The Arc, Ocean County Chapter nnual C $2023 \checkmark$

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The world is ever-changing, and keeping up with the times can be hard. What's trending today will be different tomorrow. And yet for over six decades, The Arc, Ocean County Chapter has offered faithful support services, all the while cultivating new ideas to help individuals with disabilities achieve their greatest potential year after year.

Your generous end of year gift will provide innovative programs for individuals with disabilities at The Arc, Ocean County Chapter.

Two novel programs were introduced to The Arc's Vocational Transition Services in 2023 to assist students with disabilities transition from education to competitive employment. *EDGE (Education, Development, Guidance, and Engagement)* supports high school and college level students who are blind or visually impaired transition into independent living and career development. In partnership with CBVI, this unique program gives enrollees the confidence in moving towards a successful future.

Learn to Earn is an innovative Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) Paid Internship program designed specifically for New Jersey students. This extensive program provides a unique blend of mentorship, skill-building workshops, applied learning activities, and paid work-based internships. It is tailored to offer eligible students with hands-on experience and essential skills, setting the foundation for

their future careers.

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Innovative trends in health and wellness continues to be a priority for The Arc of Ocean as we embark on the new year. Thanks to a generous grant, eleven of our group home and supervised apartment residents piloted a meal plan service showing great potential to benefit all of Residential Services. My25 simplifies recipes and prep, saves on food shopping expenses, and offers healthy meal options that meet individual dietary needs.

Please consider making an end of year donation to expand upon our invaluable support services at The Arc of Ocean County.

The Arc's Adaptive Fitness program will prosper with the second phase of the Bill Burke Wellness Center nearly complete. This inclusive outdoor recreation space funded in part by the Ocean County Department of Human Services will welcome the local community to an accessible pickleball court with future plans to collaborate with Special Olympics.

Your generous contribution today will make a lasting impact for people with disabilities at The Arc, Ocean County Chapter as we look forward to a year of growth and innovation. Please scan the QR code to donate online or kindly mail your gift to The Arc, Ocean County Chapter, Attn: Annual Appeal, 393 Mantoloking Road, Brick, NJ 08723.

> We are always so grateful for the support of our generous community and we hope you too have a healthy and happy 2024!

> > Sincerely,

Executive Director

The Arc Ocean County Chapter

Achieve with us.



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