

For Immediate Release

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GHADA Foundation Supports The Arc Eastern Connecticut's Micro-Enterprise

The Connecticut Automotive Retailers Association and the GHADA Foundation awarded a \$1,000 grant to The Arc Eastern Connecticut to offset the cost of a walk-in refrigerator at the agency's new bakery micro-enterprise on Route 171 in Woodstock.

The bakery will be the permanent location of The Arc's successful cookie production facility, which provides people with intellectual and developmental disabilities the skills to prepare for competitive jobs with area employers. Scheduled to open in June, it will be providing retail sales and wholesale distribution of The Arc's "Classic Crunch" chocolate chip cookies to over 25 stores. The larger, permanent space will increase both production and employment and vocational training opportunities for people with IDD.

"The walk-in refrigerator was the last piece of equipment we needed," said Jennifer Ricci, Director of Community Enterprise. "The GHADA Foundation's donation not only helps us purchase it, but also demonstrates the generosity of the great organizations in Connecticut who support employment opportunities for people with IDD."

To learn more about The Arc Eastern Connecticut and its programs throughout the region, please visit TheArcECT.org or contact Denise Tift at (860) 889-4435, ext. 116.