The Arc.

Eastern Connecticut



2022 Annual Report

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Our Mission

To partner with people living with intellectual and developmental disability for EQUAL participation and inclusion in the communities of eastern Connecticut.

PARTNERSHIP

Our Vision

The Arc Eastern Connecticut will be eastern Connecticut's leader in partnering and advocating for equality of opportunity and equality of choice.

FOR FULL EQUALITY

Thank You for Supporting our Human Rights Movement

Working In Partnership for Full Equality for 70 Years

Please join us here at The Arc Eastern Connecticut in celebrating 70 years of advocacy and service for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. It has been a joyful & productive anniversary year!

The Arc Eastern Connecticut's dedicated team continues to actively address all items on our 2020-2023 strategic plan. Concierge supports – a key aspect of the plan for the people we serve and for the people who serve – our direct support professionals and leadership team – are proving universally popular. And The Arc ECT's community partnerships are thriving.

- The agency's MicroEnterprises continue to move steadily toward break-even or better performance thanks to strong local support.
- → The Arc ECT has walked 20 people with IDD to competitive community employment in the past year alone.
- ➤ MORE SUCCESS! After a dozen years of fighting, nonprofits were rewarded this year with a \$17.25 minimum wage for Direct Support Professionals serving people with IDD. We are grateful to our legislators for valuing our service!
- >> Yet again, agency quality scores remained at or near 100%. Leadership trainings throughout 2022 ensure that The Arc ECT's skillsets will remain strong. Four outstanding leaders were tapped to launch the Council for Leadership Excellence, an initiative created to sustain excellence and to train The Arc ECT's leaders for tomorrow.

⇒ Early next year, 11 Secrets of Nonprofit Excellence, the story of how The Arc ECT came to be and how excellence became our brand, will be published by Business Expert Press. It was an honor to write this book, the brainchild of the agency's Board of Directors.

The Arc Eastern Connecticut thrives because its mission today is as strong as when parents seeking a fair shake for their kids founded it 70 years ago. We remain America's largest civil rights movement for people with IDD.

In partnership for full equality,

Kathleen Stauffer
Chief Executive Officer

PARTNERSHIP FOR FULL EOUALITY

GROWTH

Our Impact in 2022

A Snapshot of The Arc Eastern Connecticut

\$20.2 Million

Total Agency Budget

\$86,378 raised through fundraisers \$28,623 raised through the Annual Appeal \$111,268 raised through grants \$64,000 raised through general donations

Over 1,000 People served throughout eastern Connecticut

- **124** People and **372** family members supported in their own homes
- 91 People living in 22 residential homes
- **98** People supported in employment programs
- **113** People supported in day programs
- **63** Seniors receiving special supports
- 29 People supported in pre-vocational, school, & transitional employment programs
- **138** People participating with Community Life & Advocacy and the Volunteer Corps
- **90** Campers returned to Camp Harkness for week-long overnight programming



Advocacy

Team members, families and participants have worked tirelessly for years advocating for increases in nonprofit funding. The final state budget this year included more than \$220 million in increases for community nonprofits. Included are \$36.5 million for agencies providing supports for people with IDD.

State representatives and Governor Lamont received hundreds of calls on the March 30th Nonprofit Call-In Day, requesting increased funding for essential services. "This historic budget wouldn't have been possible without support from team members, families participants, and compassionate community members, including The Arc Connecticut," noted The Arc ECT's CEO Kathleen Stauffer.

Continuous Improvement

The Arc Eastern Connecticut's Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) scores from the CT Department of Developmental Services were **up to 17% higher than the state average in 2022**, with some scores reaching 100%. Standout scores included: safety, access issues at physical locations, compliance with medical, programmatic and safety regulations, and choice.



Planning for the Future

The newly formed Facilities Committee, comprised of Board members, C-Suite members, and an expert consultant, was tasked to determine the best way to assess all the agency's offices, residences, and transportation plans to optimize service delivery throughout the region. A new initiative, named "Connecting Our Community," was developed into an RFP and sent out in January. Proposals were evaluated this past Spring, with the committee selecting Northeast Collaborative Architects to conduct a strategic needs assessment, with completion anticipated by Spring of 2023.

TEAMWORK

Technology & Design

Improved User Experience. The team has been busy upgrading agency computers with solid state drives, greatly improving speed and reliability. To expedite support, TeamViewer has been adopted for immediate tech support throughout the agency. The establishing of a permanent On-call Nurse telephone number has simplified reaching medical help during off hours.

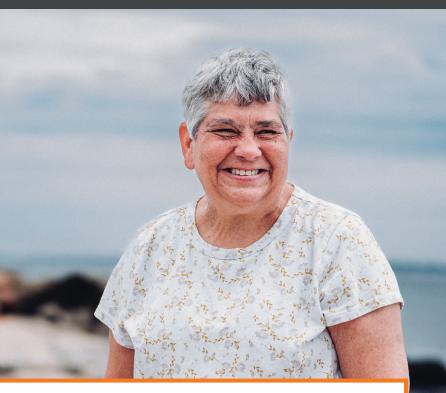
Expanded Connectivity. All sites and homes have been upgraded to a 4G backup system in case the traditional broadband internet is unavailable. Chromebooks with built-in 4G have been deployed for the In-Home Supports team. The internet service at Camp Harkness, which for years has been spotty, slow and troublesome, has been upgraded in partnership with Breezeline, and now enjoys the same reliable speeds as our other sites.

Increased Security. A cloud-based camera system has been installed at our MicroEnterprise site in Woodstock. Sachem Street access has been improved with the introduction of a fob-based entrance system. A new van fleet key control system is currently being implemented, as well.



Development & Marketing

As one of the "faces" of The Arc Eastern Connecticut, the Development Department worked this year to make our communities aware of our mission through fundraisers, team events, and participation in a variety of conferences and volunteer events with our nonprofit partner agencies. Our three major fundraisers raised nearly \$90,000, and the 70th Anniversary Founders Day picnic was attended by over 140 members of the team, Board, and community. As our programs continue to grow and expand, the Development Team has coordinated all outreach and social media to keep both our neighbors and the people we support informed of new opportunities in our residential programming, our day services, and our employment training programs.



Day Supports

Our Day programs have been fully up and running since pandemic restrictions were eased.

The Arc's Clubhouse model for Day participants, introduced last year, has proven popular, educational and fun for over 100 people with IDD in our programs in Danielson, Groton, and Norwich. "People have so many activities to choose from now," notes Joann Cirrito, Director of the Norwich program. "We're doing something new this year too—each staff person develops their own curriculum based on their own expertise or area of interest." This diversity has produced great results, from nature walks with in-depth studies of different plants and animals to the creation of complex (and delicious) recipes. Best of all, the Clubhouse lets participants and team members from all over eastern CT get to know and socialize with each other.

Our Day Program Community Partners

Beacon Alpaca Farm Bushnell Park Buttonwood Farm Capron Zoo **Chase Manor 2** (Norwich) **Christian Fellowship Church (Scotland) Creamy Brook Bison Farm CT Free Store CT Humane Society Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center Eastern CT Ballet Ekonk Hill Turkey Farm Esker Point Beach** Festical Farms (RI) **Fort Shantok** Four Town Farms (MA) **Get Fired Up Gillette Castle Groton Senior Center** Hammonasset **State Park Harkness Memorial Park Hartford Marathon Foundation High Hopes Hopeville Pond Killingly Library Lyman Library** Mohegan Bowl (MA)

Mohegan Park Mystic & Noank Library Mystic Aquarium New London Senior Center **Norwich Rose Garden Norwich Senior Center Olde Mistick Village Our Lady of Lakes Catholic Church Panera Bread Pomfret Audubon** Center **Preston Library Preston Park Pumpkintown Quinebaug River Church** Saint David's Episcopal Church Salem Park **Slater Memorial** Museum **Southwick Animal Farm Sprague Library Sterling Library Sturbridge Village Sunnyside Farm Thompson Library** Valley Falls Park **Waterford Parks** & Recreation **Wicked Tulips**

INDEPENDENCE & CHOICE

Residential Supports

promoting choice and personal growth

The Arc Eastern Connecticut's Residential team supported 92 people in 22 homes in FY 2022. The focus throughout the year continued to be staying healthy while returning to inclusive and community-based activities whenever possible, exercising caution in larger group activities. One home took a collective trip to the Jersey Shore, and another resident traveled to Disney World with her family. All the residences continued through 2022 to embrace and augment the use of technology for independence, safety, and personal growth.



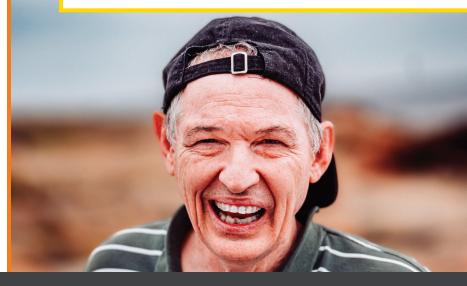
In-Home Supports

This unique program offers a variety of customized supports to people with IDD and their families in their own homes. While the pandemic resulted in having to provide many of these services virtually, the program is now back to providing in-person services to 90% of its participants and their families. This year, staff helped participants establish natural supports in their communities to continue to create opportunities for as much independence as possible. IHS also participated in a pilot program providing remote supports to 10 people living alone in their own apartments, and eceived grants to install assistive technology in several homes that helps with medication, home safety & security, cooking, and coordinating services with other agencies.

Community Life & Advocacy

a plan for a full life

138 participants took advantage of CL&A's in-person and virtual programming choices in 2022. This increased membership and helped people with IDD make new friends from different parts of eastern Connecticut. The Volunteer Corps once again assisted at fundraisers, road races, animal shelters and community nonprofit events. The Self-Advocacy group sponsored a virtual speaker from The Arc US to present an overview of the new AEI (Accessibility, Equity and Inclusion) Strategic Framework. The Men's and Women's (Voices) groups discussed topics ranging from current events to good grooming to sexual harassment. Special Olympians trained for the Summer games with area teams. The group also took full advantage of being back to in-person activities, which included trips to museums, farmers markets, community concerts, the Mohegan Sun Party on the Patio, and area fairs. CL&A also has a great new partnership with area police departments—officers share tips on how to interact with the police, and members let them know what's helpful when police need to communicate with someone with IDD or Autism in stressful situations.



The Arc ECT's Customized Employment Programs

more options for job-seekers!

Thanks to grants from the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, technical assistance from the National Expansion of Employment Opportunities Network (NEON), and staff training in Customized Employment from the CT Department of Social Services (DSS), The Arc ECT's Employment program is now a certified Customized Employment agency, authorized to receive referrals from DDS for people with IDD who are transitioning to individual supported employment with area businesses. Combined with CESP (Certified Employment Specialist) training and certification received by Job Coaches, The Arc's Employment team is now well-versed in a variety of Employment First skills: identifying participant needs and goals, accompanying people to the job interview or jobsite, and working with employers to tailor the position to the individual's needs and skills.

Our Employment & Training Site Partners

CW Resources—The US
Naval Submarine Base
Camp Harkness
Flanders Fish Market
& Restaurant
Fleet Reserve Association
Gemma E. Moran
United Way Food Center
Mohegan Sun

Holy Trinity Greek
Orthodox Church
Pawcatuck Neighborhood
& Community Center
Stop & Shop Groton,
Putnam, & Waterford
TVCCA Meals on Wheels
Walmart Putnam



Transitional Employment & School-to-Work Transition

Transitional Employment Services (TES) in Danielson,

a 3-year program with a 1-year optional extension, provided individualized supported vocational services to people with IDD age 22 and over determined to further their careers.

At the Employment Transition Center (ETC) in Groton,

staff partnered with area schools in 2022 to help young men and women improve skills developed during the school year while also participating in recreation, job readiness training, and volunteer activities.

OPPORTUNITIES

The Arc's MicroEnterprises

real world experience leading to competitive employment with local businesses

The Lawn & Landscape Crew maintained all its commercial accounts, worked through the winter keeping the driveways and parking areas of our 27 buildings safe, and had a very busy (and profitable!) spring and summer.

Our Cleaning Crew is responsible for all The Arc's program/administrative offices, an area church, and the US Naval Submarine Base in Groton. Each group develops skills based around commercial maintenance tasks.

The Emporium our upscale thrift store, reopened for donations in February and to customers in March, much to the delight of shoppers.

Our redemption center, renamed "Connecticut Donation Station," reopened in February 2021 at its Woodstock location, placing 14 donation bins around northeast CT, and expanding to new locations in the southeast.

The Cookie Factory moved into its permanent commercial kitchen and storefront in Woodstock, where shifts of 5 employees bake and package cookies for commercial orders in over 20 stores region-wide, and also operate the walk-in storefront, open to the public.







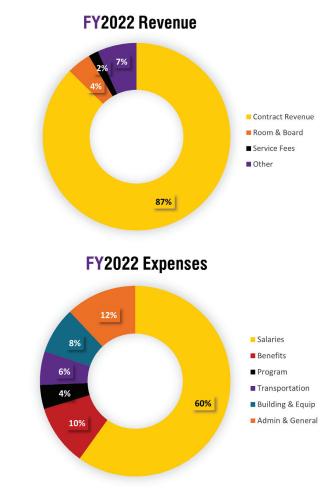


Camp Harkness Returns

modified for safety but as much fun as ever!

Despite restrictions put on camp programs and attendees in 2021, The Arc ECT's Camp Directors, nurses, and staff developed six creative and fun week-long day camp experiences at Camp Harkness in Waterford for residents of our supported group homes. The Arc ECT's day camp was the only camp program for people with IDD offered in Connecticut last year. Campers were eager to once again participate in some of Camp Harkness' traditional activities such as swimming, cookouts, magic shows, campfire singalongs, sports and games, nature walks, crafts, and themed activities including "Harkness Has Talent."





Revenue	FY2021	FY2022
Contract Revenue	\$17,264,599	\$18,081,218
Room & Board	\$840,543	\$863,188
Service Fees	\$374,767	\$349,994
Supported Employment	\$199,594	\$ 293,573
Grants	\$3,007,129	\$ 153,284
Public Support	\$70,348	\$ 69,739
Fundraising	\$107,189	\$ 120,611
Rental Income	\$86,315	\$ 69,354
Investment Income	\$16,967	\$ 4,497
Other Income	\$34,379	\$ 691,569
Total Revenue	\$22,001,830	\$20,697,027
Expenses	FY2021	FY2022
Salaries	\$12,088,246	\$12,539,929
Benefits	\$2,455,869	\$2,170,703
Program	\$923,350	\$853,504
Transportation	\$846,695	\$1,195,901
Building & Equip	\$1,605,017	\$1,653,052
Admin & General	\$2,612,277	\$2,518,673
Total Expenses	\$20,531,453	\$20,931,453

Our Fundraising Events—Still the Best!

All events were in person this year, much to the delight of everyone who attended. 196 runners and 41 sponsors helped our 44th Annual Strides Road Race raise \$30,105 at Camp Harkness in Waterford. The Arc's Murder Mystery Dinner— "A Dance With Death: A 1950's Sock Hop Gone Sour"—was great fun for 95 guests. Held in April at Norwich Free Academy's gymnasium and sponsored by 28 area businesses, it raised \$20,610. The 34th Annual Gardner Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament was held in June 2022 at the CT National Golf Cub in Putnam. One hundred golfers along with 47 sponsors helped raise over \$35,662 for the agency.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Holiday Generosity

23 families and organizations contributed over \$2,100 to The Day's Make a Difference campaign allowing us to provide a great holiday full of much-needed items to one of our families in need. The "Befriend A Family" group, comprised of employees from Pfizer and Electric Boat, donated personalized gifts of clothing, games and specialty items to our residents. Generous donations from our Giving Tuesday campaign totaled \$1,680. These heartwarming gifts demonstrate the caring and generous spirit of our neighbors and community partners.

Grants & Supports

We'd like to acknowledge the many organizations, foundations, and state/federal funders who contributed to our employment, community involvement, and enrichment programs through grant funds and regular cash gifts in 2022. Grant funding is a vital component of our programming, and is instrumental in augmenting our programming to provide unique and person-centered experiences for everyone we support.

Berkshire Bank Foundation Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT Foundation Columbian Charities of Connecticut, Inc. / **Knights of Columbus** #7054 **Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation Eastern CT Savings Bank Foundation Electric Boat Employees Community Service Association** The GHADA Foundation The Connecticut **Automotive Retailers Association**

Town of Groton Jewett City Savings Bank Killingly Building Products Town of Killingly The Edward & Mary **Lord Foundation Town of North Stonington Town of Old Lyme People's United Community Foundation** (now M&T Charitable) **Pfizer Connecticut Labs** The Rotary Club of Norwich **United Way of South**eastern Connecticut **Town of Waterford**



The Arc, being introduced through one of our

agency's founding parents.

Our Hero Sponsors
making our fundraisers a success through their support of each of our annual fundraisers

Archambault Insurance Associates Martin & Arlean Bednar Berkshire Bank Foundation Chace Building Supply of CT. Inc. Chelsea Groton Bank Comcast / NBC Universal Eastern CT Savings Bank Flanders Fish Market Gerardi Insurance Services. Inc. Hometown Bank Community Foundation, Inc.

Linemaster Switch

Corporation

Lisbon Tire, LLC Edwin R. Muenzner CPA, LLC Mutual of America Norwich Public Utilities Putnam Area Foundation, Inc. **Rawson Materials Rose City Financial Services** Barry & Brenda Shead Spirol International Corp. Kathleen Stauffer Sure Bright, Inc. The Rotary Club of Norwich Wireless Zone

Event Sponsors

we're indebted to the continuous support of our event-specific sponsors

1st American Home Loans, LLC 21st Century Tolland Fund The Advanced Group Bonner Electric. Inc. **BGR Radiator** Byrnes Agency Ínsurance, Inc. Glenn & Kim Carberry Charity Painting Clarity Output Solutions -Premier Printing CohnReznick Collins & Jewell Company CorePlus Credit Union Gene Michael & Elizabeth Deary Melanie Duncan

Kristine Durocher Paul Formica & Susan Adams French River Materials Gilman & Valade **Funeral Homes** and Crematory **Jewett City Savings** Bank Foundation Killingly Asphalt Killingly Building **Products** Law Offices of Gabrielle Labonte Macara Vehicle Services Miyoshi America Mohegan Sun Emily & Andrew Morrison Mystic River **Building Company** Northern Light Gems

Norwich Public Utilities O&G Industries, Inc. **Putnam Plastics** Corp Rawson Manufacturing, Inc. The Rideshare Company The Schuster Group Secor Auto Group Tom & Candy Sullivan **TCORS TOMRA Collection** Solutions TriPoint Insurance, Inc **US Foods** Wheelabrator Putnam Inc. Workers' Compensation Trust Yankee Remodeler



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The 1952 Society

To commemorate the founding year of both The Arc New London County and The Arc Quinebaug Valley's founding year, the 1952 Society recognizes donors who have exceeded a lifetime contribution of \$1,952.

The Adams Family Shannon & Robert Aiello Denise Archambault Diane & Robin Aubin Martin & Arlean Bednar David & Lynn Bourgue George & Pam Brown Sherri Burdette & Walter Hewitt Christopher & Patricia Burke The Chojnicki Family Victoria Christian Joann & Charles Cirrito Stephen Colgan James & Deborah Dandeneau Michael Deary Gene Michael & Elizabeth Deary Barbara Deindorfer & Gregory Young Enrico & Luanne DeMatto The Demicco Family Lisa DeMots Davies Edward & Mary Lou Desaulnier Mark & Susan Desrosiers Thomas & Julie Ann Dupont

The Fournier Family **Denton Gates** The Gedeon Family Laura Giannelli Maureen Gilardi Deborah Gregoire The Grygorcewicz Family William & Patricia Gulley Betty Hale The Halloran Family The Heck Family Laurie Herring Terrence Hickey Scott Kadev **Bob Kaufman &** Joann Chapel The Kelleher Family Deborah Kirby The Klemmer Family The Leone Family Perry Lorenz **Attorney Stanley** Lucas Roland H. Lupien, D.D.S. Diane Manning Joe & Carol Mastronunzio The Maus Family

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Our Donors

Since 1952, the friends and family members of the people we support have furthered The Arc Eastern Connecticut's mission through their generous contributions. We're proud to honor our donors.

Anonymous (10) **Roberto & Ellen Abutin** Margaret Adams **Shannon & Robert Aiello Amazon Smile American Truck Historical** Society **Chester Andrews Bill Andrzeicik** Archambault Insurance **Associates Claire Armstrong** Andv Asensio Diane & Robin Aubin **B.C. Large Animal Clinic, LLC** Raymond & Lorraine Balick Helen Ballou **Raymond Baribeault Bartol Heating and Cooling** Carol Batch **Ronald Bates** Ralph & Jane Bates Michael & Giusy Beaman Martha Beaudoin Martin & Arlean Bednar **Charitable Fund** Frederic & Kathleen Belinga **Paul & Annemarie Bellenoit** Alan & Judith Bennett **Megan Bennett Carol Benson Berkshire Bank Foundation** Myrtle Berube & **James Cournover Big Y World Class Market Marilyn Bodwell** Steven & Cathy Bokoff **Gregory & Karen Boluch Bonner Electric, Inc.** Roy & Linda Bourque

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Barbara Deindorfer & Gregory Young **Norman Deslauriers** Desmarais & Sons Inc. Marc DiSilvestro & **Wendy Daly** Daughters of The Holy Spirit Bill & Abby Dolliver James & Patricia Doran Paul & Doris Downey Joan Dreger **Bethany Drugan** Michael Driscoll **Nhu Duong** Thomas & Julie Ann Dupont **FdAdvance** Kersten Elentenv Jerome & Diane Ethier Win Evarts **Kenneth & Linda Fast Emily Ferguson, MD LLC Ferraro Family Charitable Fund Peggy Flood** Alberta Flynn Joeseph & Mary Ann Fodor Jr. John Folsom **Mark Fontaine** Bill Foreman William & Lori Frausini **Edie Freeman** William Furgueson Debra Gagnon Patricia Garceau **GE Healthcare Louis Gedeon** Norman Gileau & **Judith Nagle Jeffrey Gordon**

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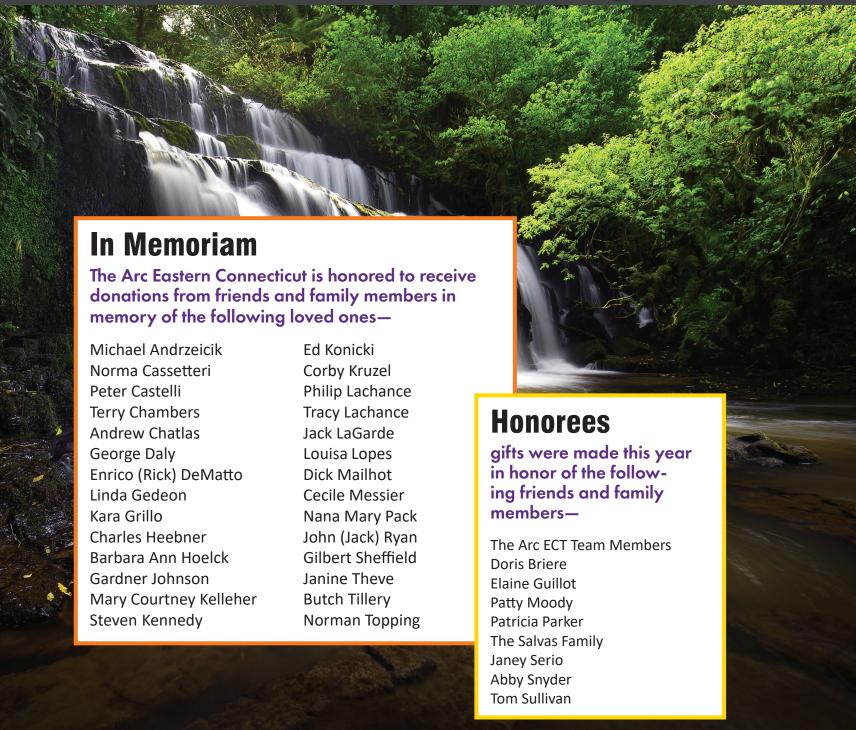
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If you made a gift to The Arc Eastern Connecticut in 2022 and do not see your name on our list of Community Partners or Donors, please accept our apologies.

You may contact Denise Tift at T: 860.889.4435 x116 to be added to next year's report.



FRIENDS, PAST & PRESENT

Gifts in Kind

these organizations, businesses and families provided generous and thoughtful donations of goods and services to our fundraising events and to our day, residential, advocacy and employment programs.

Anonymous (2) Robert & Shannon Aiello Alan & Judith Bennett Big Gary's Discount Liquors Big Y World Class Market -Norwich Bob's Discount Furniture Charitable Foundation, Inc. Chef Trish Clarus Studios Inc. Coca Cola Bottling Company Connecticut National Golf Club Costco Wholesale Gates Buick GMC Nissan Goshen Fire Department Hart's Greenhouse Terrence & Jeannette Hickey Holdridge Home & Garden Showplace

Kelley's Pace LoPrésti Farm Mitchell College Athletics Charolette Mosley Zoe Oemke **Art Paradis** Quinebaug River Church Ron's Roses The Rose Family Sheffield Pharmaceuticals Dorothy Smith Mary Ellen Snyder Southwick Zoo Stop & Shop - Norwich Bruce Stevens Terry Brodeur Breast Cancer Foundation Town of Woodstock United Way of South-eastern Connecticut Vocatura's Pizza Wireless Zone







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Diane Aubin

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Shannon Aiello

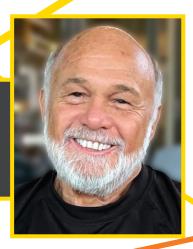
Board Development

Emily Morrison

Facilities

Linda Rhodes

We say goodbye with sadness to our beloved former Board President Rick DeMatto, who passed away on March 22, 2022. He was a great friend, leader, and advocate for people with IDD throughout the region. He will be greatly missed.



A Board of Directors Representative of the Entire Eastern Connecticut Region

The Arc Eastern Connecticut's Board, **comprised of members from northeastern and southeastern Connecticut,** represents the area's breadth of diversity, which plays a huge part in our ability to effectively support people with IDD and their families in this challenging region. **The Board's passion, diligence, and knowledge** is demonstrated in every area of the agency—programming, personnel, fundraising, outreach, and public education. Its collective **expertise and stewardship** has allowed us to not only create a comprehensive and forward-thinking Strategic Plan, but to work collaboratively to address its goals.

Leadership Team

LEADERSHIP

Executive Team

Kathleen Stauffer

Chief Executive Officer

Laurie Herring

Chief Operations & Quality Officer

Terrence Hickey

Chief Financial Officer

Scott Kadey

Chief Information Officer

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—Residential Services

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—Day Services

Aimee Bourassa

Deputy Chief Quality Assurance Officer
—Health & Clinical Services

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Susan James

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Director of Residential Services Northeast

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Director of Employment Services

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