



Frances Dempsey was part of the AHRC Suffolk family for many years. Her daughter Susan, known to everyone as Suzie, entered our Day Habilitation program at Bohemia in 1983 and eventually transferred over to our Knickerbocker Day Habilitation where she currently attends.

Mrs. Dempsey joined the AHRC Suffolk Board of Directors in the 1960s for a short time. Her late husband, Joseph, was also active on the Board. In 2000, Frances rejoined the Board until she retired in 2010. She served as an Honorary Board Member starting in 2010, and rejoined the Board again in 2013 serving as a director from 2014-2018. She was also a Board of Governors Representative.

Frances, known to many by her nickname Herbie, took her responsibilities as a Board member very seriously and was always productive on any committee she served, as well as reliable whenever her services were needed. She always helped with the individuals' Christmas party, and would bring holiday supplies in to the Executive Assistant at Bohemia, as if she were transporting treasures, and place them in her "capable hands", as she would say.

Frances was an amazing advocate for Suzie. She would take Suzie, who resides at AHRC's Centereach ICF, home every weekend and bring her to program on Mondays. She was very involved with the Centereach ICF and was known to all of the individuals there. Frances would always bring things to Suzie's peers in program and loved to celebrate Suzie's birthday. Suzie always loves to talk about her mom and write notes to her.

Lynn X., former Executive Assistant at Bohemia, remembers Mrs. Dempsey fondly. *"Herbie was someone who made me smile, even to think of her. We used to giggle about things sometimes and shared stories about our families. I admired her so much for so many reasons, including her life and relationship with Joe, her husband. Her motherly love and devotion was unparalleled for Suzie and her other daughter Patty as well. Herbie will always hold a place in my heart."*

Dawn S., Assistant House Manager at the Centereach ICF, has so many fond memories of Mrs. Dempsey that it was hard for her to highlight just a few. *"Mrs. Dempsey was so involved in everything AHRC did. From the time Suzie moved in her dad was involved in our Christmas celebration. When he passed in 2004, Mrs. Dempsey continued that tradition. Mrs. Dempsey made a point to be at every AHRC event that was hosted as well as attending all of the events at the Centereach ICF like camping, outdoor movie nights, BBQs and many more. She would have the individuals at her house for parties and gatherings. There is so much more to say about her; she deserves a novel. She will be missed so dearly."*

Frances Dempsey's dedication and devotion to AHRC Suffolk was incredible. She was a gift to all who knew her and we will all miss seeing her happy face and warm smiles. She will never be forgotten. Our deepest condolences go out to her daughters Suzie, Patty, and all of her family.