

The MonArc Butterfly Award

Annie Damiano, Arc Service Recipient



Just like the monarch butterfly, the people we support are on a unique journey, testing their wings and soaring to new heights. The MonArc Butterfly Award honors the personal courage in those we serve who are actively engaged in their personal journey...transforming, emerging and achieving their full potential.

This year's deserving recipient of our very first MonArc Butterfly Award is **Annie Damiano**, a young woman who has benefited from our Family Support programs for much of her life. Annie recently entered another important stage on her personal journey when she turned 21 and graduated from high school and our children's programs. Soon after graduation, she joined our Adult Training Center (ATC) and Career Exploration Program (CEP). At the ATC, Annie participates in community-based activities that help build social skills, friendships and community connections. In CEP, Annie is learning valuable skills that could eventually help her secure a job. She makes and sells candles in our Arc AnGels Candle program and cleans and tags items at our Arc Makes Cents, Too! Thrift Shop in Northfield. Annie and her mom are also big supporters of The Arc. Over the past four years, they have raised more than \$10,000 to support The Arc's programs by raising money through our Step Up for The Arc Walk-a-Thon. Annie is an inspiration and we are so proud of her for her courage in embracing new experiences and working diligently her internship programs.

The MonArc Citizenship Award

Irv Singer, Founder of the I. Rice & Company Golfing for Good Tournament



In 2009, retired business executive and local golfer **Irv Singer** had a dream of organizing a charity golf tournament to benefit a worthwhile organization. After learning about the wide array of services The Arc of Atlantic County provides, including a successful golf program for athletes with special needs, he found a willing corporate sponsor and reached out to The Arc with his proposal. The Arc gratefully accepted his offer, and so began the annual I. Rice & Company Golfing for Good Tournament, which in five short years has raised more than \$250,000 to benefit The Arc of Atlantic County – far more than Irv's modest \$10,000 annual goal when he first approached us.

Irv's commitment to The Arc and the people we serve goes even beyond the golf tournament. In 2010, The Arc asked Irv if he'd spearhead an exciting new project— opening a second and larger thrift store. Never one to turn down a challenge, Irv agreed and in May 2011, The Arc Makes Cents, Too! Thrift Shop opened in the Tilton Shopping Center in Northfield. Under Irv's leadership as manager, the shop raises significant funds for our agency, provides the community with an affordable place to shop, and serves as an Arc program site for teaching job skills.

The MonArc Corporate Citizenship Award

I. Rice & Company, Presenting Sponsor of the Golfing for Good Tournament



Steve Kuhl and Joe DiMedio of
I. Rice & Company

I. RICE
& company, inc.

A major reason for the Golfing for Good Tournament's success is presenting sponsor I. Rice & Company, a 125-year old family-owned business located in Philadelphia that manufactures commercial bakery fillings, ice cream ingredients and toppings, fountain syrups and Italian ice bases. President/CEO **Steve Kuhl** and Chief Operating Officer **Joe DiMedio** have been deeply committed to the tournament and The Arc since it began five years ago. The I. Rice team raises the bulk of the tournament's funds through their vendors, many of whom also attend and golf together. Because of I. Rice & Company's commitment to the tournament and their great relationships in their business community, I. Rice & Company has made the Golfing for Good Tournament their annual signature charity event and a huge success for The Arc of Atlantic County's recreation program. The proceeds of this event have made it possible to expand the range of The Arc's recreation activities as well as those able to access them.