

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Archway Programs' Annual Hands Around the Lake 2023**

*Autism Awareness Walk and Fundraiser*

**ATCO, NEW JERSEY** (April 20, 2023) – Archway Programs held its annual Hands Around the Lake walk Thursday morning. Music set the pace as family, friends, and neighbors walked around the beautiful Archway Campus to promote awareness and raise funds for those on the autism spectrum. Bright ribbons and decorations marked the way for participants as they walked along the route surrounding the lake. The staff treated walkers to soft pretzels and bottled water at tables set up alongside a bake sale table, its proceeds benefiting students on the spectrum.



*Waterford Township firefighter, Diamond, discusses fire safety with students during Thursday's Hands Across the Lake event.*

The Waterford Township Fire Department members showed off their vehicles and firefighting apparatus while treating participants to fire chief hats, pencils, bracelets, and other goodies. Participants had their

pictures taken as they climbed up behind the wheel of a firetruck while others donned the heavy gear used while extinguishing fires. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the demonstrations and exciting displays.



*Members of the Waterford Township and Evesham Township Police Departments take a photo with students during the Archway Programs Hands Around the Lake event.*

Members of the Waterford Township Police Department, along with Evesham Township Police Department, showed their support by joining the festivities and walking alongside the participant. Officers proudly wore their blue badges, which signify their continuing efforts to recognize and implement strategies to better communicate with community members on the autism spectrum.

Thank you to everyone who stood with us in support of Autism Awareness and showed your continued support by showing up today and every day. We want to thank the staff members and the maintenance staff that made the day possible. Thank you to the bakers who contributed their time and talent to prepare delicious treats for the bake sale, and thank you to all the friends, family, and neighbors who could walk with us to show your support.



Visit the [Archway Programs Facebook](#) page for the *Hands Around the Lake 2023* photo album.

For more information on Archway Programs, visit [www.archwayprograms.org](http://www.archwayprograms.org).

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**About Archway Programs**

*Since 1965, Archway Programs has been meeting the individualized needs of thousands of families throughout the state of New Jersey. Archway Programs is a diverse, non-profit, human services organization which includes approved private schools for students with disabilities in addition to several model programs providing unmatched services. Built on a solid foundation of core values, providing safety, possessing compassion, and promoting individuality, Archway Programs strives to improve the life of every individual served. Our goal is to ensure that each individual's needs are met, and customized services are provided and partnered with passionate, committed, and talented professionals in a safe environment. Over 450 individuals are currently employed by Archway Programs, and this dedicated and talented staff provides services to over 1,800 children and adults requiring individualized care. Please visit [www.archwayprograms.org](http://www.archwayprograms.org) for more information.*



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