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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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October 29, 2014

**PEOPLE'S UNITED COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS \$4,000 TO
THE ARC NEW LONDON COUNTY**

BRIDGEPORT, CT –

The Arc New London County announced today that it has received a \$4,000 grant from People's United Community Foundation, the philanthropic arm of People's United Bank.

The \$4,000 grant from People's United Community Foundation supports the Elements of Ellen project, a personal and professional enhancement program for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Participants engage in employment and life skills workshops to successfully obtain and maintain employment and independent access to community resources.

"The project provides a year-long educational course that results in people with I/DD preparing for employment and independent living through social skills development, appropriate workplace attire, financial management and community partnerships," said Kathleen Stauffer, Chief Executive Officer of The Arc New London County.

The Arc New London County provides individualized services to people with I/DD as partners for full inclusion in the communities of Southeastern Connecticut.

"The Elements of Ellen project provides opportunities for people with special needs to develop the employment and social skills needed to successfully transition from school to jobs and also to independently navigate in the community," said Vincent Santilli, Executive Director of People's United Community Foundation. "We are proud to support The Arc's efforts in helping people with special needs obtain the life skills needed to become independent adults."

Established in 2007, People's United Community Foundation was formed to help support programs and activities that enhance the quality of life for citizens in the communities that

People's United Bank serves. People's United Bank, founded in 1842 and serving customers from New York to Maine through a network of more than 400 branches, is the largest independent bank headquartered in New England. The Foundation places special emphasis on programs designed to promote economic self-sufficiency, education and improved conditions for low-income families and neighborhoods. The funding priorities of the Foundation include affordable housing, community development, and youth development.

[PHOTO CUTLINE: Left to right: Dianne Kent, Liaison, People's United Community Foundation Liaison and Community Relations Specialist for People's United Bank; Kathleen Stauffer, Chief Executive Officer of The Arc New London County; Tammy Torres, Administration & Agency Liaison Director, People's United Community Foundation.]

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