The raffle featured a 2006 Toyota Prius hybrid, with tickets selling for \$50 each. Staff and volunteers sold 755 tickets by the date of the raffle. A winner was drawn on October 31st. This fundraiser netted \$12,220 after expenses, which included the price of the car and publicity. Expenses were offset by \$3,000 in corporate sponsorships in addition to ticket sales.

Step Up for The Arc Walk In May 2007, Step Up for The Arc was held once again on the Ventnor boardwalk. Nearly 150 walkers and volunteers participated, which is far more than we’ve ever had in the past. Individual sponsorships, t-shirt sponsorships and walker registration fees totaled more than \$17,000. The Arc introduced a new initiative to garner support from Ventnor businesses and help offset expenses, raising \$1,600 in t-shirt sponsorships. We were encouraged by the turnout of walkers and look forward to building this event in the future. The Masons were once again key supporters of the event, providing refreshments and volunteers.



Christina and Richard from The Arc’s Saturday Program enjoy a dance at the post-walk celebration.

Recognition

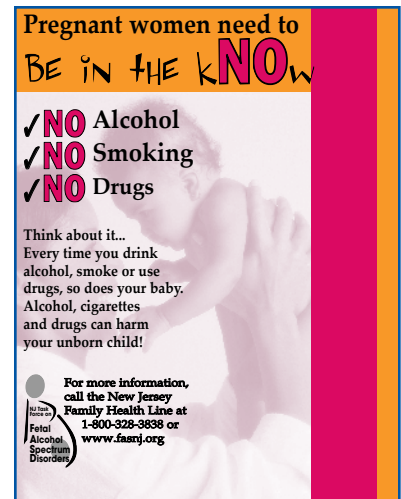
Photo courtesy of The Arc of New Jersey



Board member and Tribute Committee chair Kevin McDonnell with Charlie and Maura Weis.

Volunteer of the Year The Arc of New Jersey selected Phyllis Terlecky, a dedicated volunteer at The Arc of Atlantic County's Makes Cents Thrift Shop, to receive the statewide Volunteer of the Year award, which was presented to her at a ceremony in November 2006. Terlecky volunteered more than 1,830 hours at The Arc's thrift shop since 2004. Because of her creative business savvy and leadership skills, sales increased by 120% in her first year as a volunteer. Additionally, The Arc Makes Cents Thrift Shop volunteers were recognized as a whole by the City of Ventnor with a proclamation for their combined efforts to manage the shop, which "is a valuable addition to the culture, character and fabric of the community." In FY2007, the thrift shop grossed more than \$64,000 in sales. All proceeds from The Arc Makes Cents Thrift Shop fund our programs and services.

'Be in the kNOw' Statewide Media Campaign Brian Illencik, Training and Prevention Coordinator for The Arc of Atlantic County and also a member of the state's Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Task Force, coined the new media campaign message, "Be in the kNOw", designed to educate women about the damaging effects of alcohol, smoking and drugs on an unborn child. The "Be in the kNOw" campaign kicked off July 2007 in Atlantic City and continued throughout the state in FY07. Billboards, countertop displays, brochures and posters were the main helped spread the message this year. Additional plans were underway in FY07 to develop a website, TV ad and radio public service announcements. The Arc of Atlantic County continues to play a major role disseminating information about FASD and educating the public in Atlantic County and throughout the state.



Alfred Palmieri, Community Star In May 2007 surrounded by his friends, Alfred Palmieri, 59, was awarded the New Jersey Association of Community Provider's (NJACP) Community Star award. This award is presented to individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities who have overcome adversity and now live independently in the community. Alfred was nominated by The Arc for many reasons, which include 32 years of full-time employment in food service for the Hammonton Public School system. He retired in 2006. Alfred is very active and enjoys playing horseshoes, throwing darts, spending time with friends and taking care of his dog. In addition Palmieri has been developing his artistic talents as a participant in the Ocean City Fine Arts League outreach program for adults with developmental disabilities. This past year he fulfilled his lifelong dream by taking his first-ever vacation to Graceland.

Generous Donors

Major Funding Sources

The Division of
Developmental Disabilities
The Division of
Youth and Family Services
The Office for Prevention of
Mental Retardation and
Developmental Disabilities
The Division of
Vocational Rehabilitation
United Way of Atlantic County

Foundation and Service Organization Grants

The Monica Buckley
Memorial Foundation
The Charity League
The Henry D. Kahrs
Charitable Trust
United States Golf Association
The Stroser Foundation
Gold Foundation

\$2500 and Up

Gene Arnone
Atlantic City Electric
AtlantiCare Health Systems
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Beck
Bellevue Properties Group
Bollinger Insurance
Borgata Hotel Casino and Spa
Cape Savings Bank
Commerce Bank
Deborah Davies Ph.D.
East Coast Wholesale
Fox & Roach Charities
Harrah's Entertainment
Herb Hummel
Pat Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin McDonnell
Christine Sauer
Society of Government Meeting
Professionals
South Jersey Industries
Todd & Stephanie Timbrook
Trump Entertainment Resorts
Vanguard Property Group

\$1,000 to \$2,500

AIG Marketing Inc.

Atlantic City Hilton
Dealers Assoc.
Atlantic County Utilities Authority
Mr. & Mrs. Carmen Bannon
Richard F. & Marjorie A. Beach
Pat Beebe
Capaldi, Reynolds & Pelosi
Anne Dillon
Energy Enterprises, Inc.
Fitzpatrick, Bongiovanni & Kelly
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of South Jersey
James O'Connor
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Tilton Shore Fitness Network
Village Super Market Inc./Shoprite
Richard Walker

\$250 to \$999

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Holly J. Baker
Baumgardner Construction Co, Inc.
Book Auto Leasing, Inc.
Borgata Heart and Soul Foundation
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Bill Burns
D. T. Bush
Michael Butler
Cabot Institute
Mr. & Mrs. David Carr
Mr. & Mrs. William Clements
Linda Cobb
DCO Energy
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Jack Sheppard of Bollinger Insurance, left, presented The Arc with a generous corporate sponsorship. Pictured with Sheppard is Arc CFO Jill Lemon.

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Generous Donors

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\$100 to \$249

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 ARC Reprographics
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 Thomas H. Heist
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Patrick Rooney, left, and Board member Laura Clements (along with son Flynn) attended the annual membership meeting in June 2007.

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 Bob Frank
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 Sarah Garrod
 Linda Gemmel
 Pat Geoffroy
 Patrick Geubtner
 Stephanie Glaymon
 Peg Gleason
 David C. Kleinschrodt
 Mr. & Mrs. Roy Goldberg
 Mr. & Mrs. Milton Gordon
 Bobbie Gorman
 Sarah Griffith & Jan Colijn
 Mark Gross
 Mr. & Mrs. Dan Hagan



Shirley Shafer, second from left, and her staff celebrate a successful Individual Habilitation Plan meeting in the spring of 2007. This once-a-year event is designed to evaluate the individual's life in all areas and ensure their goals are known and a plan is developed to reach them.

Members

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Linda Hagel
Matt Haviland
Mr. & Mrs. George P. Helfrich
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Hendrixson
June Highberger
Barbara Hilliard
Janet Huckabee
Herb Hummel
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Hydro
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Kevin Kokowski
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Lamar
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Lambersky
Joan Lambert
Mr. & Mrs. James Layton
Kathi Lentz
Dennis Levinson
Mr. & Mrs. Abby Lew
Ron Lewkowitz
Lynn Lippert
Hermine Lucas
Mr. & Mrs. E. Allan Mack
Gladys Malarik
Mary Marks
Mary's Manor
Joyce Massey
Shirley Massey
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin McDonnell
John J. Shultz
Steven Metz
Jack Trail
Dave Middlebrook

Mr. & Mrs. Dan Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Miller
Mr. & Mrs. John Miller
Judy Millesen
Lois Minney
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Mitnick
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Moskowitz
Molly Mullaney
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Nickels
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Novak
Domenica Pantalena
Mr. & Mrs. Lowell Patak
Mark Peary
Phyllis Peary
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Penoyer
Michele Perrotti
Ronald Perry
Rabbi Shalom Plotkin
Sharon Posner
Dolly Reyes
Chanise Rhoades
Mr. & Mrs. John Rios
Aurelia Robinson
Jacoby Rodriguez
Carol Roman
Dr. & Mrs. Alfred Rosenblatt
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Rothhouse
John Ruban
Nancy Rubin
Calista Ruga
Mr. & Mrs. Al Ruggiero
Dorothy Saatkamp
Dawn Scheld
Mr. & Mrs. Al Schollenberger
Jacky Scott
Kreg Scott
Mr. & Mrs. Mac Seelig
Mr. & Mrs. Yitzhak Sharon
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Silipena
Ernie Simmers
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry String
Bryan Bridel
Melvyn Tarnopol
Phyllis Terlecky



Arc staff member Traci Scott and Board member Herb Hummel share a laugh in front of the Arc AnGels candle display at the annual membership meeting.

Min Thompson
Mr. & Mrs. William Thompson
Mr. & Mrs. James Thornton
Noreen Tkacz
Kimberly Tweedle
Richard Suthard
Richard Walker
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Weaver
Mr. & Mrs. William Weber
Connie Weems
Terry Weems
Rabbi David Weis
Roseann Whittington
Charlotte Woods
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Woods
Kathryne Woodyard
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Yanni
Maureen Yuhasz
Ann Marie Zglinicki



Vicki Zulu (1985) and Renee Newsome (1996) attended the Ten-Year Breakfast for Arc staff who have worked for the agency for more than a decade.



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