

For Immediate Release

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Dominion Foundation Donates \$2,500 to The Arc New London County Pirate Party
Employees from the Millstone Power Station choose The Arc to receive generous donation

The Dominion Foundation has announced its title sponsorship of The Arc New London County's Fifth Annual Pirate Party to be held at The Mystic Arts Center on April 28. All Pirate Party proceeds benefit The Arc's Community Life & Advocacy program, which will launch two new programs this year supporting survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse in partnership with The Women's Center of Southeastern Connecticut and United Community & Family Services.

The Arc New London County offers person-centered supports ranging from employment and community integration to residential and in-home services. "All Community Life & Advocacy services are unfunded," says Kathleen Stauffer, The Arc's Chief Executive Officer. "Without our community partners, these critical programs simply couldn't happen." Additional title sponsors include Chelsea Groton Bank, Pyrat Brands, The Connecticut Sun, E & J Gallo Wines, KOOL-101, The Mystic Aquarium, Green Ink and SAVA Insurance.

"The Arc New London County is an important and essential vehicle for responding to the needs of people with developmental disabilities," says Kevin R. Hennessy, Director of Federal, State, and Local Affairs – New England for Dominion. "The quality of life for many families in Southeastern Connecticut is enhanced immeasurably by the presence and good work of The Arc."

Featuring guests dressed in pirate garb, chantey songs and a real pirate fight, The Arc's pirate party has steadily grown since its inception with doors opening last year to a sell-out crowd. "We've come a long way since our humble roots in a Groton living room sixty years ago," The Arc's Board President, John Fournier, said. "We appreciate the community's support in helping us grow and thrive."

“The Community Life & Advocacy program has such a positive impact on both the participants and the community as a whole,” adds Nancy Bulkeley, Dominion’s Community Affairs Representative. “Dominion is proud to support The Arc’s efforts to create community connections for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.”

The Arc New London County has grown steadily since its merger with Seacorp, Inc., last summer, and its Community Life & Advocacy program now offers support groups, small-group activities and a self-presentation program called Elements of Ellen. A unified art gallery currently is being developed in partnership with The Norwich Free Academy.

The Arc’s current operating budget is \$9.5 million. To learn more about how you can support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities visit: www.thearcncl.org.

NOTE: The Arc New London County is New London County’s agency of choice for many people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Located at 125 Sachem Street in Norwich, Connecticut, The Arc was established in 1952 by parents of children with intellectual disabilities to serve the citizens of New London County. Board of Directors: John Fournier, President; Enrico DeMatto, Vice President; Linda Rhodes, Secretary; Emily Fournier, Treasurer; Members: Dennis Starling, Client Representative, Shannon Aiello, Dawn DeCristofaro, Mary Ann Duchene, Alan Messier, Wendy Mis and Alice Munyan. Immediate Past President: Diane Aubin.