

Celebrating 70 Years of Advocacy 1949-2019



October 31, 2019 | Volume 5 - The 1980's



For eight weeks, The Arc of New Jersey is relating its rich history with a series of weekly emails celebrating the people and events that have made The Arc the strong vibrant organization it is today.

To see the first four volumes, [click here.](#)

Unprecedented Expansion of Community Services

1981

A national media campaign is launched utilizing a common strategy and a set of broadcast and print advertising materials to build awareness.

1982

The death of an Indiana baby with Down syndrome is the catalyst for The Arc to advocate nationwide for the protection of "Baby Doe".

The Arc passes a resolution declaring the right of all people with I/DD to community based services, regardless of severity of disability.

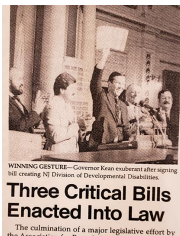
1984

At The Arc National Convention a resolution is adopted which mandates the preferred use of "people-first language".

The Arc spearheads a meeting of national medical and disability groups which results in the passage of the "Baby Doe" amendments to the Child Abuse Act.

1985

The Arc of New Jersey moves to new headquarters at 985 Livingston Ave, North Brunswick. Legislation is signed by Governor Tom Kean creating the NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities.



Three Critical Bills Enacted Into Law
The culmination of a major legislative effort by

1986

The Arc successfully advocates for legislation mandating preschool programs for three to five year olds and early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities.

1987

The Arc begins a three year awareness campaign with Johnson & Johnson that would reach 75 million households.



NJ Governor Tom Kean, NJARC Executive Director John Scagnelli, Johnson & Johnson VP and NJARC Boardmember Fred Patterson and Self-Advocate John Randolph

1988

A national status report on community services waiting lists reveals that more than 139,000 individuals across the country are on waiting lists for services.

The 1980's were a decade of historic development for The Arc of New Jersey, including the creation of six major programs.

1982

The Developmentally Disabled Offenders Program is created from the Criminal Justice Education Project of The Arc of NJ's Citizen Advocacy Program. The program is developed to provide case management and advocacy for individuals with I/DD who are involved with the criminal justice system. The program creates the unique concept of "Personalized Justice Plans" for their clients.



MARY BONITO, self-advocate coordinator
Self-Advocates Form Units To Speak For Themselves

1983
New Jersey United Self-Advocates, a statewide self-advocacy group, is created at the urging of individuals with I/DD looking to have a greater voice. With the group came the creation of the **New Jersey Self-Advocacy Project**, a program of The Arc of New Jersey dedicated to supporting individuals with I/DD to speak up and speak out.

1985

With the influx of individuals into community living, the lack of appropriate health services became increasingly apparent. The Arc of New Jersey creates the **Mainstreaming Medical Care Program** to identify and remove the barriers that people with I/DD face in accessing community health services.

With increased attention being paid to the prevention of developmental disabilities, The Arc of NJ receives a grant to create the **NJ Coalition for Prevention of I/DD**. It's mission is to inspire and mobilize government, agencies, communities, families and individuals in a strong statewide prevention effort.

The Arc of New Jersey starts the first of its kind, community-based, supported employment program for

The Arc plays a major role in the enactment of the Fair Housing Act of 1988, which prohibits housing discrimination based on disability.

1989

The Arc of New Jersey galvanizes advocates to March on Trenton, demanding funding to address the waiting list for community residential services. The Arc National President Barbara Sackett gives a formal charge to the national communications committee to recommend a new name for the organization.



March on Trenton Galvanizes Advocates, Gains Broadbased Media Recognition

individuals with I/DD. Tom Baffuto is hired to develop and implement

Project HIRE with a goal of placing 100 individuals in full time, long term jobs in the first year.



Project HIRE Targets Jobs

1986

With the passage of Legislation removing disincentives that hindered families from pooling their resources into community trusts, The Arc of New Jersey creates the **Community Trust Project of The Arc of NJ.**



HEAR US!—One self-advocate tells his story of community living at ARC Conference.

Self Advocates Speak Out At First NJ Conference

Fun Fact: In 1987 members of The Arc around the country were advocating for the passage of the Medicaid Home and Community Quality Services Act. The legislation would amend the Title XIX Medicaid Program to remove the institutional bias in the existing service system. Fourteen of New Jersey's sixteen members of Congress supported the House Bill (HR 3454), with then-Congressman Jim Florio (D-1) as the principal sponsor.

Time is running out!

With only 3 weeks to go, the time is now to purchase tickets and ads for The Arc of New Jersey 70th Anniversary Dinner.

Join us on Thursday, November 21st at The Imperia in Somerset, NJ as we celebrate our 70th Anniversary and honor six exceptional award winners.

President's Award
Todd Polyniak, Sax LLP

Advocacy Matters Award
S. Paul Prior, Esq.

Volunteer of the Year
Ralph Mastrangelo

Bill Sackter Award
Evelyn Ramundo

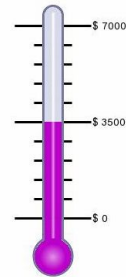
Martin Papish Award
Linda Cancro Lucas

Community Impact Award
The Porzio Family of Companies
(Porzio, Bromberg & Newman P.C.,
Porzio Governmental Affairs LLC,
Porzio Compliance Services LLC,
Porzio Life Sciences LLC)

Tickets, journal ads and sponsorships are available by visiting our [website](http://www.thearcnj.org), emailing cfortin@arcnj.org or calling 732.733.6013.

The Arc of New Jersey 70th Anniversary Campaign

As you can see, The Arc of New Jersey has had a wonderful history of advocacy and service. To continue our wonderful work, *we need your help!*



In honor of our 70th Anniversary, The Arc of New Jersey is launching a special 70th Anniversary campaign to raise \$70,000.

Every donation has the power to make a significant difference in the life of someone with I/DD and their family.

Please donate today to help us reach our goal!

DONATE NOW!

