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For Immediate Release

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36th Annual Jack O’Keefe Memorial Strides Road Race Sets Record for The Arc New London County

Waterford, CT- The 36th annual Jack O’Keefe Memorial Strides Road Race at Camp Harkness in Waterford set new records for The Arc New London County. Hosted Sunday, October 6, the race brought out 526 runners. The proceeds from the race benefit programs at The Arc which would otherwise go unfunded.

For the 9th year, Outback Steakhouse served chicken, soup and salad for the hungry runners. “Outback has been a phenomenal supporter of The Arc New London County,” said Kathleen Stauffer, Chief Executive Officer of The Arc. “We can’t thank Mark Duval and his incredible staff enough. These are folks who truly understand community service.”

The road race was generously supported by official t-shirt sponsor The Tolland Fund. Platinum sponsors, M.J. Sullivan, O’Keefe Controls Co., and Suisman Shapiro. Gold level sponsors included RX Health, Buscetto Family and Mohegan Sun. Litchfield Insurance Group, Mutual of America, Freeport McMoRan copper & Gold, Leasing Associates, Schuster-Driscoll, Inc., Sportees, Coca-Cola Bottling of SECT, Crystal Rock, LLC, The Day, The Resident, SAVA Insurance and The Terri Brodeur Breast Cancer Foundation also helped to make the event a success as silver sponsors. A complete list of sponsors can be found on The Arc’s website at TheArcNLC.org.

“We’re especially excited to see this long-established race enjoying a resurgence and becoming a favored family event for New London County,” said The Arc’s Board President, Enrico DeMatto.

First hosted in the late 1970s, the race was established to honor the late Jack O’Keefe who originally founded the race in collaboration with members of Seaside Regional Center, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Recreation, Camp Harkness, the Town of Waterford and many other civic and community organizations throughout the region. As a result of many changes at the DDS, the race is now an event of the Cactus Jack Foundation and The Arc New London County.

Please be aware: The Arc is not an acronym; please refer to us as The Arc, not The ARC and not ARC. The Arc is a term considered as a title or a phrase.