



News Release

**For Immediate Release
July 11, 2011**

Administrative Offices
P.O. Box 2, 630 Route 217
Mellenville, NY 12544
Ph: 518-672-4451 Fax: 518-672-0187
info@coarc.org www.coarc.org

Contact: Donna Barrett
Coordinator of Public Relations
518-672-4451 ext. 3403
donnab@coarc.org

Coarc Honors Columbia County Physician and Students

Mellenville, NY: Coarc's Board of Directors and members honored Kinderhook physician Dr. Neal Baillargeon with the Opportunity for Community Excellence Award at their annual meeting in Mellenville on June 20th. The award recognizes those who help fulfill Coarc's mission to expand abilities, one person at a time, so individuals experiencing disabilities can achieve their individual goals, and vision to be an ethical organization that is part of a society that recognizes people with different degrees of abilities as full contributing members of their community.

In their nomination of Dr. Baillargeon, Coarc nurses Jen Clark and Jenn Pioggia wrote, "He is always available for additional consultation, not only over the phone or in weekly meetings, or monthly house visits, but also for extra unsolicited house visits when he knows there is a resident who may have a medical concern. He listens to all input and makes his medical judgment based on a holistic picture of the person. During any communication, he puts all at ease whether it is resident, staff or nurses."

Coarc members also congratulated Columbia County students who received a total of \$4,990 in Coarc scholarships and summer arts grants. Danielle Palleschi and Katherine Behrens received Mary Markowitz Memorial Scholarships, while Christine Ewasick and Maria Barbini received Kathelyn Caswell Memorial Scholarships. These will assist the students with undergraduate college-level study leading to career preparation relevant to work with people with disabilities.

Roxanne McSween and Brian Mochrie were awarded AXA Advisors Scholarships and Taylor Lyn Sheak received the ACES Determination Scholarship to assist with their undergraduate college-level studies. Jeff Gabriels and Ed Zaik of AXA Advisors funded the AXA Advisors Scholarships and Coarc employees funded the ACES Determination Scholarship.

Summer Arts Grants were awarded to Katelyn Armstrong, Joshua Campion, Michael Dolan, Dimitrios Dounis, Amara Engel, Aaron Keller, Ian Kiernan, Maximillian Morrell, Corinne Myer, Roman Palleschi and Annake Visser. These Columbia County school students will use the funds to take art, music or dance lessons during the summer months.

For information about establishing a scholarship through the Coarc Education Committee Dollars for Scholars Chapter, contact Joanne DelRossi at 518-672-4451 x3358 or joanned@coarc.org. Coarc is a Columbia County, NY, nonprofit organization serving 500 individuals, and a chapter of NYSARC, Inc. More information is available at www.coarc.org.

#####

(see photos next page)



(L to R) Coarc Director Donna Knight congratulated Dr. Neal Baillargeon for receiving Coarc's Opportunity for Community Excellence Award.



(L to R) Nathan Markowitz, Katherine Behrens, Margery Miller, Danielle Palleschi and Michael Markowitz celebrated the 2011 Mary Markowitz Memorial Scholarships at Coarc's Annual Membership Meeting.