

The Arc of Cumberland County



2021 Annual Report

Agency Highlights

We entered 2021 with equal amounts of hope and fear. We were confident that we had learned valuable lessons in 2020 but we were well aware that 2021 was going to challenge us in new and difficult ways. By the end of 2020, we had obtained significant quantities of the personal protection equipment necessary to keep the Evanoff Center clean and our staff members and consumers healthy; we had also developed and implemented the necessary plans and procedures for their use. As we moved into 2021 we were confident that we knew how to provide our services, we just needed the opportunity to get all of them open again, even if it meant a process of gradually phasing them in place. And that's exactly what happened in 2021.

The basic difference between 2020 and 2021 is that The Arc of Cumberland County was closed for the majority of 2020 with the exception of our Community Based Services and our Supported Employment Services and in 2021 everything was open for business although not always for the full year. In 2021, we were constantly working through the governmental mandates that regulated consumer attendance at our center-based programs. Additionally, we faced serious staffing shortages due to attrition, non-work related injuries, and exposure to the coronavirus with its subsequent quarantine requirements.

During 2021, our Supported Employment Services and Community Based Supports programs remained open throughout the year largely because they take place in the community and only faced the same restrictions as any other community activity during 2021, i.e., masking and social distancing. Our Saturday respite programs were open for most of 2021 but were forced to stop and re-start several times during the year due to surges in the Coronavirus infection rates. One of our most visible programs, After School Options, was not able to open until April 2021 and only then with 4 students. We are currently serving 10 persons in After School Options and hope to get back to our capacity of 18 by the end of the year. Our Self-Hire respite services remained open through 2021 but all of our other Agency-Hire respite services were unavailable until July 2021. They have slowly restarted but there remains much room for expansion.

Finally, our ever-popular Recreation programs were severely limited in 2021 due to the large group restrictions placed by the State of New Jersey, which were in line with the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. Outdoor activities like our NJ Special Olympics Bocce and Track and Field teams opened in August and September 2021, respectively, and our NJ Special Olympics Bowling team resumed practice in August with a limited number of participants due to concerns regarding indoor gatherings. We welcomed our Get Fit participants back into the Evanoff Center in March 2021 with the basic

precautionary measures in place. Our community based dance and ceramic programs re-opened with full attendance beginning in July 2021.

Our Agency Staff

Once again, the staff members of the Arc of Cumberland County were simply magnificent. They worked every possible shift that was available without complaint. Indeed, their spirit and dedication was infectious and served as motivation throughout the year. Administrative staff members were routinely needed to substitute for regular Evanoff Center program staff that had become ill or were otherwise unable to work. Our Board of Trustees met routinely throughout the year to provide the governance and oversight required including ongoing policy review and approval and the close review of our financial resources on a monthly basis.

External Resources

In a normal year, we would be focusing on identifying outside resources that would allow us to provide services that are not funded by state of New Jersey sources, such as our recreation programs. This year, as in 2020, our main concern was in keeping our staff paid and our doors open. Fortunately, we were able to identify three major sources of non-traditional support and make successful applications for their funding. Our biggest financial boost came from round two of the federal government employer assistance funding known as the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). We received \$135,022 dollars in PPP funds in 2021 which allowed us to fully staff the programs allowed to operate by the state. The New Jersey Economic Development Authority provided us with a similar grant for \$15,000. Finally, Century Savings Bank brokered another employee assistance grant for \$10,000.



Finally, we are entering our fifth and final year of a grant from the United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey. This grant focuses on improving employment opportunities for young adults with disabilities and it pays our agency \$30,000 per year. The United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey has been a strong supporter of our agency for many years.

So thank you to all of our wonderful staff members, paid and volunteer alike, for your dedication to the consumers and families from The Arc of Cumberland County. You motivate us every day and make us proud to be a member of this fine agency. Thank you to the County of Cumberland for keeping our parking lots clean and accessible in the winter months. Thank you to Ann Bassano for your beautiful artwork on display in the all- purpose room and the computer lab. Thank you to our local sponsors of our most recent virtual walk –

we look forward to your support in our next live walk event. Finally, for everyone who is reading this report, thank you for your interest and we hope that you can become involved with us in some future capacity.

2021 Board of Directors

Dante Romanini	President
Kevin K. Walsh, Ph.D	Secretary
Gabriel DiTomasso	Treasurer
Leslie Gonzalez	Member at Large
John T. Asselta	Member at Large
Nancy Collins	Member at Large
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Chad Davis	Member at Large

2021 Administrative Staff

Jacquelyn U. Steiner	Executive Director
Saira Torres	Director of Programmatic Operations
Nicole Sikking	Director of Employment Services
Maribel Caban	Coordinator of Recreation Services
Maggie Rivera	Administrative Assistant

OUR FINANCIAL PICTURE

2021 Operating Revenues: 994,664

Program Service Fees	728,089
United Way	30,000
Fundraising & Special Events	5,020
Cumberland County Stipend	8,225
NJ Economic Development Authority	15,000
State Allocation for Wages	13,731
Rental Income	2,750
Other Income	1,225
Bank Interest	115
Investment Income	42,567
Legacies & Bequests	2,920
Century Savings Bank Direct Public Grant	10,000
Paycheck Protection Program	135,022

2021 Operating Expenses: 908,519

Personnel	745,103
Consultant & Professional	10,229
Materials & Supplies	10,635
Business Expenses	2,751
Facility Costs	77,463
Assistance to Clients	12,112
Other Costs	46,138
Payroll Expenses	4,088

Agency Support Structure

Our support structure remains largely unchanged from 2020 but government restrictions related to the Coronavirus pandemic limited our ability to provide our normal range of services. The backbone of our services continues to be as follows:

- Providing employment opportunities and related job maintenance supports for adults with disabilities in Cumberland, Atlantic, Cape May, and Gloucester counties.
- Providing community based supports to persons with disabilities residing primarily in Cumberland County.
- Maintaining our respite services menu which include our After School and Saturday Drop In programs.
- Continuing our tradition of providing community based recreation and wellness programs to our consumers and their families at little or no cost.

Supported Employment Services



We provide job development, intensive coaching, and long term support services to over 300 adults with disabilities in Cumberland, Atlantic, Gloucester, and Cape May counties. Our Supported Employment program remains largely funded by the New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (NJDVRS) with a small number of persons funded by the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities (NJDDD) Supports program. Supported Employment Services are currently accredited with their 7th consecutive 3-year certification from CARF.

Community Based Supports

Community Based/Individual Supports are part of the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities Supports Program and provide assistance for individuals who need direct support to achieve independence and inclusion. Supports are offered by trained and flexible staff from the Arc of Cumberland County to meet the individual's needs in their home or in the community. Staff members provide assistance in the activities of the person's choosing and help them to achieve their planned outcomes. Community Based Supports/Individual Supports are delivered in a one-to-one setting and may include: assistance with community-based activities, basic self-care, social skills and activities of daily living. We provide a wide variety of routine services to persons in their local communities. Some examples include assisting individuals with

scheduling and attending medical appointments, obtaining prescription medications, assisting with meal planning and food preparation activities, and reserving and attending community based recreational venues.

Respite services for persons under 21 years of age (coordinated with Perform Care)

- After School Options – This program is for students classified eligible for special education services and is held at our Evanoff Center in Vineland and operates Monday to Friday, 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm throughout the year.
- Agency Hired Respite – Respite workers are trained and experienced employees of the Arc of Cumberland County, hired to support the consumer in recreational activities of their choice occurring in their home or in a community setting.
- Self-Hired Respite – The family of the consumer identifies and directs their own respite worker and is reimbursed by the Arc of Cumberland County after submitting monthly verification forms.
- Agency Weekend Respite – This is an out of home respite program that provides a wide variety of individualized and small group recreational activities at the Evanoff Center in Vineland on Saturdays from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm throughout the year.

Respite services for persons 21 and older (coordinated with New Jersey DDD)

- In Home Respite – Services provided by Arc of Cumberland staff at the home of the individual.
- Saturday Respite – Out of home respite provided at our Evanoff Center in Vineland on Saturdays that gives relief to the consumer's caregiver.

Recreation Services

Our recreation programs continue to be a favorite among our adult consumers. Most of the programs and services that The Arc of Cumberland County provides are funded by the state of New Jersey in combination with federal Medicaid dollars. Our recreation program is the exception. Aside from a modest Community Development Block Grant from the City of Vineland, none of our recreation activities are funded by a governmental source. We use the proceeds from our annual Walk a Thon fund raiser, available United Way funding, and our own matching dollars to keep these services intact. There is a small fee for activities that require the purchase of consumable supplies. The Arc of Cumberland County retains only one part-time paid Coordinator for all of the recreation activities that we provide. We depend upon our many talented and tireless volunteers to help us manage the almost daily challenges associated with each of activities we offer.

All participants in any of our recreation program activities must maintain an active individual membership status with the Arc of Cumberland County.

There are three distinct parts to our recreation programs as shown below.

1. Healthy Lifestyles

- a. Get Fit
- b. Walking Club
- c. Yoga
- d. Dance Class

2. General Recreation Activities

- a. Monthly Dance Social (plus an end of the year formal dance)
- b. Ceramics Class
- c. Bingo Night

3. Special Olympics Teams

- a. Bocce
- b. Swimming
- c. Track & Field
- d. Bowling



Our annual Walk-a-Thon has been an integral part of the Arc's activities for many years and it has grown into our main fund-raising event. It is always fun for everyone to gather at Parvin State Park on a Sunday morning and get some fresh air and exercise. Everyone has a good time and we raise some money at the same time. Sadly, none of this was possible in 2021 due to the restrictions related to the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition to the loss of a fun day, the funds which we typically raise from this event that we

use to support our efforts at the Arc of Cumberland County were lost for another year.

In 2020, we had a "virtual" walk which was actually paid for in 2021 so we once again acknowledge the generosity of former as well as new ad-book sponsors who helped us raise \$4,500 for the "**2020 Walk That Never Was.**" We didn't walk but we commemorated the "event" with a digital ad-book that is still on our website at arccumberland.org We ask you to support all the vendors who advertised in this special 2020 ad book. We hope to see you in the fall of 2022 at Parvin State Park for a real trip around the lake.