

# Arc of Somerset County receives Disability Advocate Award



Pictured are Michelle Reilly, teacher at the Arc of Somerset County's Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families Jill Glassman, assistant director, Early Intervention; Melissa Krongold, therapist; Mark Caliguire, Somerset County Freeholder; Jen Orlick, director of the center; Jo-Ellen Pozarek, therapist; Mary Atchey, Family Support coordinator; Dorota Surtel, teacher assistant; Elizabeth Hatto, teacher assistant; Kathy Shimmel, quality services; and, Lauren Panarella, executive director. (courtesy photo)

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The Arc of Somerset County's Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families was awarded the 2015 Somerset County Disability Advocate Award by the Somerset County Office on Aging and Disability Services on Tuesday at the Freeholder's meeting in Somerville.

The honor was in recognition for "Outstanding Service" demonstrating significant impact in meeting the needs of Somerset County citizens with disabilities and also for making a commitment to promote positive awareness to the needs of Somerset County citizens with disabilities.

"The success of JDCCF lies mainly with the dedicated, knowledgeable and talented group of staff who provide a broad range of supports to the individuals served," stated Michelle McMahon, associate executive director for The Arc of Somerset County.

The Manville-based center has provided special education; therapeutic programs and child care to children with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities ranging from 2 month to 6 months of age and remains the only developmental daycare/ preschool in and around Somerset County.

"The Arc of Somerset is proud to recognize the staff at The Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families who have made commitment to providing quality care and making a difference in the lives of children with disabilities," stated Lauren Panarella, executive director for The Arc of Somerset County.

For more information about The Arc of Somerset County and The Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families, visit [www.thearcofsomerset.org](http://www.thearcofsomerset.org) or call 908-725-8544.

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