



# 2021 Annual Appeal



***We hope you will help us bring our vision to life!***

December 3, 2021

Dear Friend,

If 2021 taught us anything, it is that we are all resilient. We began the year with so much uncertainty and although we don't have it all figured out quite yet, we have learned to live again within the confines of a global pandemic. Yes, there have been great challenges and sadly, more loss, but we have hope and a lot of heart with big plans for a brighter 2022.

The Arc, Ocean County Chapter is so proud of our accomplishments this year, and indebted to our incredible staff who are on this journey with us to provide the best programs and support services to individuals with disabilities in Ocean County. Our focus was on the overall health and wellness of our community, and that included safely resuming in-person services for participants of The Arc.

Our Vocational Services Adult Training Centers were able to return to in-person program at limited capacity after a long fourteen month hiatus in May 2021, with new and innovative procedures in place to keep our staff and participants safe, we began to offer transportation, job training and employment opportunities again. Recreation Services introduced a summer cornhole tournament and the return of our ever popular bowling leagues this fall. We are truly overjoyed to welcome back so many familiar faces, even if they are behind masks!

The Arc of Ocean County's new Clinical Supports and Services program has been instrumental in providing behavioral, counseling and medical supports to our residents, families and staff this year. Led by our qualified clinicians, we are honored to have a dedicated health and wellness team. To encourage fun and fitness, we established the Bill Burke Wellness Center in Lakewood, a completely renovated indoor gymnasium for participants to enjoy.

Reaching our goals in 2021 was no simple feat. With capacity limitations, staffing challenges, COVID-19 restrictions, some days felt like an uphill battle. Every step was a team effort thanks to our staff, families, donors, volunteers and community partners, we appreciate all of you.

As we look ahead at The Arc, Ocean County Chapter, we are excited for all that is in front of us for 2022. To continue on our path of health and wellness, we have plans to create a sensory room and an adaptive fitness program but our biggest undertaking in the new year is the renovation of our newest location in Ocean County, the future home of our administrative offices .



The Arc, Ocean County Chapter acquired 393 Mantoloking Road in Brick, NJ in December 2020 and will be a shared space between our administrative offices and the Journeys and Discovery program. The 18,000 square foot building is about to see a total HGTV-worthy makeover! Starting with a new roof, the renovated complex will have open classrooms, technology center, teaching kitchen, fitness room, mock job sites, office space, and more. We promise to keep you posted on our progress in the new year, be sure to follow us on Facebook @thearcoceancounty and Instagram @thearcocean for updates and photos.

This year, every dollar raised in our Annual Appeal campaign will help us purchase items from our growing wish list to furnish Mantoloking Road before we can move in next spring. We need kitchen appliances, desks and chairs, a smart TV, storage, program supplies and so much more. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 before December 31st.

We hope we can count on you again to make an end of year gift to The Arc, Ocean County Chapter! **Please donate today, we greatly appreciate anything you can give.**

We wish you and your family a joyous holiday season, and healthy New Year.

Sincerely,

Laura Williams, Executive Director

Ruth Churchill, Board President

***P.S. Please consider making an end of year gift to The Arc, Ocean County Chapter today.***

*You can return the donation card included with this letter by mail to: The Arc, Ocean County Chapter, 815 Cedar Bridge Ave, Lakewood, NJ 08701 or donate online at [www.arcocean.org](http://www.arcocean.org).*



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