

For Immediate Release

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June 4, 2015

Local Knights Support The Arc New London County with Tootsie Roll Drive

Council in Southeastern Connecticut donates \$1100

A local Knights of Columbus council has chosen The Arc New London County to receive \$1,108.00 raised during this year's Tootsie Roll Drive. One of its most popular fundraisers, The Tootsie Roll Drive is part of the Knights of Columbus' Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities.

The funds will be allocated to Community Life and Advocacy, which is funded solely through donations, community fundraising events and The United Way. Community Life and Advocacy offers people with I/DD in New London opportunities to give back to the community through volunteer service, support groups for survivors of sex abuse and self-presentation skills to enhance career and life success. Special Olympics also are offered through The Arc NLC's CL & A program.

This year marks the fundraiser's 35th year of supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities since the first Tootsie Roll Drive in 1970. "One of the basic principles of the Knights of Columbus is charity, and through the Tootsie Roll Drive we collect money to support people with intellectual disabilities," says William H. Souder, III, Grand Knight. "The money collected locally is donated locally."

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Roman Catholic fraternal organization. Founded in New Haven, their motto, "*In service to one. In service to all,*" highlights efforts to overcome the hardships of poverty, unemployment and persecution through service to youth, family, Church and community.

The Arc New London County is a 63-year-old local nonprofit agency providing support to over 550 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in Southeastern Connecticut.

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. *Thank you!*