



## **The Arc, Ocean County Chapter Honors 2026 Catalyst Award Winners**

**Toms River, NJ (March 25, 2026)** – The Arc, Ocean County Chapter recognized twelve award recipients at this year’s Catalyst Awards on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Toms River Clarion celebrating their commitment and dedication to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Ocean County, NJ.

Congratulations 2026 Catalyst Award Winners!

- Bill Sackter Citizenship Award ~ Robert Beard, Arc Employment Center
- Competitive Employment Achievement Award ~ William King, Supported Employment
- Collaboration Champion Award ~ Christian Kane, RWJ Barnabas Health Field of Dreams
- Inclusive Community Partner Award ~ Mary McDonald, Liberty Science Center
- Community Spirit Award ~ Karen Stafford-Smith, The Strand Theater
- Volunteer Engagement Award ~ Lia Archiello
- Healthcare Professional of the Year Award ~ Dr. Clare Coda, RWJ Barnabas Health
- Support Coordinator of the Year Award ~ Kathleen Celestino, Keeping Independence Services & Supports
- Employee of the Year Award ~ Michelle Sasso, Residential Services
- Employee of the Year Award ~ Monica Godin, Wellness & Recreation
- Employee of the Year Award ~ Westin Bell, Residential Services
- Newcomer of the Year Award ~ George Lord, Vocational Services

The Catalyst Awards was an opportunity to honor our employees, business partners, and the individuals we support who go above and beyond to serve the mission of The Arc and make a real impact on the lives of people with disabilities.

The evening included a cocktail reception, super raffle, and silent auction which raised \$20,000 with proceeds benefiting The Arc, Ocean County Chapter’s programs and support services. To support the event, please visit [www.arcocean.org](http://www.arcocean.org).



**Photo of Catalyst Award Winners (L to R):** Monica Godin, George Lord, Dr. Clare Coda, Michelle Sasso, Robert Beard, Lia Archiello, Westin Bell, Mary McDonald, Karen Stafford-Smith, Christian Kane, William King and Kathleen Celestino.

### **About The Arc, Ocean County Chapter**

The Arc, Ocean County Chapter, Inc. was established in 1955 with the mission to advocate, provide opportunities and supports necessary for all individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to be accepted and valued as citizens of the communities in which they choose to live, learn, work and play. Today, the chapter serves more than 1,000 individuals through residential services, vocational services, recreation services, family support, and clinical support services.

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