



Building Lives of Purpose, Pride, and Possibility

Your support ensures success!

Dear Friend of The Arc Eastern Connecticut,

Abby Snyder packs a lot into each day. She starts at sunrise, feeding and tending her family's chickens. "I love those guys," she says. "They're so happy to see me, except when I'm late for breakfast. **They can be crabby if I'm late.**"

After the flock is happy, **it's time to start her own day.** Abby eats breakfast, packs her lunch, and catches a ride to The Arc Eastern Connecticut's main office for an 8 a.m. start—sharp. **Abby sorts mail, checks email, and greets participants and team members as they arrive.** Then, it's time to do the photocopies and package deliveries and then handle visitor greetings and conference room meeting scheduling.

For 20 years, Abby has worked as a receptionist at The Arc. **She's a cheerleader, an ambassador, a woman who knows everyone's name, every story, every reason why the mission matters.** Abby has her voice as a self-advocate. She's earned a seat on The Arc ECT's Board of Directors. **Having earned her medals in Special Olympics, she's begun coaching others to reach for their own gold.**

Soon, Abby will unlock a new door, moving into her own apartment in New London. **Equipped with assistive technology**—automatic medication dispenser and two-way interface to communicate with support staff—Abby looks forward to thriving independently: **"I worked for it—and I deserve it."** Abby's story teaches us **what's possible when we invest in people, not just programs.** At The Arc ECT, we believe every person with IDD deserves the chance to live, work, and contribute as an equal member of their community.

But Abby and young people like her can't do it alone.

Neither can we. **Your support makes job training, independence, advocacy, and inclusion possible.** It helps people like Abby—and so many others—build lives of purpose, pride, and possibility.

Please be generous with a GIFT to our Annual Appeal today. Because when you invest in inclusion, you don't just change one life—**you make dreams come true for us all.**

Visit TheArcECT.org/donate to make a difference today.

In Partnership for Full Equality,

Kathleen Stauffer

Kathleen Stauffer
Chief Executive Officer

Gene Michael Deary

Gene Michael Deary
President, Board of Directors

