

For Immediate Release

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The Arc New London County Wins Grant to Create Community Change

Local agency to participate in Department of Developmental Disabilities systems reinvention

The Arc New London County is one of eight Connecticut nonprofits selected by the Department of Developmental Services to participate in the Systems Change Mentoring Opportunity, made possible by the Community of Practice grant awarded to the state through The Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD). Connecticut is one of five states to receive a Community of Practice grant designed to identify and implement policies and practices that will serve as a national framework for states to support individuals and their families across the lifespan.

The \$8,000 block grants distributed to agencies like The Arc NLC will fund nationally recognized mentors to coach agency leaders and staff to reinvent services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the state. As a recipient, The Arc NLC will participate in community learning activities involving the entire agency, including participants and their families, and communicate the results to other leaders in the field to enhance and redesign living arrangements that mirror the larger community.

The agency will focus on creating new and innovative living arrangements to foster maximum independence for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

“This grant is fully in sync with our current Strategic Planning Initiatives and with the mission entrusted to us by our founding families 61 years ago,” says Kathleen Stauffer, Chief Executive Officer of the Arc NLC. “It’s a good time to remember the parents who stepped forward when their children were not even welcome in our public schools to build dreams never before thought possible.”

The Arc NLC supports more than 550 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in Southeastern Connecticut. To learn more, please visit TheArcNLC.org.

Please note: 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.