

Clarification - Crisis Response System: The DDD Crisis Response System is available statewide to families, providers and DDD staff. The Trinitas Hospital's Statewide Clinical Consultation and Training Program (SCCAT) will provide this service *for adults* (funded by the Division of Mental Health Services and the DDD).

For Crisis Response System, Call Toll-Free 1-888-393-3007 From Your Home Town

Partner Profile: The Arc of New Jersey

Thomas Baffuto, Executive Director of The Arc of New Jersey, recently participated in the division's series of meetings with key stakeholders for information sharing while visiting DDD in October. A 20-year veteran of The Arc, Tom Baffuto became Executive Director in June of 1998. Project HIRE, the largest supported employment program in New Jersey, is among Baffuto's extensive professional achievements. He started Project HIRE in 1985.

As director, Baffuto oversees the largest non-profit advocacy organization in New Jersey for people with cognitive disabilities; The Arc provides services in all of the state's 21 counties, through 20 local chapters. While proudly serving 14,000 people in various programs, *advocacy* is The Arc's top priority.

"The Arc has staff working on every issue you can think of, from early intervention to senior services," said Baffuto. The Arc also produces helpful information in many forms, such as pamphlets, videos or DVDs, and this information is available free of charge. Baffuto also told DDD that during The Arc's October National Conference, he heard the biggest concerns for families are the same around the country: waiting lists, Medicaid and employment issues. The Arc remains committed to addressing these issues through its long-standing partnership with DDD.

To find more about The Arc's many advocacy programs, or request free educational material, visit The Arc's Website at www.arcnj.org.

✓ [Employment and Day Program Services: 12/7](#)

*We hope that you had a joyous
Thanksgiving
and enjoy a happy and safe
Holiday Season.*



The Arc of New Jersey's Diabetes Project

has several types of materials to help inform individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities, their caregivers, and staff about diabetes prevention and management. **All of our diabetes materials are free of charge!**

- **Laminated, wallet-sized card called "Quick Tips for Preventing and Managing Diabetes"** - Card contains concise, important information on healthy eating habits, exercise, daily self-care, routine monitoring, and warning signs. The cards can fit easily into a wallet, purse or pocket. The cards are laminated and very durable. The Arc printed a very large quantity of these cards for consumers to easily use.
- **Film about diabetes** - Prepared especially for individuals with developmental disabilities, the film is available in both DVD and VHS formats.
- **Diabetes booklets for self-advocates and caregivers** - Booklets with important information on preventing and managing diabetes.

*To order these materials, please contact Diane Flynn, at dflynn@arcnj.org or call her at 732-246-2525, ext. 28. Please spread the word about the availability of these helpful materials to consumers, families, friends and staff.

Thankful for the Gift of Giving!

For the last few years, the DDD's Upper Central Regional Office has organized a Thanksgiving Holiday basket drive for Essex, Union and Somerset counties. Each year this has been coordinated by Gale Young-Jackmin, Director, Community Development Unit/UCRO.

Many staff members generously donated their time and personal resources to this drive. Regional staff members were involved in the project at many different levels: coordinating the event in each county, sorting the donations received, preparing baskets, and even assisting with delivery of the baskets. In addition to the many donations from staff, many external family and friends of DDD offered their support to the voluntary drive.

The results of this year's drive were: DDD-UCRO was able to provide 67 baskets to families this holiday season. Each basket contains food for the entire day.