

APHASIA ADVOCATE

Summer 2018

ADLER APHASIA CENTER



Annual Gala

15

Year Journey to Reconnection, Recovery and Rediscovery

These mosaic poppies, part of the Center's Donor Wall, were designed by our members with aphasia and volunteers.

OUR FIFTEEN YEAR JOURNEY

On Wednesday, September 26, 2018, Adler Aphasias Center will celebrate its 15th anniversary at our annual gala at Seasons in Washington Twp, NJ from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm. This year our theme, *A Fifteen Year Journey to Reconnection, Recovery and Rediscovery*, will showcase the journey our members and their families have embarked on at the Center to build a better quality of life.

We are thrilled to present the **Mike and Elaine Adler Humanitarian Award** to some very respected and familiar names in our community this year. **The Adler Family and Myron Corp.** will be accepting this award for their 15 + years of unwavering dedication and vital contributions, and mostly, as the Center's staunchest partners in ensuring that people with aphasia and their families continue to receive the finest of programs and services. The Center is grateful to the family for the legacy they have built as pillars in our community.

MYRON®



Fernando Garip, Regional President NJ of Wilmington Trust, will also be honored for his meaningful support which has dramatically impacted the quality of life of the Center's members. Adler Aphasias Center has been the recipient of numerous grants from Wilmington Trust, part of the M&T Bank family, for many years.

M&T Bank

WILMINGTON TRUST



Our 2018 **Karen Tucker Advocacy Award** honorees are **Barbara and Steve Kessler**, longtime allies of the Center. Together, they have worked tirelessly as national leaders and advocates for brain trauma, stroke and aphasia patients and their families. They have inspired so many by breaking down barriers that people with aphasia face and advocating for new pathways in their recovery.

Jackie and Paul Koury and their two children, Rachel and Jackson, will receive this year's **Shining Star Award**. Jackie was the first member to join the Adler Aphasias Center in West Orange. Paul serves on the Center's Board of Directors and credits the Center as having helped the entire family build a better quality of life.



Center Founder Elaine Adler will serve as this year's Honorary Gala Chair. Bernie Koster, Bergen County's own Ad Journal King and a longtime member of the Adler Aphasias Center's Board of Directors, is chairing the 2018 Ad Journal. Steve Adubato, Ph.D., Emmy Award winning anchor, Thirteen/WNET (PBS) and NJTV (PBS), will once again add his talent and charm to our event as our master of ceremonies.



Join us for drinks, a lavish cocktail buffet and some valuable networking with prominent members of our community as we raise funds to support our Scholarship Fund, established so that no one with aphasia is turned away from participating in our program. Couvert is \$275 per person. Our annual silent auction and 50/50 raffle will again be offered. Look for your invitation in the mail this summer as well as an opportunity to place an ad in our annual Ad Journal.

ADLER APHASIA CENTER

2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FOUNDERS

Elaine and Mike Adler*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charles Berkowitz, LCSW, Chairperson
Sophie Heymann, M.B.A.,
Vice-Chairperson
Paul Koury, Esq., Secretary/Treasurer

Leslie Adler
David Albalah, Esq.
Gary Alweiss, M.D.
Diana DiGirolamo
Barbara Drench
Sandra O. Gold, Ed.D.
Sandra Govic
Dennis Gralla
Steven Morey Greenberg, Esq.
Walter Hecht
Anthony Iovino
Ellen Jacobs
Peggy Kabakow
Bernie Koster
Eric Latzer, Esq.
David Kravacas
Peter Mercer, Ph.D.
William Murray
Christine Ordway
Susan Penn
Jill Tekel
William Zipse, RPh.

*In memory 2003-2015

HONORARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James Adler
William Adler
Steve Adubato, Ph.D.
Angelica Berrie

RESEARCH & EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A.M. Barrett, M.D.
Julius Fridriksson, Ph.D.
Audrey Holland, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Ronald Lazar, Ph.D.
Paul R. Rao, Ph.D.
Nina Simmons-Mackie, Ph.D.
Myrna Schwartz, Ph.D.
Cynthia K. Thompson, Ph.D.

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Venu Balasubramanian, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Ingrid Birnbaum, M.A., CCC-SLP
Mary Boyle, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Wendy Greenspan, M.A., CCC-SLP
Betty Kollia, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Steven LaBarbera, M.S., CCC-SLP
Bernadette LaFond, M.A., CCC-SLP
Mary Jo Santo Pietro, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
MaryAnn Schiattarella, M.A., CCC-SLP
Barbara Schwerin-Bohus, M.S., CCC-SLP
Jessica Dionne Welsh, M.S., CCC-SLP



MESSAGE FROM OUR INTERIM PRESIDENT AND CEO

Dear Friends,

Greetings.....I'm back.....temporarily.....and it feels good. As we search for a new CEO I am enjoying being here and working with our wonderful Board, dedicated and the best...bar none.....committed staff, our caring volunteers, our courageous people with aphasia and their loving caregivers.

I love living in Charleston. What a beautiful city with so much to offer people of all ages. I have been volunteering as a docent in one of the many historical homes on the peninsula, taking courses at the College of Charleston, meeting folks from near and far who have also moved to the area, joined three book clubs, furnished our home, became the proud mama to Annie, a King Charles Cavalier puppy, walked and worked out daily, knitted for my expanding family- 3 grandchildren and one on the way- you get the picture..... life is good. Don and I are in good health.....what more could I ask for! All that being said, the Center never left my heart. I so enjoyed watching the DVD of last year's annual musical "Sister Act" and have followed on Facebook the highlights of this year. I am still a member of Aphasia Access and read with interest and pride how this national movement regarding the Life Participation Approach to Aphasia has been embraced by more and more speech language pathologists as the standard for treatment for people with aphasia. Adler Aphasia Center was a founding member of this very important international organization.

June is National Aphasia Month and I am very glad to say that once again NJ Senators Weinberg and Gordon, Assemblymen Eustace and Johnson, and Assemblywoman Huttie will again sponsor a resolution declaring June as Aphasia Awareness Month statewide. NJ was the first state in the country to recognize the needs of people living with aphasia.

Thank you all for continuing to support the Center and hope to see y'all at the gala on Sept. 26th.

Karen Tucker

Warmest regards,

Karen Tucker | Interim President & CEO



STAFF

Interim President & CEO
Karen Tucker, M.A.

Director of Development and Communications
Elissa Goldstein

Director of Research
Audrey L. Holland, Ph.D., CCC-SLP,
BC-ANCD

Communication Coaches
Ginette Abbanat, M.A., CCC-SLP
Judy Andersen, M.S., Ed., M.A.,
CCC-SLP
Nicole Caporale, M.S., CCC-SLP
Karen Castka, M.S., CCC-SLP
Sharon Glaser, M.S., CCC-SLP
Meghan Miller, M.A., CCC-SLP
Jessica Obermeyer, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Patricia Ochoa-Werschulz, M.A.,
CCC-SLP

Technology Coaches
Janice Dittelman, M.S., CCC-SLP
Julie Harris
Todd Pleeter
Loraine Simunek

Something Special Program Director
Chrysa Golashesky, M.B.A.

Research Speech-Language Pathologist and Program Director, Aphasia Communication Groups
Gretchen Szabo, M.A., CCC-SLP

Research Associate/ Life Coach
Tamara Heimlich, Ph.D.

Education & Training Coordinator
Robin Straus, M.S.

Life Coach
Meryl Nadell, M.S.W., LCSW

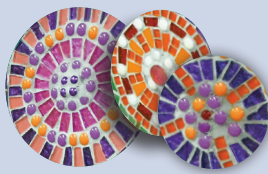
Volunteer Coach/ Development Associate
Stephanie Perna

Executive Administrative Assistant
Amy May

Receptionist
Angela Masson

Program Assistants
Special thanks to Easter Seals and our volunteers for providing clerical assistance to our Center.

Anniversary CAMPAIGN UPDATE



Our Center's Anniversary Campaign, titled *Strengthening Voices*, was formally launched at our annual gala in October, 2016 with a goal to raise \$1.5 million by December, 2018, the end of our 15th Anniversary year since we opened our doors. We are very proud to announce that to date we have raised \$1,130,325.

Created to celebrate our 15th year of service to the aphasia community, and to ensure the vision of our founders, all donors who give \$2,500 or more to this campaign will receive a plaque on our one-of-a-kind Donor Wall. This campaign will help secure the future of the Center Elaine and Mike built in 2003 for people with aphasia and their families.

This wall of recognition, in which all plaques will remain in perpetuity, is an important piece for our Center as the wall's glass mosaic flowers were handcrafted by *our family*, our members with aphasia, their caregivers and our volunteers.

For more information about making a gift to the Anniversary Campaign or purchasing a plaque of \$2,500 or more in your name or in memory or honor of another on our Donor Wall, contact Elissa Goldstein, Director of Development, at 201.368.8585 or email egoldstein@adleraphasiacenter.org.

We sincerely thank the following donors for their contributions and pledges to our Anniversary Campaign as of the publication of this newsletter:

Elaine Adler
Janet and Bruce Adler
Steve Aduabato
Ken Albrecht
The Allergan Foundation
Deborah Aronson
Rachel and Charles P. Berkowitz
Angelica Berrie
Myrna and Yale Block
Brook Fund
Bustillo Family Charitable Fund
Christine Byrnes and Family
Karen Castka and Bruce Kalter
Martha and Michael Ceppetelli
Ralph M. Cestone Foundation
Wendi and Gordon Cook
Deer Family
Amy and Steve Dembo
DeRose and Castka Families
Barbara and Daniel (z"l) Drench
Charlene and Charlie Egbert
Helene and Paul Emanuel
Eleanor Epstein
Barbara Finkel
Debra and Robert Finkel
Roslyn Ginsberg
Drs. Arnold and Sandra Gold

Avi Golden
Amy and Jeff Goldsmith
Lisa and Larry Goldstein
Sandra Govic
Steven Morey Greenberg
Sophie Heymann
Frances Hoffman
Richard H. Holzer
Memorial Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holzer
Jan and Charlie Honig
Rebecca and Anthony Iovino
Ellen and Michael Jacobs
Peggy Kabakow
The Kaplen Foundation
Barbara and Steven Kessler
Deborah King
Shelby and Alfred Klein
Nancy and Robert Kossowsky
Marie Adler-Kravec and Family
Randi and Clifford Lane
Foundation
Lee Langbaum
Leanza Family
Dr. Myrna Levine
Evi and Steve Lieb

Rhoda Liebowitz and Family
Gwen and Henry Mardyks
Melik-Baschkopf Foundation
Ann Murray and Claire Cross
Walter Nolting
Bjorg Ollendorff
Barbara and Joel Packer
Winifred and George P. Pitkin
Foundation
John P. Rosas
Diane and Richard Ross
Noreen and Anthony Ross
Barbara and Norman Seiden
and Family
Stephen Sichak
Karen and Gary Singer
Smith S.H.A.R.E. Foundation
Joan Socolof
Barbara and Giuliano
Spadavecchia
Robin and Justin Straus
Henry & Marilyn Taub
Foundation
Jill, Harvey and Louis Tekel
Judith and Robert Tell
Karen Tucker
UPS Foundation

A STROKE OF LUCK FOR THESE NEW North Bergen Aphasia Communication Group Participants



Our Spanish speaking North Bergen Aphasia Communication Group meets at the town's public library twice a month. Pictured are: Rafael Z, Soledad R., Isabel Z, Patricia O.W., Adler staff speech-language pathologist and facilitator of the group, Gorgina C. and Juan Jose G.

Our newest Aphasia Communication Group in North Bergen is unique from the other nine groups Adler Aphasias Center offers throughout NJ. The program is facilitated in Spanish by a bilingual speech-language pathologist. The group is made up of not just people with aphasia, but their caregivers: their sisters, their aunts, and their aides. Caregivers are highly encouraged to attend this group's meetings.

For most of these stroke survivors with aphasia, this is the first time they've ever heard of the word aphasia and have met others with this communication disorder. In addition to the many topics this group offers, they are also receiving introductory lessons on what aphasia is and are given communication strategies they can practice at home. For many of them, this is also the first time they've met with a speech therapist to help explain their rights as people with aphasia.

Isabel, sister to Rafael who has aphasia, described in a recent meeting how difficult it has been to get her brother the appropriate help. She describes how his words were seemingly disappearing and that despite having taken him to multiple doctors as well as enrolling him in local senior groups, he was not happy and was not participating. "This group today has given us hope. We know what aphasia is now. No one *EVER* spoke the word "aphasia" to us, even when they referred us to this group." Other members described similar journeys and are now excited to see what the future holds for themselves and for their group of newfound friends.

These participants at North Bergen, which meets twice a month in the North Bergen Public Library, are reaching out to one another to find information about where to find individual speech therapy and other understanding medical professionals. They are excited about spreading the Adler Aphasias Center's mission to help find others in their community with aphasia and giving them the opportunity to meaningfully connect so that they can build a better quality of life as a family.



OUR MEMBERS KNOW NO BOUNDS!

We see the benefits our members are experiencing with the choices they are making in their lives, thanks to their improved communication skills and confidence. Several members are choosing to venture out beyond their own communities by meeting up with others at events where adaptive activities are offered, while some are boldly going where no others have gone!

Seven of our members and caregivers attended the *No Barriers Summit* in Lake Tahoe, CA where they were surrounded by a community of others with disabilities of every kind.

The purpose of this annual summit, in which our Center's members and caregivers chose to attend en masse to support each other, was to show attendees that the human spirit does transcend barriers. The summit offered attendees more than 40 adaptive activities to try, an opportunity to hear motivational speakers, and an introduction to innovative technologies and products that are breaking barriers. Our members signed up for hiking, biking, falconry, white water rafting, scuba diving, boxing, archery, meditation and extreme kite flying, enabling them to go beyond their comfort level in trying new experiences, further building their confidence and esteem. Empowering our members to return to active lives and participate in events like these are the very goals of our Center's mission.

One of our members with aphasia who attended this summit said "I would never have tried this without Adler... they gave me confidence to try again." Another said "It changed my life and now I feel I can do anything."

We are proud of our members who are rebuilding their confidence, self-esteem and communication skills while building new lives, through our Life Participation Approach to Aphasia.



▲ Pictured are a few of our members with aphasia and their caregivers who attended the *No Barriers Summit* in Lake Tahoe: Ed Morgan, Art Matarazzo (seated), Becky Parker, Ken Albrecht, Alyson Bernhardt and Rosemary Morgan.



▲ Center member with aphasia, Alyson Bernhardt (r), enjoyed a day white water river rafting with a paddle raft team on the Truckee River during the *No Barriers Summit*.



▲ Avi Golden, who has lived with aphasia since 2007, enjoyed learning about the ancient sport of falconry, gloving up to learn how to call and catch a trained hawk.

SAVE THESE DATES in 2018

Mark your calendars for these 2018 events:

- ✓ **JUNE 1 - 30**
National Aphasia Awareness Month
- ✓ **AUGUST 1**
13th Annual Musical Production starring Drama Club members **12:30 pm & 7:00 pm**
- ✓ **SEPTEMBER 26**
15th Anniversary Gala **6:00 pm - 9:00 pm**
- ✓ **NOVEMBER 7**
Something Special Holiday Boutique & Open House **4:00 pm - 8:00 pm**



MEET
ONE OF
OUR

YOUNGEST ADVOCATES!

Our *Something Special* program's reach knows no bounds. The Center's jewelry and gift design group made up of our artisans with aphasia is often found on the road selling their handcrafted items at corporate sites, healthcare facilities, retail stores and at home parties. Besides raising funds for the Center's Scholarship Fund, our artisans are practicing their communication skills as part of the sales team, while teaching buyers about aphasia.

At a recent home party in Teaneck, one mother was so moved by the artisan bios that were included in her *Something Special* purchase, that she purchased 30 beaded tripod bowls for hostess gifts for families that were housing "out of town visitors" for her son, Jacob's Bar Mitzvah.

Jacob and his mom recently dropped by the Center to tour our program and meet with Bill (pictured with Jacob), one of our artisans with aphasia, and to learn more about aphasia.

Something Special accepts special orders for important occasions, corporate gifts, and more. If you'd like further information, contact Chrysa Golashesky at cgolashesky@adleraphasiacenter.org or call 201.368.8585.

Center members have weekly volunteer DATE at JEWISH HOME IN ROCKLEIGH

Since 2011, Center members Ken Albrecht, Bob Mayer, Walt Nolting, Javed Ispahany, Vinnie Filippini and volunteer Richard Graves have been volunteering almost every Friday at the Jewish Home Gift Shop in Rockleigh, NJ. Several days a week, this team, dubbed “The Wolfpack,” and several dozen other members with aphasia gather as part of our member-run boutique called *Something Special* to design and craft gifts, jewelry and a couture line of jewelry. *Something Special* was founded in 2009 as a way to re-engage members in creative, hands-on, meaningful vocational work that gives them the opportunity to go out in the community to sell their handcrafted pieces, practice their communication skills while talking to buyers about aphasia and give back to the Center. Since the program’s inception, proceeds, which support the Center’s Scholarship Fund, have almost reached the \$400,000 mark.

When the Jewish Home offered to feature and sell *Something Special*’s products, “The Wolfpack” learned that the gift shop desperately needed volunteers to man the shop on Fridays. That’s when they took action and became part of the Jewish Home’s volunteer corps, averaging several hundred hours of volunteer time each year. On Fridays, they not only talk to customers about their jewelry and other gift shop items, practicing their newfound communication skills they acquired at the Center, but they raise awareness about aphasia at every opportunity they can find. To date, the team has sold more than \$25,000 in products at this site.

If you ever find yourself near the Jewish Home on a Friday, drop by and talk to “The Wolfpack.” You can’t miss them! Walt will be the 93-year old modelling the jewelry either in the gift shop or down the hall at their in-house salon, where the ladies have come to expect his weekly visits. And Javed will be the one offering you a big hug as you browse the gift shop.



▲ “The Wolfpack”, Adler members along with a volunteer, were recognized at the Jewish Home in Rockleigh for their volunteer service at their annual Volunteer Recognition event. Picture L to R: Richard Graves, Jewish Home volunteer, and Center members with aphasia, Ken Albrecht, Bob Mayer, Walter Nolting and standing Javed Ispahany. Not pictured is Vinnie Filippini.

SURVEY says!

Each year, our members take a brief survey to share how their lives have changed since joining the Center at both our Maywood and West Orange locations. The results of the most recent survey are in for Maywood’s members with aphasia, and we wanted to share some of these results with you. Since joining the Center:

95% of members surveyed reported that they maintained or improved their **communication skills**

98% of members surveyed reported that they maintained or increased their **knowledge of aphasia**

98% of members surveyed reported that they maintained or improved their **friendships with others**

94% of members surveyed reported that they maintained or improved their **participation in recreational activities**

94% of members surveyed reported that they maintained or improved their **participation in social activities**

89% of members surveyed reported that they maintained or increased their **comfort level in using technology** (computers, tablets, smartphones)

91% of members surveyed reported that they maintained or increased their **use of technology in their daily lives**

98% of members surveyed reported that they maintained or increased their **level of comfort interacting in the community**

These results, combined with data from language tests and quality of life questionnaires, support the positive feedback we hear from our members each day and demonstrate the effects our program is having on their quality of life.



UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES donates to ADLER APHASIA CENTER

Underwriters Laboratories (UL), a global safety consulting and certification company, donated \$3,000 to the Center to support our programs and services for people with aphasia. Center member with aphasia, John Rosas, pictured holding the check, joined Adler Aphasias Center President and CEO, Shelby Klein, standing right, to accept the donation. Rosas’ sister, Evelyn Rosas Barnes, standing second from left, is a former employee of UL and spearheaded the donation effort.



▲ Longtime Adler Aphasias Center volunteer, Linda Gould, pictured left, was presented with the 2017 "Woman of Valor," award from Gail Bindelglass, right, former Chair of the Jewish Community Relations (JCRC) Board of the Jewish Federation of Northern NJ. Linda was given the award for the extraordinary work she does as a volunteer in the Bergen County community. Adler Aphasias Center is proud to be one of Linda's favorite places to volunteer.

OUR volunteers ARE A real gift TO THE Aphasia community

Our volunteers make our world go round. Our programs and services wouldn't run without them. They bring a wider range of skills and experiences to our program than would be possible with just staff. The relationships formed between our volunteers and our members is powerful and rewarding. Any of our volunteers will tell you that their time helping our members ultimately helps themselves as well. This past year, our cadre of more than 200 volunteers in Maywood, West Orange and throughout our ten Aphasia Communication Groups, have clocked in more than 7,000 hours of service.

One of our longest-serving volunteers, Linda, who has been with us since 2006, has given close to 3,000 hours of service in Maywood. She works tirelessly with our members in many of our groups including Something Special, cooking, our Ad Journal and more. Linda also volunteers locally at BergenPAC, Bergen County Players and the Cancer Center at Hackensack Meridian Health. Additionally, she has been serving as a first responder volunteer with the Paramus Community Response Team (CERT) for the past 14 years.

If you would like to volunteer and can commit to a minimum of one hour a week and are available Monday – Thursday from 10 am to 2:30 pm, contact Stephanie Perna, Volunteer Coach, at sperna@adleraphasiacenter.org.

Thank you to Linda and all of our volunteers. We are better because of you!

Caring for our CAREGIVERS

On any given day here at the Center, you'll find a multitude of caregivers who bring their loved ones to our program and stay the entire day to assist them in getting around the building as they go from one group to another or set up their meals before the lunch break begins or just choose to be here to support them in their recovery efforts. But one of the most serendipitous outcomes of their caregiving efforts is the comradery and friendships they have forged with one another and the benefits they reap from leaning on one another. This has been as valuable to them as the services their loved ones are receiving at the Center.

We address our caregivers' needs as much as we do our members with aphasia. Since the first day our Center opened, we have offered free caregiver support groups, led by professional life coaches, at both our West Orange and Maywood locations. Additionally we offer a free caregiver support group twice a month in Bridgewater at the Shimon and Sara Birnbaum JCC, home to one of our ten Aphasia Communication Groups. Our support groups provide much needed emotional support and valuable resources available to them and their loved ones with aphasia. To them, this is the one place in the world where they can feel understood, can discuss their concerns in a private manner without judgement and are supported when sharing their troubles about caring for their loved ones.



▲ Each year, we acknowledge our caregivers by holding a very special Caregiver Appreciation Day to recognize and honor all of our caregivers. This group of special people, some pictured above, are like an invisible army who deserve all the support we can give them for the critical roles they play in helping their loved ones hold on to their independence.

We recognize that informational support was needed to manage the demands of a caregiver and recently introduced a new speakers program in Maywood in which outside speakers meet with our caregivers to address their social, emotional and informational needs. Recent speakers included an elder care attorney, a SHIP (State Health Insurance Program) counselor, a professional organizer, and a nurse/ certified health coach. Other events planned for the year are yoga session and a speaker on stress management.



Our Own League of Champions

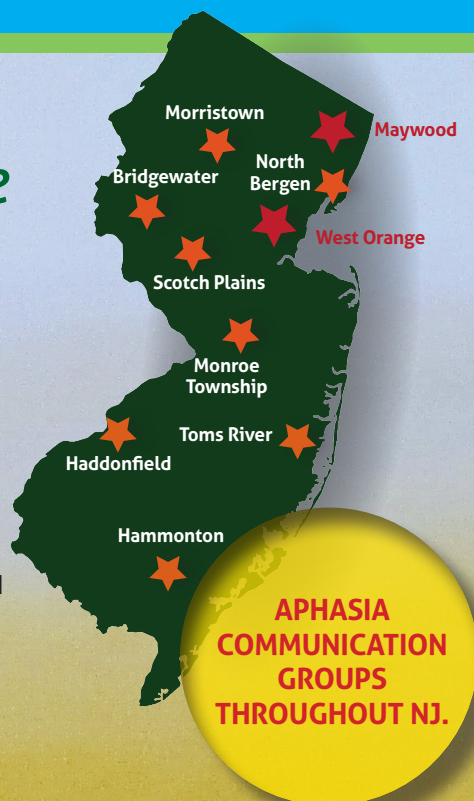
One of the most popular groups we offer is a Fantasy Football League in which Center members use technology and assistive devices to participate. Each week members get to choose players and discuss the latest events in football. The winner of this past semester's league, Ed Morgan, received an autographed football from Harry Carson, former Captain of the NY Giants and a multiple Super Bowl winner.

Our journey has led us all over the state

Our fifteen year journey to help people with aphasia and their families build a better quality of life has taken us on a path less travelled, one that has introduced Aphasia Communication Groups that are now located in ten NJ counties. Our newest group just recently opened in North Bergen at the public library where all conversations are led in Spanish.

With a first Group launched in 2013, there are now ten Groups operating in NJ: in Bridgewater (Somerset County); in Haddonfield (Camden County); in Hammonton (Atlantic County); in Maywood (Bergen County); in Monroe (Middlesex County); in Morristown (Morris County); in North Bergen (Hudson County); in Scotch Plains (Union County); and two in Toms River (Ocean County).

Our journey throughout the state has taught us that people with aphasia require and want ongoing engagement in therapeutic activities in order to improve their communication skills to a point where they can communicate independently.



WEST ORANGE Holds Oscar Party For Their Cast of Characters in ADLER HOSPITAL

Adler Aphasias Center prides itself on using the *Life Participation Approach to Aphasia*, a holistic service model that offers concrete strategies pertaining to a person's environment, life situation, personal identity, attitude and feelings, in addition to their language impairment. Our staff at our West Orange program at JCC MetroWest took this approach to another level when it offered a creative writing group to its members last semester in order to provide them with an opportunity to practice their reading skills. Members of this group created the story lines each week incorporating a medical topic for a humorous soap opera called "Adler Hospital." They had an opportunity to practice their reading and acting skills as they dressed in costume and held up props, with the culmination of an Oscar party for their efforts at the end of the semester.



◀ Seated L to R: Durecia W., Mario G., Muminah S., and Mario R. Standing L to R: Roy B., Brenda M., Julie P. (student intern), Joe L., Sharon Glaser, CCC-SLP.

A POET IN OUR MIDST

As time goes on and participants in our Aphasia Communication Groups throughout the state get to really know their newfound friends in their groups, they are discovering each other's hidden talents. Our group in Monroe Township recently learned of the poetic talents of one of their participants, Arlene M. A stroke survivor with aphasia, Arlene recently spoke at the Monroe Senior Center, where she offered her collection of poetry reflecting her life as a survivor of a stroke and ovarian cancer. She discovered she was able to express her thoughts through her poetry on life, family and her health struggles and published a collection of her poems called, "Sunshine on a Cloudy Day."

In spite of her aphasia, she spoke eloquently and without trepidation to 40+ attendees. Though quite difficult, she was proud of her accomplishment and credits the Aphasia Communication Group with not only helping her build her communication skills but her confidence to make the presentation. The entire Adler family is so proud of her!





A DAY OF FIRSTS FOR *Something Special* AND Eisai Inc.

Our *Something Special* members, volunteers and staff enjoyed a day of firsts while visiting Eisai Inc. of Woodcliff Lake, a longtime partner with the Center. It was their first Mobile Beading Buddy Day where we brought our members to a partnership workplace to share their crafting skills with the employees. It was also the first time we trained Eisai employees via a live broadcast to the desks of other employees slotted to bead with members throughout the day. And finally, it was the first time *Something Special* ran two simultaneous cafeteria sales in separate buildings to maximize exposure to Eisai employees.

WAYS TO



ANNUAL APPEAL

Contribute today to our Annual Appeal. Your gift will help provide a better quality of life for those with aphasia and their families.

There are several ways to give:

- Visit www.AdlerAphasiaCenter.org and look for the Donate Now button.
- Contact Elissa Goldstein at 201.368.8585.
- Donate using your Visa, MasterCard, or American Express.

MATCHING GIFTS PROGRAMS

Matching gift programs are a powerful way to maximize the impact of your donation to the Adler Aphasia Center. Check with your employer to determine if they offer a matching gift program.

REMEMBER US IN YOUR ESTATE PLANS

Please remember us in your Estate Plans. By making a gift after your lifetime to a cause you care about, you can make a difference in the lives of others.

WISH LIST

ART SUPPLIES

- Picture frames
- Painter's tape
- Canvases and water color paper
- Elmer's glue and Modge Podge
- Scissors

DRAMA AND

MUSIC SUPPLIES

- Piano Dolly
- Blank DVDs (DVD-R

format) and CDs

- Music Stands
- Small wooden TV tray folding tables

ELECTRONICS

- 2- iPad 128 GB
- 3- iPad full cases (front and back)
- 2 Dell Laptops
- MacBook
- HDMI to HDMI cables
- HDMI to USB cables
- Male to male mini

audio cable

- Bluetooth speaker
- Google Cast Sticks or Roku sticks
- 50"-55" flat screen TV

PROGRAM SUPPLIES

- Large poster board (assorted colors)
- Easels and flip charts
- Black Sharpies, fine point
- Dry-erase black markers
- Board wipes
- Laminating sheets

• ½ inch 3-ring binders

- DVDs of movies
- Mr. Clean magic erasers
- Large wall dry erase board

OTHER

- Visa gift cards
- Staples gift card
- Amazon gift card



Adler Aphasia Center is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.
Aphasia Communication Groups located in Bridgewater, Haddonfield, Hammononton, Maywood, Monroe, Morristown, North Bergen, Scotch Plains and Toms River, NJ

CHRISTOPHER AND DANA REEVE FOUNDATION VISITS CENTER

The Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation has been supporting Adler Aphasia Center's programs since 2015. Donna Valente, Director of Quality of Life Grants for the Foundation recently visited the Center in Maywood to observe Center programming and meet our members with aphasia. Pictured L to R: Todd Pleeter, Technology Coach, Donna Valente and Janice Dittelman, Technology Coach and staff Speech-Language Pathologist.



60 WEST HUNTER AVENUE
MAYWOOD, NJ 07607
(201) 368-8585
www.AdlerAphasiaCenter.org