



2017 NCE DISTINGUISHED PROFESSIONALS AWARDS

NOVEMBER 2 | SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA



The National Conference of Executives of The Arc

ABOUT NCE

The National Conference of Executives of The Arc (NCE) is a dynamic peer membership organization of Executive Directors and Management staff. NCE creates opportunities for exchanging ideas, providing training essential in professional development, and offering support and mentoring for successful leadership. Members work collaboratively to better serve their organizations and their constituents.

THEARC.ORG/NCE

2017 NCE Distinguished Professionals Awards Nominees

RISING STAR AWARD

- ★ Robert Malone
Executive Director
The Arc of Prince George's County, MD
- Jeanne Meikrantz
Executive Director, The Arc Chester County, PA
- Leah Ortiz
Executive Director, The Arc of Calhoun County, MI
- Lisa Pugh
Executive Director, The Arc of Wisconsin

PROGRAM INNOVATION AWARD

- ★ Mary Van Haneghan
Executive Director, The Arc of the Capital Area, TX
- Peggy Terhune
President/Chief Executive Officer
The Arc of Stanly/Monarch, NC

DIVERSITY AND CULTURAL COMPETENCE AWARD

- ★ John Nash
Executive Director, The Arc of North Carolina

EXEMPLARY MENTOR AWARD

- ★ Penny Spillman
Executive Director, Y.E.S. The Arc, AZ

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

- ★ Kevin Crosley
Executive Director, The Arc Herkimer, NY

- Melonee Clark
Outreach & Resource Program Administrator
The Arc of Prince George's County, MD
- Reid Wolfe
Senior Vice President & President of ACHIEVA Support, ACHIEVA, PA

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

- ★ Mary Gonzales
Founder, Gamaliel Foundation, IL
- Connor Long
Advocate, Actor, Athlete, Speaker, CO
- Michelle King, Advocate
Lexington Fulton County Chapter, NYSARC, Inc., NY

EXECUTIVE EXCELLENCE AWARD

- ★ Thomas Kendziorski
Executive Director, The Arc of Oakland County, MI
- ★ Kim Dodson
Executive Director, The Arc of Indiana

EXEMPLARY CAREER LEADERSHIP AWARD

- ★ Marijo Rymer
Executive Director, The Arc Colorado

NCE CHAIR'S LEADERSHIP AWARD

- ★ Timothy Hornbecker
Director, Business and Resource Development
The Arc of Alameda County, CA

★ winner

Welcome to the 2017 NCE Distinguished Professionals Awards Luncheon!

On behalf of the National Conference of Executives of The Arc, I thank you for joining us on this special occasion as we recognize ten individuals whose contributions to fulfilling the mission and values of The Arc go beyond the ordinary. Indeed, each of today’s award recipients is extraordinary in his or her unique way—and each, most importantly, has demonstrated a heartfelt, lasting commitment to ensuring the civil rights and full community inclusion of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Whatever the obstacles, whatever the odds, these individuals are unyielding in their efforts to make ours a society that values people of all abilities.

The selection of our 2017 honorees was no easy task. Every year the NCE Awards committee receives several nominations in the various award categories, each of which exhibits dedication, creativity, and initiative worthy of recognition. In most cases, because of the nominees’ many fine qualities the selection of an award recipient in a particular category can be excruciatingly difficult. Occasionally it can be the simplest of choices as one nominee stands head-and-shoulders above the others. The committee faced both situations this year. Regardless of how easy or difficult the decision, however, evaluating each nominee is an encouraging experience—one that reinforces our faith that The Arc is in good hands all across this nation.

To everyone present here in support of the awardees, we express our gratitude once again for sharing in this celebration. Each of us belongs to a community striving to broaden the opportunities available to persons with I/DD and it is both appropriate and important that we come together to recognize leaders in this community.

To our distinguished NCE Award recipients, we offer not only our praise but our most sincere appreciation for your accomplishments and your leadership. Your example is an inspiration to all.

Jon Meyers
*Executive Director, The Arc of Arizona
Chair, 2017 NCE Awards Committee*

2017 NCE Distinguished Professionals Awards Luncheon

Behind each chapter in The Arc’s national network, there are passionate and hardworking leaders.

Each year, we recognize these chapter role models who go above and beyond to fulfill the mission, core values, and position statements of The Arc. The NCE Awards honors the professional excellence and achievement of these NCE members—and those outside the membership—who make significant contributions to strengthen the I/DD community.

The NCE Distinguished Professional Awards honor recipients in the following categories:

- ▶ Rising Star Award
- ▶ Program Innovation Award
- ▶ Diversity and Cultural Competence Award
- ▶ Outstanding Professional Achievement Award
- ▶ Lifetime Achievement Award
- ▶ Executive Excellence Award
- ▶ Exemplary Career Leadership Award
- ▶ Exemplary Mentor Award
- ▶ NCE Chair’s Leadership Award

2017-2018 STEERING COMMITTEE

Carrie Guiden, Chair
Karen Shoemaker
First Vice Chair
Chris Stewart
Second Vice Chair
Tim Hornbecker
Immediate Past Chair
Ron Brown
The Arc Board Representative

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

John Nash, Region One
Kathleen Stauffer, Region Two
Kim Dodson , Region Three
Kevin Fish, Region Four
Robert Malone Region Five
Lori Ropa, Region Six

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Nancy Murray
Lori Opiela
Wilfred Romero
Frank Adu
Tanya Regli
Jon Meyers
Melanie Soto
Jean Phelps

Program

LUNCH

Musical Entertainment

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Carrie Guiden, *NCE Steering Committee Chair*
Elise McMillan, *President, The Arc of the United States*

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Master of Ceremonies:
Jon Meyers, *NCE Awards Committee Chair*

NEW NCE EMERITUS AWARD

Tim Hornbecker, *NCE Steering Committee Immediate Past Chair*

Marsha Blanco (38 years)
President & CEO, ACHIEVA, PA
Robert D. Gray (42 years)
Executive Director, The Arc of Owensboro, KY
Michael McGinnis (23 years)
Executive Director, The Arc of Butte County, CA

David Schneider (22 years)
President & CEO, The Arc of San Diego, CA
Christine Marchand (30 years)
Executive Director, The Arc of Maryland
Steve Morgan (45 years)
Executive Director, The Arc Baltimore, MD

CLOSING REMARKS

Master of Ceremonies:
Jon Meyers, *NCE Awards Committee Chair*

RISING STAR AWARD

Robert Malone
Executive Director
The Arc of Prince George’s County, MD
Introduction: Kia Silver Hodge
President, The Arc of Prince George’s County

PROGRAM INNOVATION AWARD

Mary Van Haneghan
Executive Director, The Arc of the Capital Area, TX
Introduction: Kevin Fish
NCE Regional Representative 4

DIVERSITY AND CULTURAL COMPETENCE AWARD

John Nash
Executive Director, The Arc of North Carolina
Introduction: Lisa Poteat
Deputy Director, The Arc of North Carolina

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Kevin Crosley
Executive Director, The Arc Herkimer, NY
Introduction: Richella Abell-Hawes
Vice President, The Arc Herkimer, NY

EXEMPLARY MENTOR AWARD

Penny Spillman
Executive Director, Y.E.S. The Arc, AZ
Introduction: Melanie Soto
NCE Steering Committee Member at Large

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Mary Gonzales
Founder, Gamaliel Foundation, IL
Introduction: Tim Hornbecker
NCE Steering Committee Immediate Past Chair

EXECUTIVE EXCELLENCE AWARD

Kim Dodson
Executive Director, The Arc of Indiana
Introduction: John Dickerson
Founder/CEO, Quillo
Thomas Kendziorski
Executive Director, The Arc of Oakland County, MI
Introduction: Dohn Hoyle
Director of Public Policy, The Arc Michigan

EXEMPLARY CAREER LEADERSHIP AWARD

Marijo Rymer
Executive Director, The Arc Colorado
Introduction: Wil Romero
NCE Steering Committee Member at Large

NCE CHAIR’S AWARD

Tim Hornbecker
Director, Business and Resource Development
The Arc of Alameda County, CA
Introduction: Carrie Guiden
NCE Steering Committee Chair

Meet the 2017 NCE Award Recipients



ROB MALONE
Rising Star

The Arc of Prince George's County brought Rob Malone in as Executive Director in June 2015. Since his hiring, Rob's impact has been felt across the organization. The chapter has been able to yield increasingly positive outcomes for the individuals they serve; develop strong community engagement and partnerships; and continue to increase positive staff engagement—all while sustaining an increasingly strong financial position and reducing employee attrition. Rob's unrelenting advocacy over his career also includes rallying votes to pass a bill that would approve funding to fill the wage gap for direct service providers.

offered from Intro to Digital Photography to Paint Like the Masters, and participants in the program are official ACC students who will receive transcripts and Continuing Education Units. This program is unique because it is open to everyone in the community, and it is easy for other chapters to replicate. This innovative program was made successful because of Dr. Mary's tireless efforts, her true passion for those we serve, and her experience in program development/creation.



JOHN NASH
Diversity & Cultural Competence

John's professional and personal life is steeped in his commitment to cultural competence and diversity. Under John's leadership, The Arc of North Carolina has diligently worked to ensure that cultural competency and diversity is an integral part of their organization by forming a cultural diversity committee made up of staff across the organization, and implementing a Cultural Competency Plan that guides the agency and staff in their efforts. He has led the chapter in lobbying for and implementing gender identity options, translation services, a Cultural Corner in their newsletter, a Cultural Diversity board on Pinterest, sharing of various religious, gender, and language resources, and even "Tusk" the traveling elephant who visits offices around the state to help celebrate and appreciate cultural diversity. John is a true champion of diversity for his chapter, the state of North Carolina, and the country.



MARY VAN HANEGHAN
Program Innovation

In June of 2016, Dr. Mary was brought on as the new Executive Director of The Arc of the Capital Area. Within two months she developed a plan to bring in over \$80,000 in unrestricted revenue in a truly innovative way: by creating a model to enhance and integrate their existing arts day habilitation program with the Austin Community College's (ACC) Continuing Education program and their Skills, Training and Education for Personal Success (STEPS) program, a two-year post-secondary education program for people with I/DD. In December of 2016, The chapter became an official satellite site for the college. Currently six classes are



KEVIN CROSLEY
Outstanding Professional Achievement

Within months of assuming his role as Executive Director of The Arc Herkimer, Kevin established a five-year goal and implementation plan for the organization's budget to grow by roughly one third. Kevin and his team accomplished – and even surpassed their lofty goal and, by 2010, had grown its budget by 38%. This accomplishment only fueled higher expectations for the chapter, and Kevin and his team have continued to build upon their successes by acquiring two new buildings – allowing space for industrial operation growth and providing employment opportunities for their consumers with I/DD. Kevin's leadership of The Arc Herkimer has also allowed the agency to be more connected with the surrounding community through creating a Project Search program at the local college, as well as opening the first and only fully accessible recreational park in the region.



PENNY SPILLMAN
Exemplary Mentor

As the mother of a daughter with an intellectual disability, Penny founded Y.E.S. The Arc in 1974, even selling her family's house to purchase the commercial space where the chapter now resides. After leading the organization for more than 25 years, Penny decided to pass on her responsibilities and institutional knowledge of the agency to her granddaughter, Melanie Soto. Penny continues to provide guidance and mentorship to

Melanie while also allowing Melanie to continue to grow the chapter's operations and explore new opportunities.



MARY GONZALES
Lifetime Achievement

Over her long and illustrious career, Mary has leveraged the depth and breadth of her experience to promote the rights of people with I/DD in a variety of government and NGO positions. Mary is the co-founder of the Gamaliel Foundation, an international network of faith and values-based community organizations with a presence in the U.S., South Africa, and Great Britain. Her efforts at the grassroots level also earned her a position as a member of the Illinois Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities. The sibling of a brother with a developmental disability, Mary has been a member of the board of The Arc of the United States since 2014 and serves on the Board Diversity Committee. Though recently retired, Mary has continued to use her influence and organizing skills to build bridges between The Arc and local disability organizations operating in diverse communities.



KIM DODSON
Executive Excellence

Kim Dodson has served as Executive Director of The Arc of Indiana since 2015. Prior to this role, Kim served as Associate Executive Director of The Arc of Indiana, Executive Director of Arc Innovations, Inc., and Executive

Director of The Arc of Indiana Foundation. Kim spearheaded the opening of The Arc of Indiana's Training Institute and teaching hotel—the first-of-its-kind post-secondary program for people with disabilities. Kim also has more than 20 years of experience in public policy and government affairs. Her leadership in this field has led to The Arc of Indiana being a leading voice whenever legislation relating to persons with disabilities is proposed. Kim has leveraged this by focusing attention on local chapters facing the direct support professional shortage crisis. This past year, under Kim's leadership, The Arc of Indiana was successful in passing a Medicaid rate increase of which the majority goes toward addressing DSP wages.



THOMAS KENDZIORSKI
Executive Excellence

Thomas Kendziorski has led and served the community as Executive Director of The Arc of Oakland County for over 25 years. At the beginning of his tenure in the early 1990s, Tom led an organization-wide effort to come out from under the threat of bankruptcy and into solvency. As a result of his sound leadership, the organization's membership has more than doubled and they now boast \$2.9M in invested reserves. Tom's community involvement is sought out for his sound judgement, legal and public policy expertise, depth and breadth of experience, moral compass, and results. Tom is also directly involved in complex advocacy cases, drafting legal documents and providing oversight for chapter's advocacy programs.



MARIJO RYMER
Exemplary Career Leadership

Marijo Rymer has served as Executive Director of The Arc of Colorado since 2007, and has more than 25 years of leadership experience in public policy advocacy in the healthcare, education, and local government sectors. In just her first 18 months, Marijo took the lead on ending waiting lists for people with I/DD. She built a coalition, raised funds, created petitions, wrote ballot language and engaged the I/DD community in a public awareness campaign. Despite the market collapse in 2008, Marijo didn't give up and by 2015, all waiting lists—except one—for LTSS needs had been funded. She was actively engaged in bringing The Arc's national convention to Denver in 2011, served on the board of NCE, and was a fixture at every national event of The Arc. Marijo nurtured and supported the establishment of three new chapters, and another is currently in development.



TIM HORNBECKER
NCE Chair's Leadership

Tim Hornbecker is a legend within The Arc family. He has had an illustrious career sharing his expertise and leadership among several chapters of The Arc: The Arc in Palm Desert, The Arc of King County, The Arc of San Francisco, The Arc of California and currently The Arc of Alameda County. As an active member of NCE, he has served on the NCE board of directors since 2007—becoming the first Chairperson of the newly formed NCE Steering Committee in 2014. Tim's greatest gift is the joy (and music) he brings to every encounter. The Arc is in a better place because of Tim and his passionate support of people with I/DD and their families.



2018 NCE Summer Leadership Institute

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

The Hilton Philadelphia
at Penn's Landing

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE 2017 NCE AWARDS TASK GROUP

- Jon Meyers, Committee Chair
The Arc of Arizona
- Carrie Guiden, NCE Steering Committee Chair
The Arc of Tennessee
- Timothy Hornbecker, Director
The Arc of Alameda County, CA
- Kim Dodson, Executive Director
The Arc of Indiana
- Peggy Englebert, Executive Director
The Arc of Camden County, NJ
- Debra Seman, Chief Executive Officer
Arc Opportunities, IN
- Chris Stewart, President/CEO
The Arc of Jefferson County, AL
- Dan Stewart, President/CEO
Achieva Resources Corporation, IN

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