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CLINTON COUNTY CHAPTER NYSARC, INC. Awarded \$76,500 in Grants from NYSARC Trust Services

*To support guardianship and recreational opportunities for people with disabilities in
Clinton County.*

Plattsburgh, New York – (January 29, 2021) – Clinton County Chapter NYSARC, Inc. d.b.a Advocacy and Resource Center has been awarded \$76,500 in grants from the Trustee Management Board of NYSARC Trust Services to support their guardianship program and provide recreational opportunities for developmentally disabled people receiving services.

NYSARC Trust Services has been able to enhance the lives of people supported by awarding a total of \$2,636,000 in grants to the ARC New York Chapters statewide this year.

In 2020, Clinton County Chapter, NYSARC Inc. received \$64,500 to provide guardianship services for people supported who would not otherwise have a legal guardian or advocate. Supported by Chapter staff and community volunteers, the Clinton County Chapter NYSARC, Inc. guardianship program provided supports and services to fourteen people as primary guardian and one person as standby guardian.

NYSARC Trust Services also awarded Clinton County Chapter NYSARC, Inc. \$12,000 to support new recreational opportunities and enrich the lives of more than 700 people receiving services. The Clinton County Chapter, NYSARC Inc. used the recreation grant funds to support people with disabilities to live an integrated life. In 2020, the recreation grant supported people with disabilities to keep engaged during these unprecedented times. The recreation grant supported people to have their own garden at their home. The people supported enjoyed learning how to garden and were able to share their produce with others. The recreation grant also provided opportunities for community outreach through “Project Confetti”, which has the intent of sharing kindness to people who are supported in nursing homes. A movie theater was created to bring the movie theater experience to the people supported during a time where community theaters were closed to the public. Various technological equipment and licenses were purchased to assist people to stay in touch through programs such as, Zoom, FaceTime, and Google Suite.

The recreation grant supported people to attend a virtual wreath making class, in which over twenty-five people joined and participated in the virtual class. A crafting corner was also created with various crafting equipment. To learn more about the Clinton County Chapter, NYSARC Inc. *d.b.a.* the Advocacy and Resource Center please visit us online www.cviarc.org.

About the Advocacy and Resource Center

The Advocacy and Resource Center is the Clinton Country Chapter of the Arc New York (NYSARC, Inc.). It started in 1954 as an organization of parents who wanted better lives for their children with developmental disabilities. Over the years, the Advocacy and Resource Center has matured from a small, parent-run group to an agency staffed by professionals and operated as a business that is accountable to numerous stakeholders. Currently, over 700 people and their families benefit from the wide variety of services, such as vocational programs, community integration, therapeutic intervention, day habilitation and residential options. The Advocacy and Resource Center focuses on assisting the intellectually and developmentally-disabled to actively participate in home and community life through personal skills development, employment, social activities and volunteerism. The Advocacy and Resource Center currently operates 30 sites in Clinton County and employs over 700 people, making it one of the largest employers in the region.

About NYSARC Trust Services

NYSARC Trust Services has administered supplemental needs trusts since 1972, helping thousands of people with disabilities protect their eligibility for government benefits and improve their quality of life. Our trust programs give people with disabilities the opportunity to maintain comfort and independence in the community while providing peace of mind to their family and loved ones.

NYSARC Trust Services provides administration of pooled supplemental needs trusts to help families **plan** for the future of a loved one with a disability, **preserve** income and assets for Medicaid planning purposes and long-term care needs, and **protect** unexpected windfalls of money. NYSARC also administers Medicare Set-Aside (MSA) accounts for people who use a pooled trust to protect settlement proceeds. For more information, please call (518) 439-8323 or visit us online www.nysarctrustservices.org.