

# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Celebrating the work that  
The Arc of Cape May County  
has done for the past 60 years.







## Board of Directors

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Robin Watson, Chief Program Officer  
Barbara Marchiano, Chief Financial Officer  
Brian Sacco, Chief Human Resources Officer  
Sandra Donley, Director of Quality Assurance and Compliance  
Douglas Trout, Director of Clinical Services  
Alex Coll, Director of Development and Communications



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# NOTE FROM LESLIE LONG

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Dear Families/Supporters,

While this year has certainly presented the agency with challenges, it has also been a year of growth and innovative development. The 2020-2021 Annual Report describes the activities of all of our programs and the new ways we are continuing to provide high quality services. We are opening new homes that are addressing the changing needs of our residents throughout their lifetime. The agency is also expanding our employment services to serve young adults in high school to ensure they are receiving workforce skill building before they graduate. With our congregate day program re-opening its doors, it has allowed our agency to partner with amazing organizations to further enhance programming and skill building opportunities for the people we serve.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our incredible staff. From our frontline team, to our administration I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for your dedication and compassion to serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

I would also like to thank our longstanding supporters and partners, who have been a critical part of ensuring our programs can grow to serve people with disabilities in innovative ways. Your dedication and advocacy kept us moving forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leslie Long". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the "y" of "Long".

Leslie Long

Chief Executive Officer





# NOTE FROM MAJKEN MECHLING

PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS



What a year to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of The Arc of Cape May County! Our 60th will most definitely go down as a year to be remembered. The challenge of COVID will forever be a part of our history. The Board of Directors of The Arc of Cape May County applaud the staff and volunteers who stepped up and stepped in, going the extra mile to ensure that the people we serve are protected, safe, and living their best lives.

We are proud that The Arc team was relentless in their pursuit to keep the people we serve safe. The Board of Directors is proud of the commitment and dedication the staff brings to the safety and wellbeing of the people we serve.

Despite the limitations COVID brought to our work, The Arc of Cape May County saw the purchase of two new and improved properties that will better accommodate the people we serve and provide them the optimum environment in which they will thrive throughout their lifetime.

Thank you to the staff, our volunteers, our donors, and our community for stepping up and stepping in to embrace the mission of The Arc of Cape May County, promoting and protecting the human rights of individuals with intellectual and development disabilities, actively supporting the full inclusion and participation of the people we serve in the community they live throughout their lifetimes.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Majken Mechling'.

Majken Mechling

President, Board of Directors





# NOTE FROM DONNA SPATOLA

## CO-PRESIDENT OF THE SELF ADVOCACY GROUP



On behalf of The Arc of Cape May County's Self-Advocacy Group, I would like to thank the community for your continued support as we navigate the new normal for people with disabilities.

This spring, I was excited to share my experience with The Arc of Cape May County at the virtual Come Together 60th Anniversary celebration. Although we could not be together in person, I was very excited to see the faces of the people that support our agency.

I am also excited for the new homes that The Arc has purchased. It makes me feel good to know that there will be new homes available that will be even more accessible for people in wheelchairs, like me. I can't wait to move into my new home! The self-advocacy group will continue to fight to ensure there are more homes available that meet the needs of people throughout their lifetimes.

Thank you to all who help us break the stigma of people with disabilities having bad effects on the community. You help give people with disabilities a chance to do great things for our neighborhoods, friends, and families.







# MISSION

The Arc of Cape May County provides comprehensive services and supports to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, ensuring a lifetime of achievement with dignity and full partnership in the community.

# VISION

The Arc strives to change public attitudes while fostering respect, access, and inclusion for everyone in Cape May County.



# THE FUTURE OF OUR AGENCY

In 2021, The Arc of Cape May County made a conscious choice to move to a more community inclusive headquarters. The agency sold the Falkinburge House, our previous headquarters, and is in the process of finding a new space. While the home has been an incredible opportunity to be part of the historic nature of Cape May County, we know that it's time to pass it on to the next generation of owners. The agency is grateful for everything the property represented as it was our home for many years. It is also important to recognize and honor the legacy that Frank Unkle had in the home and our staff, Board of Directors, and the individuals we support that kept it in the loving condition we are leaving it in. Thank you to everyone that kept the Falkinburge House in their warm embrace. We are looking forward to being in a space that can bring all members of our community together to connect and help us in our efforts to enhance our services.





# THE NEXT PHASE IN RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

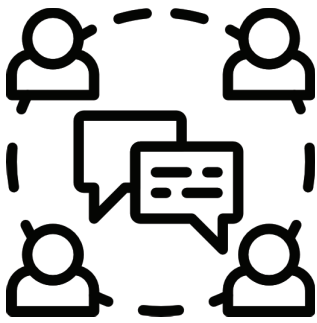
In the midst of the pandemic, The Arc of Cape May County still worked to pursue new opportunities to enhance our residential services for people with I/DD. The agency is pleased to share the purchase of two beautiful homes both located in the heart of Cape May County. Both of these homes are in the process of being renovated to not only ensure accessibility, but also create beautiful living spaces for our incredible residents. In addition, both of these properties have large gathering spaces where our residents can partake in activities such as gardening, meditation, and movie nights! These new homes represent how The Arc of Cape May County is securing our ability to meet the needs of the people we serve throughout their lives.





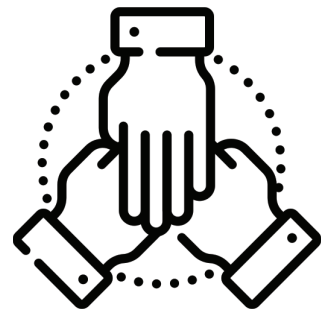
# COVID IMPACT UPDATE

Throughout the pandemic, The Arc of Cape May County collaborated with stakeholders within the agency as well as the state to ensure the safety of all our residents and employees.



**Maintained** constant communication with all staff members regarding COVID updates and changes.

**Collaborated** with existing and new partners across the state and country to exchange ideas and advocate for additional resources.



**Implemented** transition to virtual day services for participants to connect with their peers from home.

**Secured** grant funding up to \$50,000 that supported purchasing essential PPE and enhanced technology tools for all of our residents and staff.





# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM

“The Clinical team is excited about the full implementation of Behavioral Supports and Services. These universal practices, embedded in staff training and reinforced through modeling, mentorship and state-of-art behavioral services, are intended not only to support adaptive behavior but also to enhance independence, participation and quality of life for all individuals supported.”

Douglas Trout, Director of Clinical Services

“I’m proud of the dedicated program staff of the agency who continue to work an extraordinary amount of hours during this staffing shortage. Their dedication ensures that meaningful services continue to be provided to the individuals our agency supports. I’m also proud of our Human Resources Department and its members, Alicia and Donna, who navigated many complex changes and new systems as a result of the COVID-19 crisis.”

Brian Sacco, Chief Human Resources Officer

“My most memorable moment of 2020-2021 was the post Council on Quality and Leadership accreditation announcement zoom call with all the staff, board members and individuals. It was so heartwarming to see everyone, feel the energy of what we are working towards and what we accomplished together. ”

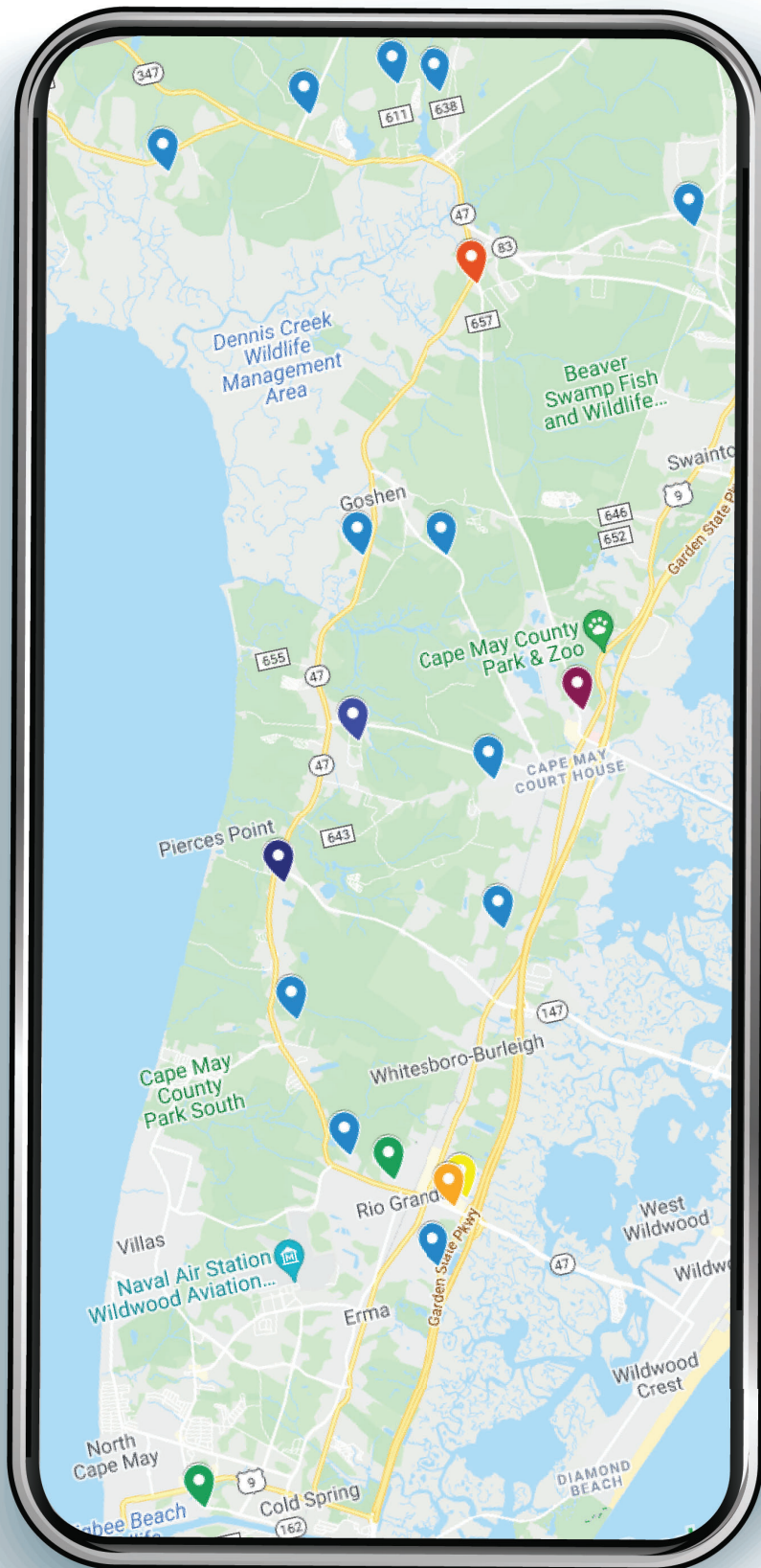
Sandra Donley, Director of Quality Assurance and Compliance

“I am proud of the residential and day programs everything they have accomplished this year. From managing the COVID-19 crisis and vaccinating our residents, to bringing technology to the homes virtual programs and purchasing new homes where people can age in place.”

Robin Watson, Chief Program Officer



# PLACES WE SERVE



DAY PROGRAM



THE ARC  
THRIFT STORE



CLINICAL SERVICES/  
TRAINING CENTER



GROUP HOME



APARTMENTS



MAIN OFFICE



# ENHANCING SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

The Arc of Cape May County is pleased to announce the award of our 2nd Kessler Foundation grant! The agency is grateful for the Foundation's continued support of our efforts to enhance employment opportunities for people with disabilities, as well as helping local businesses with their hiring needs. The second grant program will focus on building a neurodiverse employment program for Cape Resorts, one of the largest hospitality groups in Cape May County. They own famous hotel and resorts including Congress Hall, The Virginia, and Beach Plum Farm. The purpose of the initiative is to help Cape Resorts not only become an employer of choice for all people with disabilities, but an inclusion destination for families of children with disabilities as well.



We also want to recognize all of our other business partners who have worked with our agency to develop meaningful job placement opportunities for people with disabilities:



# CQL ACCREDITATION

In March of 2021, The Arc of Cape May County went through the 2nd accreditation process with the Council of Quality and Leadership (CQL). CQL is an accreditation organization that works with human service organizations and systems to continuously define, measure, and improve quality of life and quality of services for youth, adults, and older adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The agency chose CQL because of their in-depth knowledge and understanding of the factors that go into running an agency that serves people with I/DD. We are grateful for not only receiving our 2nd three year accreditation.



# 60TH ANNIVERSARY VIRTUAL EVENT

2021 marked the 60th anniversary of The Arc of Cape May County! To celebrate this incredible milestone, The Arc held an engaging virtual event on May 8, 2021 to celebrate our agency's accomplishments and get our stakeholders excited for the future of services in Cape May County. Pete Thompson from 97.3 ESPN kept the excitement going as our Emcee and was followed by an incredible performance by The Voice's Austin Giorgio. On behalf of everyone we support, we wanted to share our deepest gratitude to all of our corporate partners and donors for your support! We are thrilled to share that we raised over \$30,000 from the celebration! Your contributions help ensure our agency can continue to provide innovative programs and resources to people with I/DD.

## COME TOGETHER

VIRTUAL FUNDRAISER & ONLINE AUCTION



**OVER \$30,000  
RAISED**

FROM TICKETS  
AND SPONSORSHIPS









# STATION MD: BRINGING ENHANCED CARE TO OUR HOMES

This winter, The Arc of Cape May County partnered with a tele-health solution group, StationMD, to provide high quality medical services remotely from the group homes. This service allows our residents and staff members quick access to medical professionals and help to avoid unnecessary trips to the doctor, especially during the pandemic. Three of our residential programs began piloting the program. Under the program, each participating home received a mobile health-monitoring station equipped with a pulse oximeter, blood pressure cuff, and an iPad capable of connecting with and relaying vitals to a doctor at a moment's notice.

Although the program has only been running for a few months, it has already made a positive impact for our staff and our residents. "The trainers at StationMD were extremely helpful," Mekeala Phillips, Program Supervisor, commented. "They were extremely helpful and helped alleviate a lot of stress and anxiety I had going into using the program and devices."









# ENHANCING OUR BEHAVIORAL SERVICES

Over the last two years, The Arc of Cape May County has been continuing to build an Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) program. ABA is a therapy based on the science of learning and behavior. This analysis helps us to understand:

- How behavior works
- How behavior is affected by the environment
- How learning takes place

Dr. Bobbie Gallagher, BCBA-D, currently provides consultation services and supervision of the agency's Behavior Specialist Kristina Lashley. Together they have implemented training and education to the staff and administration about ABA services and procedures.

"Through these procedures, we have seen individuals who have difficulties communicating with others now have begun expressing their wants and needs more effectively and engage in appropriate social interactions." Kristina shares.









# PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE WORKFORCE

This year, The Arc of Cape May County was approved to provide pre-employment training services (Pre-ETS). This program will include group and individualized services to help students gain an increased understanding of their options after graduation. Starting this fall, the agency will begin rolling out this program including group and individualized services across South Jersey.

In collaboration with local school districts and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation office (DVRs), The Arc of Cape May County will work with students who are in need of such services including:

- Job Exploration Counseling
- Counseling and Guidance services on Comprehensive Transition
- Workplace readiness training to develop social skills and independent living
- Instruction in self-advocacy

## HOW CAN I ACCESS PRE-ETS?

Students may ask their teacher or family to help schedule an appointment with the local Vocational Rehabilitation Office and our office. The Arc receives the referrals from the Vocational Rehabilitation office and will begin working with the students, teachers, and families on the Pre-ETS curriculum.

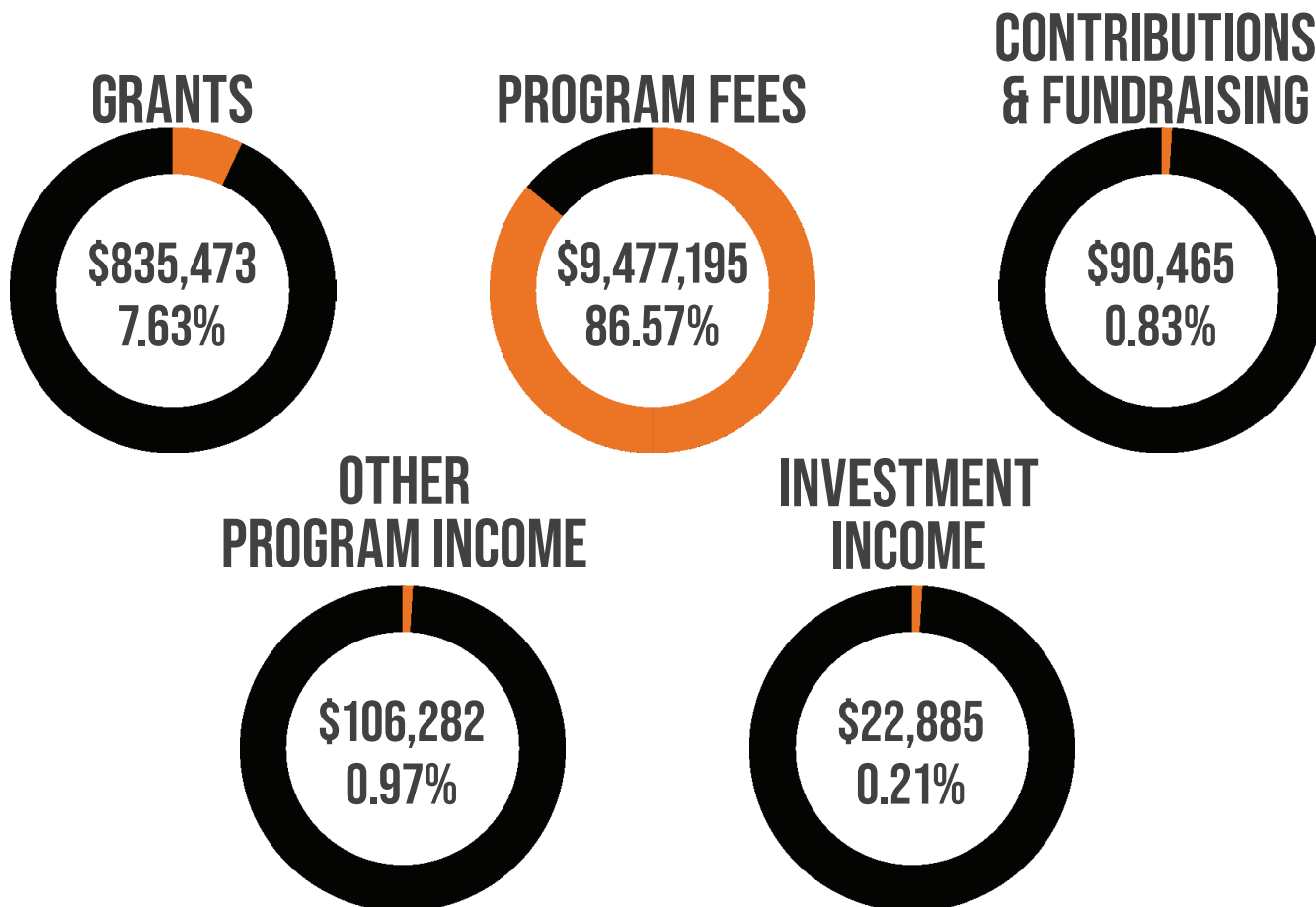
## ELIGIBILITY

- Must be age 14-21
- Must be enrolled in school (middle school, high school, technical school or college)
- Must be receiving special education or related services OR determined to have a disability



# 2020 FACTS & FIGURES

## TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020



## TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020



**\$921,398.00** NET



INAUGURAL

GOLF



OCT  
29  
1 PM

Join us for the Inaugural Golf Tournament being held at the Cape May National Golf Club on October 29 at 1 PM! Enjoy a fun day of golf, food, beverages, prizes, and more! Registration is now open. All proceeds benefit The Arc of Cape May.

**Registration is open for the 2021 INAUGURAL Golf Tournament!**

**One Golfer: \$100 | Foursome: \$400**

Sponsorship Opportunities: Contact Alex Coll at [alex.coll@arcofcapemay.org](mailto:alex.coll@arcofcapemay.org)

**Register at [arcofcapemay.org/golf2021](https://arcofcapemay.org/golf2021)**



# REACH US



P.O Box 255

South Dennis, NJ 08245

Phone: (609) 861-7100

Fax: (609) 861-0591

[support@arcofcapemay.org](mailto:support@arcofcapemay.org)