

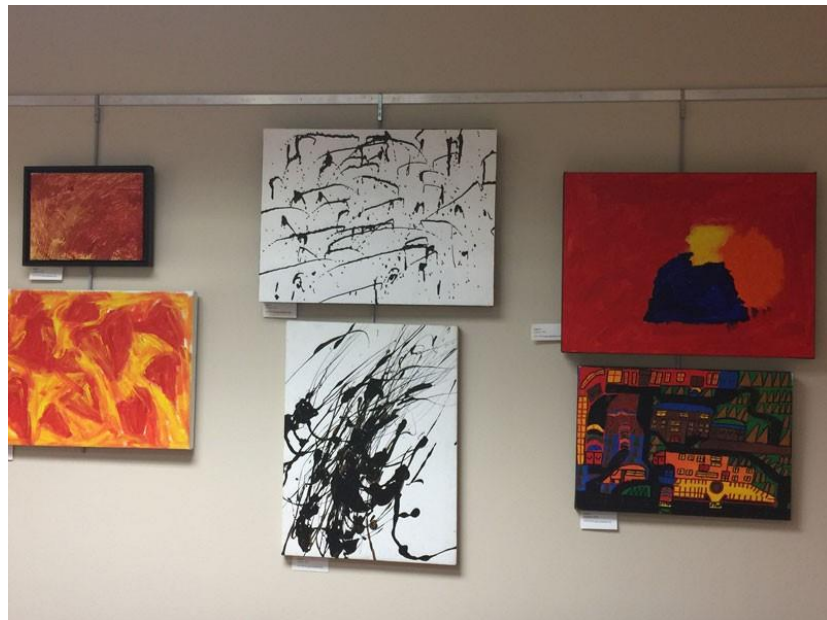
Art, Love, Life

Some people go to the mountains for inspiration. Others go to the ocean.

But here in Greater MetroWest we need only go as far as Pleasant Valley Way in West Orange to our own [Wae \(Wellness, Arts, Enrichment\) Center](#) to get real inspiration.

For those who are unfamiliar with the Wae Center, it's a treasure in our backyard! The Center is a holistic, expressive arts learning center for adults with disabilities offering a wide range of classes and activities such as writing, circus arts, theatre, spoken word, cooking, music, yoga, and meditation. It's a program of one of our partner agencies, Jewish Service for the Developmentally Disabled of MetroWest.

Here at the Federation, we're extremely proud to have created an art gallery in our employee lounge for the express purpose of displaying the wonderful and inspirational artwork of the clients of the Wae Center. How this happened started many months ago with a simple inquiry, and ended with Federation purchasing a methodology for hanging the artwork. The rest is history.



All of the artists have some sort of disability, ranging from blindness to cognitive issues. But art is art, and transcends our limitations. It's truly inspirational to view their artwork and appreciate what these amazing individuals have created. Our goal is to change the exhibit several times a year, featuring different media each time. All of the current paintings that are hanging in our lounge are for sale, with the proceeds being split 50/50 between the artist and the Wae Center. You should come check it out.

We're so appreciative that the Wae Center has shared the talents of their clients with us! And I'm grateful to Bonnie Sterling, our HR Director, and Kenneth Coates, our Campus Superintendent, for all their work in hanging the art.