



For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families since 1948.

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Camp Hope 2017 Filled with Fun, Excitement, and Many New Experiences!

The 61st season of Camp Hope has been filled with endless fun since camp opened on July 5th. In addition to new staff and activities, campers were delighted to take advantage of the new facility improvements.



August kicked off with campers traveling back in time for Time Warp Week. Highlights included a 1950's Sock Hop dance, a visit from The Towne Scoop Ice Cream Truck courtesy of The Candle Lighters, and our annual Camp Hope Talent Show! The campers enjoyed taking center stage to sing, dance, and perform to the delight of the crowd.

Next, campers traveled Out of this World with activities including a water-themed Freeze Dance, a Bounce House, scavenger hunt in Outer Space, and, of course, fun with Dr. Seuss.

The 2017 camp season concluded with campers experiencing Excellent Adventures including science experiments, solving mysteries, exploring nature, and more. The Arc of Essex County would like to take the opportunity to thank the following organizations for making the 2017 camp season a success:

- Lillian Schenck Foundation
- Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
- Orange Orphan Society
- United Way of Northern New Jersey

Furthermore, the 2017 camp season, and the many improvements made to the facilities during the off season, would not have been possible without the generous Create Play contributions from the following foundations:

- Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation
- Catholic Human Services Foundation
- Columbia Bank Foundation
- Dorothy B. Hersh Foundation
- Gertrude L. Hirsch Charitable Trust
- Home Depot Foundation
- Investors Foundation
- John A. and Margaret Post Foundation

- Orange Orphan Society

The Arc of Essex County would also like to extend our sincere gratitude to all of the individual donors who contributed to the Create Play campaign. There are still a number of projects slated for completion following the 2017 camp season. Donations will enable The Arc of Essex County to complete the projects in advance of the 2018 season. Will you help us reach our \$250,000 goal?

To make a donation towards the Create Play Capital Campaign, visit www.arcessex.org/createplay or contact Senior Director of Development and Communication, Heather Comstock, at hcomstock@arcessex.org or (973) 535-1181 ext. 1224.

The Arc of Essex County's Residential Corner - Current Openings

Adulthood is marked by many decisions, the most exciting of which is determining where to live. For individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), the desire to pursue greater independence is achievable with proper planning and open discussion. The Arc of Essex County's residential services offers individuals with I/DD housing options that provide an opportunity to live a fulfilling and independent life in a nurturing, supportive atmosphere.

To pursue residential services with The Arc of Essex County individuals must be:

- Medicaid eligible
- Division of Developmental Disabilities eligible
- Community Care Waiver (CCW) or Supports Program waiver eligible

There is not a one-size-fits-all approach to residential options for individuals with I/DD. The Arc of Essex County carefully takes into account accessibility and support needs in combination with personality and wishes to find a housing option that meets individual needs. All residents have access to 24-hour staff support, nursing and clinical supports, and a variety of local community inclusion activities. Residential service options include community residences, supervised apartments, and supported living.

The following Arc of Essex County residential program locations have vacancies:

Verona Supervised Apartments (1 Vacancy)

- 1 Bedroom Available in a 3-Bedroom Supervised Apartment
- 24/7 Staff Supervision
- Large 2 Family Home with Great Front Porch
- Located near public transportation and within walking distance of Verona's downtown shopping & restaurants and the beautiful Verona Park
- Current roommates are males, one in his late 40's who is creative, likes to read, tell jokes, draw, and watch TV. The second roommate, moving in soon, is in his late 20's and enjoys being active, socializing with friends, and participating in community activities

Maplewood Supervised Apartments (2 Vacancies)

- 2 Bedrooms Available in a 2-Bedroom Supervised Apartment
- 24/7 Staff Supervision
- Condo-style Living in a 3rd Floor Unit with Elevator
- Located near public transportation and within walking distance to Maplewood's downtown shopping & restaurants
- Neighbors are younger and enjoy socializing and participating in community events

South Orange Supportive Living Apartment (1 Vacancy - Supports Program waiver eligible only)

- 1 Bedroom Available in a 2-Bedroom Supportive Living Apartment



Residential Corner

- Minimal Community Living Support Needs; Access to an emergency on-call system for added safety 24 hours a day
- Apartment-style Living in 5-Floor Building
- Located near public transportation and within walking distance to South Orange's vibrant downtown
- Current roommate is a male in his 50's who is employed within the community, easy going, social, and close with his family

Maplewood Supportive Living Apartment (1 Vacancy - Supports Program waiver eligible only)

- 1 Bedroom Available in a 2-Bedroom Supportive Living Apartment
- Minimal Community Living Support Needs; Access to an emergency on-call system for added safety 24 hours a day
- Townhome-style Community
- Located near public transportation and within walking distance of Maplewood's downtown shopping & restaurants
- Current roommate is a male in his late 50's who enjoys spending time in Montclair, watching movies, and socializing with friends

For additional information about The Arc of Essex County's residential services, [click here](#). If you are interested in pursuing independent living at one of the above properties, please contact The Arc's Director of Residential Service, Rebecca Lorusso via email at rlorusso@arcessex.org or by calling (973) 535-1181 ext. 1270.

Ethiopian and Greek Cuisines to Tempt Palettes at the 4th Annual Uncorked & Uncapped

We are just under four weeks away from Essex County's biggest Fall event - the 4th Annual Uncorked & Uncapped: Wine, Beer, and Food Fest to benefit The Arc of Essex County. As the list of confirmed vendors continues to grow, this Uncorked & Uncapped event is on track to be bigger (and tastier) than ever!

This year's event will have the widest variety of flavors yet. Restaurants, Walia and 12 Islands Greek Taverna, bring Ethiopian and Mediterranean classics to the tasting table. Need something sweet after you eat? Hop on the healthy bowl craze and try Frutta Bowls' Acai, Pitaya, or Kale Bowls with fresh granola and fruit toppings. YUM!

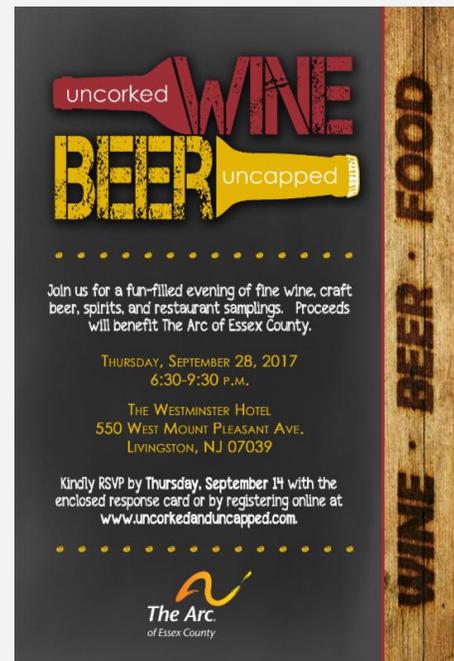
The vendors aren't the only ones bringing greater variety this year. Our silent auction is filled with new giveaways, destinations, and more! If you like tickets to the big game or unique day-trip experiences, you might want to consider attending.

The 50/50 raffle returns once again. Tickets are for sale for \$10 and can be purchased BEFORE and AT the event. The winner does not need to be present to win. To purchase tickets, complete the raffle ticket order form [here](#). Please call Maria Meizoso at (973) 535-1181 ext. 1227 with any questions.

To view the 30+ vendors participating in the event and to stay up-to-date as new ones are added, [click here](#).

Uncorked & Uncapped 2017 will take place at the Westminster Hotel in Livingston on Thursday, September 28th. Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$100. For additional details and to purchase tickets, visit the event website at www.uncorkedanduncapped.com.

For inquiries about becoming a sponsor, contact Heather Comstock at 973-535-1181 x 1224 or hcomstock@arcessex.org.



The students of The Arc of Essex County's Stepping Stones School have had quite the summer.

On Friday, August 4th, the Transitional Kindergarten (TK) class used MyPlate to learn about different types of food and food groups. Then, on Wednesday, August 9th, the students had a special treat! They tasted pineapple, coconut, and mango. Cracking the coconut was the crowd favorite - watching the water pour out mesmerized the students. Another highlight of the day included a trip to the Roseland Farmers Market. There, the kids chatted with a local farmer and even got to take an ear of corn home!



Continuing the excitement on Thursday, August 10th, a Moana Luau party was held to celebrate the end of summer. All the Stepping Stones students dressed up like Moana and Maui-just like in the movie! The girls made flower headbands, while the boys made beaded necklaces. The party wasn't complete without a hula dance, limbo, and some fruit smoothies.

While learning about food groups and the Polynesian culture sure was fun, the highlight of the month was Stretch the Silly Man! Students from Rainbow Child Care Center and Preschool in Roseland joined Stepping Stones on Friday, August 11th. Students were called up to take turns during the magic show and had an absolute blast!

The Arc of Essex County's Stepping Stones School is a Department of Education Approved Private School for Students with Disabilities serving children ages 3-10. Located in Roseland, NJ, the school is designed to meet the developmental and educational needs of children with cognitive impairments such as Down syndrome and other students with similar educational and developmental needs.

For more information, view the Stepping Stones School brochure [here](#). To request a tour and assistance with an out-of-district placement, contact Sue Brand, Director of Early Childhood and Education at (973) 535-1181 ext. 1271 or sbrand@arcessex.org.

Champions Crowned at 2017 Day Program Kickball Tournament

For the past two months, The Arc of Essex County's annual kickball tournament has been in full swing. The competition was stiff between attendees from each day program, with games taking place in Branch Brook Park. For the second year in a row, Community Link and Supportive Work Opportunities Program (SWOP) took home the championship for their respective divisions.



The Arc of Essex County honored the champions and all tournament participants at an awards ceremony and celebration at the Livingston Recreation Center on Wednesday, August 23.

Congratulations to all Kickball Tournament participants! Our day program teams are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the fall season as they prepare for a Fall Carnival, Halloween celebrations, and more!

Do you have a loved one interested in attending The Arc of Essex County's Adult Day Services? Check out our Adult Day Services brochure, [available here](#), then reach out to The Arc of Essex County's Senior Director of Support Program Services, Melissa Soules, to learn how you can enroll - msoules@arcessex.org or (973) 535-1181 ext. 1262.

*The Arc of Essex County Seeks Volunteers
for its Stepping Stones School*

The Arc of Essex County's Stepping Stones School, a school for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities, is seeking volunteers for the 2017-2018 school year. Stepping Stones, located in Roseland, NJ, serves children from birth to ten years of age. A unique aspect of this program involves a one-on-one student to volunteer concept for many of the children. This is accomplished with the assistance of volunteers from local communities.



Volunteers are needed for weekday mornings and afternoons. A commitment of ½ day per week, the same day each week from September to June is required. If interested in volunteering, please contact Judy Bellina, The Arc of Essex County's Volunteer Coordinator, at jbellina@arcessex.org or 973-535-1181 ext. 1223. Individual orientations will be scheduled and held at Stepping Stones, located at 19 Harrison Avenue (Roseland Municipal Building), prior to the start of the school year.

New Stepping Stones Website

Coming Soon



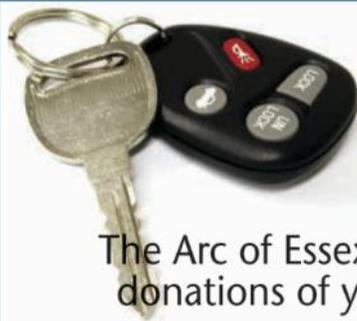
The Arc of Essex County is in the process of increasing the Stepping Stones School and Early Intervention web presence! Be on the lookout for a new Stepping Stones School website launching this October. The website will include detailed information about curriculum and program offerings as well as a "current students" section.

The Arc Remembers

Colette Quirion

Born in 1955, Colette Quirion resided in Elizabeth. She was a participant of The Arc of Essex County for 20+ years, beginning her journey in 1996 by attending the ARCompany Day Program. She truly enjoyed doing contract work at ARCompany and continued to pursue vocational activities when she moved to the Avenues Day Program in 2015.

Colette had an infectious smile and formed many great relationships with staff members and attendees of The Arc of Essex County. If you'd like to make a donation to The Arc of Essex County, in Colette's memory, please visit www.arcessex.org/donate.



How you can help... **VEHICLE DONATION**

The Arc of Essex County will gratefully accept donations of your used cars, vans or trucks.

Vehicle donations made to a charitable non-profit organization are tax deductible.

- BENEFITS:**
- Free Towing
 - Tax deductible
 - Hassle free way to get rid of your unwanted vehicle
 - Support the mission of The Arc of Essex County

Donate your vehicle 877-ARC-2270

**Please remember to designate our chapter
and we will receive 90% of the net proceeds
from your vehicle donation.**

 **Donate Now**

The Arc of Essex County

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