



**Vision:** People 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.

**The Arc of Atlantic County** is a private non-profit organization committed to making a difference in the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families. Since its founding in 1961, The Arc has been working in partnership with individuals with Down syndrome, Autism and other developmental disabilities to provide the opportunities and supports they need to live, learn, work and play as they choose. Today, The Arc's dedicated staff and volunteers serve approximately 700 people through a variety of direct service programs and recreational activities. More information can be found on our website: [www.ArcAtlantic.org](http://www.ArcAtlantic.org)

**Welcome New Volunteer!** The Arc of Atlantic County Volunteer Program provides an opportunity for people with developmental disabilities to develop relationships with people from the community. Volunteers at The Arc are exposed to the current philosophies surrounding developmental disabilities. A strong commitment from our volunteers increases the capacity of The Arc to provide more and better services to the individuals we serve. Volunteers contribute their unique talents, skills, and knowledge of our community to provide personalized attention to the people we serve.

Volunteer efforts are meant to enhance the services provided by The Arc and are not intended to take the place of paid staff. The Arc encourages the teamwork of paid staff and volunteers so that we can offer the best services possible. There is a broad range of volunteer opportunities such as clerical assistance, fund-raising, property upkeep, Thrift Shop operations, programs for children and adults, recreational sports and trips as well as opportunities to assist individuals at our Adult Training Center or in our residential services. Placement into a specific program will be made based on your interests, suitability and availability.

All new volunteers are asked to complete:

- a volunteer application, including references and release forms
- a new volunteer orientation session
- additional training as needed

The volunteer coordinator will coordinate scheduling your in-service training as well as an orientation at the site you have chosen for your volunteer experience. If you will be volunteering in any of our sports programs, or if you may be working one on one with an individual, you may be required to take CPR and First Aid Training. You are also welcome to attend any additional training provided through the agency that may be of special interest.

Your hours will be scheduled based on your availability and at a program you have expressed an interest in. Volunteers are requested to sign up with the program manager in advance of volunteering. You will be given the information during your orientation on who you will need to contact and how much notice they would like to have.