

Provident Bank awards grant to Arc of Somerset County and Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families

The Messenger-Gazette By The Messenger-Gazette

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Pictured (from left) are children of the April 11 Kids Night Out Program, Jennifer Orlick, director of The Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families and Nannette Molina, director of Community Development for Provident Bank. (Photo by Laura Ziegler)

The Arc of Somerset County's Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families was recently awarded a \$2,500 grant for the monthly "Kids Night Out" program by The Provident Bank Foundation.

"Kids Night Out" is a monthly program that is offered to local Somerset County parents of children who are living with learning and developmental disabilities and their siblings. The program is a respite service which occurs the third Friday of each month, from 6-9 p.m. The goal of the program is to allow parents some time to themselves to go out, enjoy a movie or dinner while knowing their children (with and without disabilities) are enjoying the evening under the care of professionals.

"These children and their siblings receive quality time away from parents with craft making, games and a pizza dinner, and the parents are relieved to know the children are left with professionals who can easily care for their children while they enjoy a few hours of relaxation," said Jennifer Orlick, director of The Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families.

For more information about the "Kids Night Out" program at the Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families, contact 908-725-2266.

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Group helps people with disabilities

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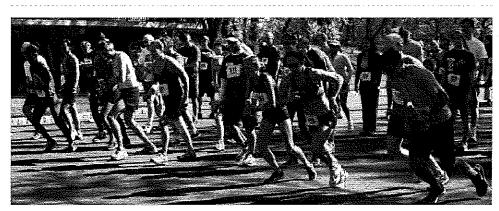
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MANVILLE — The Arc of Somerset County will host its annual Step Up for the Arc Walk and 5K Run on June 7 at Duke Island Park in Bridgewater. Registration check-in begins at 8:30 a.m., and the 1.5mile walk and 5K run will begin at 9:30 a.m.

Step Up For the Arc is an annual statewide Walkathon of the Arc, the state's largest nonprofit advocacy and service organization supporting people with developmental disabilities and their families.

The event, which is a 1.5 mile fun walk and sanctioned Grand Prix (500 pts) 5K race on a flat, paved and scenic course, aims to raise awareness for children and adults living with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Somerset County. Registration fees are \$20/runner, \$18/USATF runner, \$15/student runner and \$10/walker which are waived if you raise \$50 or more. Free for student runners younger than 18. Online registration is encouraged. All ages are welcome.

The event will include morning activities hosted by race sponsor, Contract All of Whitehouse Station. Registered dieticians from Village ShopRite of Somerset and Hillsborough will be on hand to sample out breakfast quinoa and fruit along with take-home recipes.