

The Arlington Advocate

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AWARD

Resident awarded for work with Alzheimer's

Beth Soltzberg, an Arlington resident and director of Jewish Family and Children's Service Alzheimer's/Related Disorders Family Support, was awarded the Community Advocate Award by the Massachusetts Association of Councils on Aging on Oct. 27. Soltzberg was presented with this honor for her work spearheading the development of Memory Cafes and Dementia Friendly Communities throughout Massachusetts.

"This is an amazing honor," Soltzberg said. "I want to recognize Secretary of Elder Affairs Alice Bonner and her team, who have been incredible champions for helping communities become safer,

more inclusive, and respectful of people living with dementia and their care partners across the commonwealth. And I'd like to recognize the leadership of JF&CS, who were willing to look at the Percolator and Dementia Friendly Massachusetts Initiative and say 'We have an opportunity here to make a huge impact that is in line with our mission — go for it!'"

Soltzberg's work at JF&CS encompasses support, education and the arts, and includes facilitating a group for adults whose parent has dementia, a memory cafe, coordinating the Percolator Memory Cafe Network, and co-coordinating the Dementia Friendly



Arlington resident Beth Soltzberg, center, received the Community Advocate Award for her work with Memory Cafes and Dementia Friendly Communities. COURTESY PHOTO

Massachusetts Initiative. Soltzberg earned her master's in social work and master's in business administration from the University of Chicago and a certificate in end-of-life care from the Smith College School of Social Work. She holds an advanced credential in hospice and palliative care social work.