



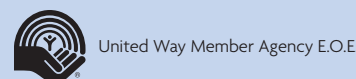
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## A Message from the Board

by Reginald Beckett

When one year ends and another one begins, there is always an air of excitement and possibilities. Whatever form our personal goals take for the new year, they represent transformation, growth, and achievement. As a Board Member, each year I look to our students, families, and staff as a source of inspiration in what I feel I can personally accomplish.

There was much that inspired me looking at 2022 at Larc School.

Larc's art and music programs were expanded, and the building overflowed with creativity and shouts of joy on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays throughout the year. As Larc approached the summer months, several students said their first words, took their first steps, and made their first friends...miracles that at one time seemed impossible! Once the summer Extended School Year ended, Larc began planning for a sensory walk, facility dog, and outdoor communications board to give students the ability to communicate while at play.

This fall, with the help of Ainsley's Angels, five of Larc's students used adaptive racing chairs to cross the finish line for the first time at the Cooper Norcross Run the Bridge event. The same month it was announced that Larc was the only school out of 130 private schools to receive three awards for excellence from ASAH, a statewide association. In the final days of 2022, Larc received two new significant grants: one to provide critical transportation in its Adult Program, and the other to fund gaps in insurance coverage so families need not worry about costs when helping their children, walk, talk, and just be kids.

As I consider all of these accomplishments, I am motivated to look past my own challenges in the upcoming year and focus instead on my talents and abilities as those at Larc do. On behalf of the entire Larc Board of Directors, I thank our students, our families, and our staff for showing us courage, determination, and creativity. It has been inspiring watching the many miracles that have been accomplished together in one year. We have seen the possibilities for the future, and they are limitless. Happy New Year and continued success in 2023! ■

## A Tribute to a True Friend

In October, friends and family gathered together on a beautiful fall afternoon at the Larc School Sensory Garden to remember Harry Flomenberg. A beloved friend of Larc School, Harry passed away in 2021 at the age of 95. For nearly 30 years he provided strong support to Larc School, and was a tireless advocate for his granddaughter, Sarah, who still attends Larc's Adult Program.

A tree was planted in his memory by the Hark and Ostach families with a permanent dedication plaque which reads: "Rooted in love, always in our hearts." Harry's spirit and love for Larc and his family will also be remembered by all who walk the path which leads to the garden's sitting area. Bricks were dedicated in his memory by beloved family members: Irv Hark; Linda Ostach; Ned Lise; Justin & Josh Hark; Alan, Debbie, Brandon & Jared Hark; Robyn & Bryan Ungar; and, Meredith, Blake, & Bennett Rosner.

On behalf of the entire family, Harry's wife Ruth expressed her wish that "Larc children will spend many happy hours there." ■



“ It has been inspiring watching the many miracles that have been accomplished together in one year. ”



# WARM, FESTIVE, AND WONDERFUL!



## Run the Bridge for Larc

On November 6, 2022, over 3,000 runners, walkers, virtual participants, and spectators took part in our Run the Bridge event. We stood on the historical Ben Franklin Bridge on that gorgeous, warm November day. As the air horn sounded, participants ran past with smiles, waves, and the knowledge that they were making a difference in the life of a child with disabilities.

See everyone this year on Sunday, November 5, 2023! ■



With sponsors like the FOA Team from UPS, Larc continues to provide each student with opportunities for growth, development, and, most importantly, independence.



As in past years, the magic of the holidays came to life this year at Larc School. We were recipients of many acts of kindness. Donations came in to make the holidays brighter for Larc families, and there were visits from the Grinch and Santa himself who gave a Jarred's teddy bear to each Larc student. The magic began with a holiday concert from our friends at the Holiday Express and continued with our friends, the Camden County Corrections Officers, who organized a parade and a Breakfast Surprise for the Larc family. Before the season ended, our longtime friends at Pellegrino Auto Group provided our staff with a wonderful and delicious holiday luncheon and visited with each child. ■





(continued from page 5)

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## FedEx Cares for Larc School

Just in time for the new school year, Larc School received 10 bookbags stuffed with school supplies, first-aid kits, and cleaning supplies courtesy of FedEx. A few months later in December, we were witness to another act of kindness from FedEx when it provided gifts to make the holidays absolutely perfect for several Larc

families. FedEx has adopted Larc School as part of its FedEx Cares 50 by 50, a campaign to help 50 million people by the company's 50th anniversary in 2023. We feel so lucky and honored to be part of an amazing community! From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your generosity! ■

## Sun Life Supports Larc Camden County Dentistry Program

Since 2020, Larc School and Camden County College (CCC) have teamed up to provide educational opportunities for both Larc students and adults as well as the students in the CCC Dental Hygiene and Assisting Programs. This year, Greg Meagher, Director, Dental Networks at Sun Life Financial, and a Larc parent, donated 200 dental kits to

allow the program to resume in-person dental screenings this year. The kits will be distributed to Larc students and adults later this spring! Larc is grateful for the very generous donation from Sun Life! ■



## WHEN REMEMBERING THOSE YOU LOVE, REMEMBER LARC

Make a donation to Larc School—the perfect remembrance for all occasions: birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, congratulations, and condolences.

Contributions may be sent to:  
Larc School, 1089 Creek Road,  
Bellmawr, NJ 08031

(Envelope enclosed) or donate online at [www.larcschool.org](http://www.larcschool.org)



# THANK YOU!

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# A Warm Welcome to Larc's Newest Employee!

Welcome to Larc's newest employee, **James Ryan!** James graduated from Larc this past June with an ability and love for office work, gardening, and cleaning. In his first few months, James has already offered the brightest smile of any employee at Larc, and is always in high demand when he works. His new coworkers, and former teachers and therapists, can't wait to see what he'll be able to accomplish. ■



James has already offered the brightest smile of any employee at Larc.

## LARC SCHOOL RECEIVES THREE AWARDS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION EXCELLENCE

Each year, ASAH, a New Jersey private school association serving the special education community, honors individuals for excellence in the field of special education, and commitment to their organization and community. This year, Larc School Staff Members

swept all three awards for Region IV, which consists of 16 schools. After advancing to the State finals, Shauna Simpson won the Educator of the Year Award for the whole association which consists of 130 schools.

"It is unusual for a single school to receive so many awards from our statewide association," said Dr. Ed McDonnell, Chairman of the Larc Board of Directors. "This distinction stems from the fact that Larc School has a dedicated, caring, and highly trained staff. Our staff possesses an extraordinary combination of character traits that make them an inspiration to the statewide special education community."

Congratulations, Larc Staff! We can't be any prouder. ■



(from left to right) Winner of the Related Services Professional of the Year award, Therapist Jackie Buechele; The Statewide Teacher of the Year Award and ASAH award winner for Region IV, Shauna Simpson; Winner of the Paraprofessional of the Year award, Kara Shannon.

“Our staff possess an extraordinary combination of character traits that make them an inspiration to the statewide special education community.”

”

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Larc School gratefully acknowledges these gifts from our caring friends—individuals, foundations, corporations—whose generosity makes it possible for Larc School to provide the very best for its students and their families. We extend our deepest gratitude to every donor.

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