

THE ADVOCATE

News of Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization, PA Spring, 2019



Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization

What's Happening You Ask?????



Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization



2019 Putt-Putt Golf League!



2019 Giving Hands Gala



Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization

3rd Annual Golf Classic

2019 Spring Dance Classes

Put on your dancing shoes!!! It is time to learn some new and exciting dance moves!!!



Brewhaha Bingo Bash!!!



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STAY CONNECTED



thearcofdelco.org



BOARD MEMBERS

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Nancy Larson
Second Vice-President

Claudia Guerrazzi
Treasurer

Geralyn Arango
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Nancy Larson

Donna Wetherill

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Chris Clement

Happy Spring!

Spring brings new life and I am happy to bring some new life to the Delaware County Advocacy and Resource Organization (DCARO)!

Our board welcomes our newest director, Chris Clements. Chris has been volunteering along with his wife Jen at many of our social and recreational activities for quite some time and we are happy he was interested in serving on our board. We are very excited to welcome Chris and be working with him.

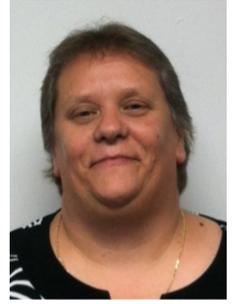
Our Fundraising Committee/board worked alongside the staff at DCARO to bring our newest signature event, THE GIVING HANDS GALA to life at our First Annual event which took place on Friday, March 15, 2019! Many of you were there and shared with us that a GREAT time was had by all! The event featured many raffle baskets, silent auction items and a HUGE basket of cheer which was all donated!!

We are now working on our 3rd Annual Golf Outing scheduled for Monday June 17! Mark Your Calendars and stay tuned for more information. I hope to see you there!

Are you interested in volunteering or serving on the board? Please reach out to me and I would be happy to give you more details of the needs we have at DCARO. While we have some new life in our work – we still have plenty more ahead of us. Perhaps you might consider joining a committee: Fundraising, Legislative, and the Outreach committees are our most active committees that still need members and your voice! Please consider volunteering! I look forward to serving as your President this year but we need to hear your voice!



Spring Has Sprung and So Are We!!!



Well it is certainly nice to feel the increasing warmth of the sun and see the flowers beginning to bloom as Spring has settled in! And in keeping with Spring, we here at the Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization (DCARO) are springing into the new year of 2019!

Our Social/Recreation Program continues to successfully offer a great variety of activities and has seen an uptick in program participation in the new year! While our First Friday gatherings, our monthly Movie Nights, Bowling League and dances continue to be great successes, we are always looking for new, exciting things to do so if you have a suggestion for a trip, an event or program you would be interested in, give us a call and let us know.

Our Education Advocacy Program continues to positively impact students and their families here in Delaware County both through our direct advocacy service and our Engaging Support; Enriching Lives program to combat the School to Prison Pipeline epidemic.

Christine Shearon, our new Adult Advocate has settled into her new role here at DCARO and is providing support to so many in the adult ID/D community here in Delaware County, we are so pleased to have her as part of our team!

Our new IM4Q Coordinator, Vera D'Ercole has taken the program to a new level and the 2018/2019 cycle is certain to be our best yet! Be sure to see the feature inside on the IM4Q Program!

Thank you to everyone who supported our 1st Annual Giving Hands Gala and made it such a great success! A special shout out to Vera D'Ercole and Colleen Foti on the staff for all of your hard work!

We are gearing up for our 3rd Annual Golf Outing and are looking forward to a great day of golf and fun! Event details are listed inside this edition.

We have dedicated our efforts for 2019 to continue all of the great work we do here at DCARO and increase our presence in the community. Our Outreach Committee, working in conjunction with the staff are planning several information sessions and presentations in an effort to keep our members and families up-to-date and informed on system changes, topics and issues affecting our community. Look for event information throughout the year.

Finally, our 2019 Annual Giving Campaign is underway and we appreciate everyone who has and will continue to contribute to support our programs with your donation!

Eileen

STAFF

Eileen MacDonald

Executive Director

emacdonald@thearcofdelco.org

Colleen Foti

Financial Director

cfoti@thearcofdelco.org

Mary Brooks

Membership Coordinator

mbrooks@thearcofdelco.org

Vera D'Ercole

IM4Q Coordinator

vderole@thearcofdelco.org

Nicole Mendez Simon

Education Advocate

nsimon@thearcofdelco.org

Christine Shearon

Adult Advocate

cshearon@thearcofdelco.org

Vince Smith

Social/Recreation Program

vsmith@delcoadvocacy.org

Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization Welcomes a New Adult Advocate!



Happy Spring to everyone! My name is Christine Shearon and I am excited to be the new Adult Advocate at Delaware County Advocacy and Resource Organization. Prior to joining the DCARO team, I spent nine years as a Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) assessor and I had the wonderful opportunity to meet and develop relationships with so many of the individuals, families, and providers that our organization supports. I am also the parent of three teenagers, one of whom who happens to have differing abilities, which makes me a natural advocate and a member of the community that I serve. Having a feeling of community and my relationships with people have always been important to me and it is something that I want to continue to cultivate in the Adult Advocate role. People that know me are aware that I will talk to anyone! I like listening to stories, asking questions and getting to know people. I feel like I learn from someone I meet every day. Advocacy requires action, but it should not be a mysterious process or something that has to be done alone. At DCARO I look forward to continued collaboration with individuals, families, peers and colleagues, as well as developing new relationships and helping our adult members navigate through the various service systems they depend on for support.

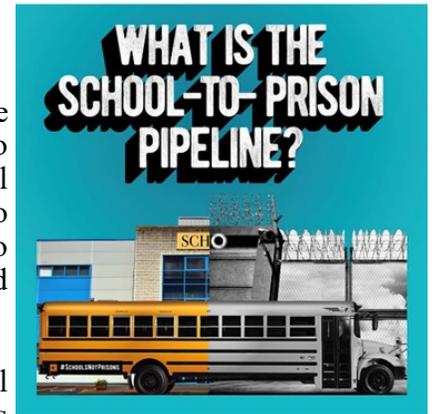
Happy
Spring

The text 'Happy Spring' is displayed in a stylized font. 'Happy' is in a light purple serif font, and 'Spring' is in a large, pink, hand-drawn style font. To the right of the text are three colorful floral graphics: a pink starburst, a light blue flower, and a light green flower. Below the text is a thick green horizontal bar with a white scalloped edge pattern.

EDUCATION ADVOCACY

“Mass incarceration is the most pressing racial justice issue of our time” – Michelle Alexander, Author of “The New Jim Crow” Criminal Justice Advocate

In the United States, the school-to-prison pipeline is the disproportionate tendency of minors and young adults from disadvantaged backgrounds to become incarcerated because of increasingly harsh school and municipal policies. The PA Developmental Disabilities Council has awarded a grant to Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization (DCARO) to facilitate the development of a model aimed at disrupting this large and complex issue.



DCARO accepted this challenge based on the guidance of the National Council of Disability who found that not only did advocacy organizations fail to educate families of color on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) mandate of least restrictive environment (LRE), but that 85% of youth in juvenile detention facilities have disabilities and only 37% of those children ever received special education services. Moreover, students with disabilities receiving IDEA services during the 2013 to 2014 school year were more than twice as likely to receive one or more out-of-school suspensions as compared to their counterparts without disabilities and that number is rising!

DCARO took our first step in increasing awareness on the school-to-prison pipeline by hosting two screenings of the film *The Kids We Lose*, discussions, and an exclusive training with Dr. Ross Greene. Dr. Greene’s [Collaborative and Proactive Solutions](#) is a proven model and key component of our project, **Engaging Support Enriching Lives, A Project to Combat The School to Prison Pipeline (ESEL)**.

The Kids We Lose is a 90-minute documentary film about the human side of having a child or student with behavioral challenges and the struggles faced by parents, educators, staff in facilities, mental health clinicians, and law enforcement professionals. Screenings were held on March 5th and 6th at Harriton High School and Widener University. If you were not one of the 200 individuals in attendance you missed an illuminating and extremely engaging discussion with Dr. Ross Greene. But there is good news! You can view the film now online at [Main Public TV!](#)



ESEL Board Member, Dr. Ross Greene speaking to workshop attendees at Wayne Presbyterian on March 6th

On March 6th, over 240 parents, educators, and professionals from throughout the region participated in a Collaborative and Proactive Solutions Workshop with Dr. Ross Greene held at Wayne Presbyterian in Radnor. If you missed this opportunity you can find all the resources you need to learn about Dr. Greene and CPS at <https://www.livesinthebalance.org/> or for more information about ESEL email Project Coordinator, Nicole Mendez, nmendez@delcoadvocacy.org.



Nicole Mendez Simon, Education Advocate, can be reached at #107 or nsimon@thearcofdelco.org

ALL YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT IM4Q

By Vera D'Ercole, IM4Q Coordinator



Many of you have or may soon receive a phone call from an IM4Q scheduler asking you to participate in an IM4Q interview. You'll ask why haven't I heard of this IM4Q before and what is it? Now, you'll know everything you need to know even before the scheduler gets the letters out of his or her mouth.

What is IM4Q? IM4Q stands for *INDEPENDENT MONITORING FOR QUALITY PROGRAM*. The mission is to gather and convey the perspectives of participants with intellectual disability. IM4Q also ensures the quality of life through interviewing participants who are receiving services through PA Intellectual Disability (ID) System. The interview consists of three sections. The first section may only be asked to the participants receiving services and is about dignity and respect. The second section focuses on choice and control, relationships and inclusion and can be answered with assistance from the family or a spokesperson. The final portion is complete by the IM4Q interviewers.

How did I get picked to be on the list? Each year ODP is provided with a random sample from the HCSIS database. The Administrative Entity IM4Q Coordinator or residential provider completed the pre-survey and sends it to the local IM4Q program office for scheduling from September through June.

How long will it take and where does it take place? The interview takes approximately 1 hour and may be conducted at the participant's residence, day program, place of employment, school or any other reasonable location the participant selects.

Who conducts the interview? Trained IM4Q monitors with clearances. Some of our monitors may be persons with intellectual disabilities, family members of person with intellectual disabilities, students, or other community members. The participant may also have any person(s) he or she wants or needs to be present at the interview.

What is a participant is non-communicative? Monitors will still meet with them, and the interview will still proceed with their guardian, staff, family member or spokesperson.

What happens with the information? All information is confidential. The information is entered into the HCSIS database. This information may then be utilized to assist in developing a provider agency report, which indicates provider's strengths and areas of improvement.

How will this directly affect the participant receiving ID services? It assists in identifying needs and/or wants of the individual and we are able to address them through various resources. The impact on the Participant Interviewed is their lives improve when written considerations go to Administrative Entity who work with Supports Coordination Organizations sharing with provider/family to work toward change in the person's life.

The IM4Q will celebrate its 20th year in the next cycle year. So it is beneficial to individuals with disabilities. Most certainly!!!! Here are some of the Policy changes the program has improved.

Did not have a way to communicate. Outcome: ODP Communication Bulletin. AEs directed to emphasize communication training and regularly review consumer's access to technology.

Did not have a valid form of identification. Outcome: ODP issued a memorandum that all people served in the ODP system are required to have identification cards.

Were unable to vote. Outcome: Supports coordinators now inquire about voting and registration.

Had mail opened without permission. Outcome: ODP memorandum to providers stating a person's privacy with regard to receiving mail must be protected.

So, if you get that phone call to schedule an interview for IM4Q don't think of it as another appointment, think of it as what a difference it can make in my life or the life of my loved one with a disability. The difference—People with disabilities have a right to an everyday life: a life that is no different than that of all other citizens. If you are interested in joining the IM4Q team or have additional questions about the IM4Q feel free to email me at vdercole@delcoadvocacy.org or call me at 610-544-6600 ext. 104.

IM4Q
Independent Monitoring For Quality



Delaware County
Advocacy & Resource
Organization

3rd Annual Golf Classic

Date: Monday, June 17, 2019

Time: 7:00 a.m. Registration Opens
8:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

Place: Springfield Country Club
400 Sproul Road, Springfield, PA 19064
springfieldgolf.org

Fee: \$150.00 per Golfer

Includes: Green Fees w/Cart, \$3 toward Golf Shop, Lunch, Beverages
Lunch Only Option: \$50.00 per person - Begins 1:00 pm

RSVP: To emacdonald@delcoadvocacy.org - 610-544-6600 Ext. 106



All Proceeds Benefit the Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization

It is the mission of Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization to advocate for inclusive community practices and influence public policy for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

AND DON'T MISS OUT ON OUR DRONE GOLF BALL DROP

\$20.00 PER BALL

Closest to hole wins **\$1,000.00**

Next 2 closest to the hole each win \$250.00

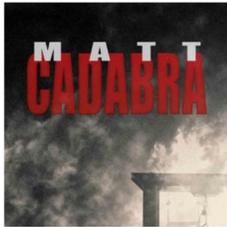


**Delaware County
Advocacy & Resource
Organization**

740 S. Chester Road, Ste G
Swarthmore, PA 19081
(P) 610-544-6600
(F) 610-544-8916

May 2019 First Friday

We are very excited to announce that **MATT CADABRA** and his **MAGIC ACT** will be returning for our May 2019 First Friday Gathering!!!



WHEN: Friday, May 3, 2019 / 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

WHERE: DCIU
200 Yale Avenue, Morton, PA 19070

COST: \$5.00 Per Person

• You MUST be a member of DCARO to attend / Everyone MUST be Pre-registered and prepaid to attend / Tickets available at: www.delcoadvocacy.org or at the DCARO office at 740 S. Chester Road, Ste G, Swarthmore, PA 19081



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May 2019 Movie Night

WHEN:
Wednesday,
May 15, 2019
6:30PM—8:30PM

WHERE:
DCIU—Broomall
85 N. Malin Rd.
Broomall, PA 19008

COST:
\$5.00
per member



Decades after her original visit, the magical nanny returns to help the Banks siblings and Michael's children through a difficult time in their lives.



Register in person, online at www.delcoadvocacy.org or send your check or money order to: Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization, 740 S. Chester Rd. Ste G Swarthmore PA 19081

- You must be a member of DCARO to attend
- All attendees must be pre-registered and pre-paid to attend



CALLING ALL COMMON LAW EMPLOYERS!!!!!!!!!!!!

AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS INTERESTED IN OBTAINING INFORMATION ABOUT SELF-DIRECTING SERVICES.

**APRIL 25, 2019
9:30AM-12:30PM**

DELAWARE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT
200 YALE AVENUE, MORTON PA 19070
ROOMS 171

RSVP: MCELWEER@DELCOHSA.ORG OR (610) 713-2210
REGISTRATION AND LIGHT BREAKFAST STARTS AT 9AM. SPACE IS LIMITED.



**Delaware County
Advocacy & Resource
Organization**



2019 Putt-Putt Golf League!

Come join our 2019 Putt-Putt Golf League for great Saturday mornings of miniature golf fun!!! Enjoy 2 hours of golf each week and full session golfers will enjoy a session ending Pizza Party on the last day of the session!

Want to come just for a day or two, that's ok, anyone can sign up for any day we are scheduled to participate in a single day only.

Session #1

Saturday, May 4th
Saturday, May 11th
Saturday, May 18th
Saturday, May 25th

Session #2

Saturday, June 1st
Saturday, June 8th
Saturday, June 15th
Saturday, June 22nd

WHERE:

Putt-Putt Fun Center
510 W. Baltimore Pike
Clifton Heights, PA 19018

TIME:

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

COST:

Single Day Golf—\$12 per day
Session #1 (4 days) = \$40
Session #2 (4 days) = \$40
Session 1 & 2 (8 days) = \$75

INCLUDES:

*2 hours of golf each day
*Pizza Party for session golfers at the end of each session



- You MUST be a member of DCARO to attend
- Everyone MUST be Pre-registered and prepaid to attend
- Registration available at: www.delcoadvocacy.org or at the DCARO office at 740 S. Chester Road, Ste G, Swarthmore, PA 19081

Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization
740 S. Chester Road, Ste G, Swarthmore, PA 19081
(P) 610-544-6600 / (F) 610-544-8916 / www.delcoadvocacy.org



Transitions Across the Lifespan: Using the LifeCourse to Plan a Good Life

Informative!

Free!

Food!



April 27, 2019 – 10 AM to 3 PM
Delaware County Community College
901 Media Line Rd, Media, PA 19063

The Delaware County Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (OIDD) and the Delaware County Regional Collaborative present an informative day with professionals and other families to discuss having an Everyday Life from Early Intervention through Adulthood. During this free event you will enjoy a catered lunch, meet vendors and receive important information to help you plan for your loved one.

The following information will be shared throughout the day:

- The LifeCourse – A set of tools designed to ensure a good life for people of all ages
- Breakout sessions by age group –
 - Early Intervention to Intermediate Unit and OIDD services
 - High school to Adulthood
 - Adulthood to Community and an Integrated Life
- Group Mentoring by Age Group
- Wrap Up Discussion of Key Concepts and Resources

Pre-registration is required for this free event. [Please register by April 17th](#) by calling 610-544-6600 or clicking the link below:

We hope to see you at this fun and beneficial event!



Information Session for Families
Please Join Us!
Overview of the Fatal 4 Medical Conditions

Family members are invited to a training session with Philadelphia Coordinated Health Care (PCHC) to discuss the Fatal 4 topics: **Aspiration, Constipation, Dehydration and Seizures**. This session will provide a basic overview of these conditions, review resources provided to team members and discuss what families can do to reduce the risk for their family members diagnosed with these conditions. Question and answer session will be part of the presentation.

PRESENTERS: Pat Abbott, RN,
Carol Thomas, BSN, RN, CDDN

Morning or Evening Session- Choose one

DATE: June 12, 2019

TIME: 9 AM – 11AM

WHERE: Delaware County Intermediate Unit

Rm. 163

200 Yale Ave

Morton, PA

OR

Date: May 30, 2019

Time: 5 PM – 7 PM

Where: Elwyn Media Campus

Admin. Bldg, Rm.317

111 Elwyn Rd.

Media, Pa.

Space is limited, please contact lathemj@delcohsa.org to register



“Brightening Up Lives”

The Pennsylvania State Police invites children and adults, with special needs, or disabilities and Special Olympics participants, with their families to join us for the first free law enforcement based “Sunny Day Camp” in Concord Township, Delaware County. This event will be held at the Brandywine Youth Club and is open to all residents. This will be a fun filled learning day with law enforcement for all ages. This event will be held rain or shine, with programs held indoors in case of inclement weather.

WHEN- Saturday, June 22nd 9:30a.m. – 3:30p.m.

**WHERE- Brandywine Youth Club
47 Thornton Road, Glen Mills PA 19342**

Day includes demonstrations and activities:

- Canine Unit
- Aviation- Helicopter
- Police Vehicle Display
 - Games
 - Bomb Squad
 - SERT Team
- And Much More!

All individuals must register online at www.sunnydaycamp.org Troop K-Media

Sunny Day Camp is FREE with lunch and snacks included. Any questions can be

referred to Trooper Jessica Tobin (610-558-7074) jetobin@pa.gov

Troop K – Media Barracks (1342 W. Baltimore Pike, Media PA 19063).

SUPPORTERS



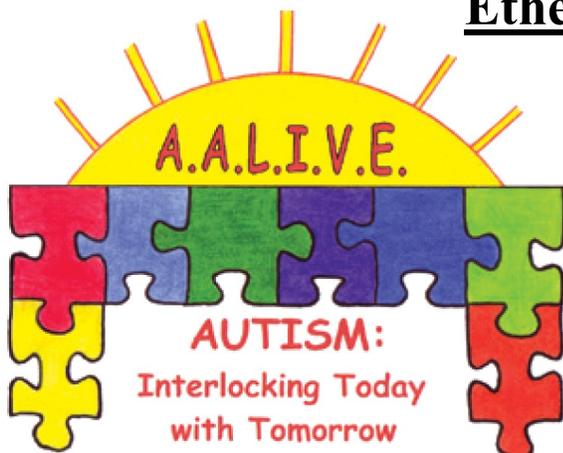
610-328-2556



Piazza Honda of Springfield



Ethel Sergeant Clark Memorial Fund



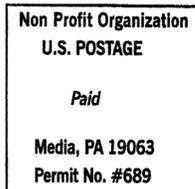
THE PHILADELPHIA FOUNDATION

The Power of Endless Possibilities™

Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization

740 South Chester Road, Suite G
Swarthmore, PA 19081
610.544.6600

www.delcoadvocacy.org



Advocating for inclusive community practices and influence public policy for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities



**Delaware County
Advocacy & Resource
Organization**

Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization (Formerly known as The Arc of Delaware County)

Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization - donations to which are tax deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law. The official registration and financial information of Delaware County Advocacy & Resource Organization may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania 1.800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

United Way of Southeastern Pa · #00348