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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Arc Mid-Hudson Awarded \$15,000 in Grants from NYSARC Trust Services

The Arc Mid-Hudson, a not-for-profit organization supporting people with disabilities, has been awarded \$15,000 in grants from the Trustee Management Board of NYSARC Trust Services to support recreational programs in the Putnam region.

NYSARC Trust Services administers supplemental needs trusts (SNT) that can make dramatic improvements to the lives of people with developmental disabilities while enabling individuals to maintain eligibility for public benefits programs, such as Medicaid and SSI. For 2019, NYSARC Trust Services is proud to fulfill its commitment to enhancing the lives of people with disabilities by awarding a total of \$2,933,000 in grants to The Arc New York Chapters statewide.

This year, The Arc Mid-Hudson, received \$15,000 to help support new recreational opportunities that will enrich the lives of more than 299 members in the Putnam County region. “We have used these funds to enable people to attend unique recreational events such as the Great Jack-O-Lantern Blaze, Mystic Aquarium and the Broadway show “Aladdin,” explained Pepi Diaz-Salazer, Director of Quality Outcomes. “We were able to replace a Kindle reader and personal computer for two of the people we support. Both of these purchases helped immensely and without the assistance of The Arc New York’s Grant funds, the replacement of these two items would not have been possible. The purchase of the reader and PC has enabled one person to read her mystery novels and stay up to date with current events as well as helping the other person to reconnect with friends and family on a more regular and satisfying basis via email. The grant also purchased a Yogibo Bean Bag chair for a young man who recently moved into our home. The bean bag chair has been able to provide him comfort and necessary sensory stimulation.” In addition, picnic tables, seated patio gliders, a Ping Pong Table and a Foosball Table, were purchased for many of our day program sites. These items will better facilitate social connectedness and will further enhance the outdoor space where many like to spend time.

The Arc Mid-Hudson’s Putnam region continues to expand access to technology for the people we support using the grant funds. The addition of computers and tablets continues to be a valuable resource that will enable the exploration of further education into rights, advocacy,



money, and daily functional skills while increasing competencies with social/relational nuances via multi-player games.

Over the years, the NYSARC Trust Grants have made it possible for us to provide many recreational and educational opportunities in a variety of ways. Without grants such as this, we would not be able to afford these experiences and are very grateful to NYSARC for allowing us to enhance the lives of the people we support.

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About The Arc Mid-Hudson:

The Arc Mid-Hudson is a private not-for-profit agency founded in 1956 by families in Greene, Putnam and Ulster Counties who believed that their children with disabilities should have the same opportunities as their peers. Supporting 1,800 people from preschool through adulthood, our mission is “To empower people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities to achieve and experience the highest quality of life.” We are guided by the core values of: Respect, Integrity, Compassion and Excellence; The Arc Mid-Hudson believes each person is unique and we provide individualized services each program participant. With over 1,700 employees, The Arc Mid-Hudson is one of the largest employers in the area. The Arc Mid-Hudson is the Greene, Putnam and Ulster Counties Chapter of The Arc New York and is accredited by the Council on Quality and Leadership. For more information about The Arc of Ulster-Greene, visit www.ArcMH.org

About The Arc of New York

The Arc of New York is the largest not-for-profit in New York State serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. The 53 Chapters comprising The Arc New York are located in every county in New York State. The organization supports over 60,000 individuals, employs over 30,000 people and has a membership of over 110,000. For more information visit www.NYSARC.org

About The Arc of the United States:

The Arc advocates for and serves people with I/DD, including Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders and other diagnoses. The Arc has a network of 700 chapters across the country promoting and protecting the human rights of people with I/DD and actively supporting their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes and without regard to diagnosis. For more information visit www.TheArc.org