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**Warren, Washington, Albany ARC Awarded**

**$60,000 in Grants from NYSARC Trust Services**

Warren, Washington, Albany ARC (WWAARC), a not-for-profit organization supporting nearly 1,000 people with disabilities has been awarded $60,000 in grants from the Trustee Management Board of NYSARC Trust Services to support WWAARC’s guardianship and recreation programs.

NYSARC Trust Services administers supplemental needs trusts (SNT) that can make dramatic improvements to the lives of people with disabilities while enabling individuals to maintain eligibility for public benefits programs, such as Medicaid and SSI. For 2018, NYSARC Trust Services is proud to fulfill its commitment to enhancing the lives of people with disabilities by awarding a total of $2,778,500 in grants to The Arc New York Chapters statewide.

This year, WWAARC received $45,000 to provide guardianship services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities who would not otherwise have a legal guardian or advocate. Supported by Chapter staff and community volunteers, the WWAARC’s Guardianship Program currently provides guardianship supports and services to eight people and is ready to assist five more as a Standby or Alternate Standby guardian. We happily use this money to celebrate birthdays and holidays with gifts and refreshments, enjoy luncheons and visits and to be there whenever needed to provide support and guidance. This year we were able to send baskets full of delicious goodies to all of the residential house staff who take care of the people we support under the Guardianship program as well as surprise the volunteers on our Guardianship Committee with a holiday gift to show our sincere appreciation for their endless dedication to those they support as guardian.

NYSARC Trust Services also awarded WWAARC $15,000 to develop new recreational opportunities to enrich the lives of the more than 1,000 people it serves. WWAARC used these recreation grant funds to provide three fun filled days for the people we support. On September 14, 2018 we hosted our annual picnic at our Slingerlands facility with a lot of games, prizes, food and of course fun! On October 20, 2018 we hosted our Fall Festival at our Queensbury facility where we had games, prizes, pumpkin painting, Halloween costumes and a truck or treat! October 31, 2018 was another festive day at our Slingerlands facility when our gymnasium was filled with people dressed in Halloween costumes dancing and eagerly waiting to hear the winners of the “decorate your pumpkin” contest.

To learn more about WWAARC, please visit our website at <http://wwaarc.org/>

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About WWAARC

Warren, Washington & Albany Counties ARC (WWAARC), A Chapter of The Arc New York, is a nonprofit organization serving nearly 1,000 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We operate 43 residences, 29 Supported Living Program (SLP) apartments, five day programs, a Work Center, Community Employment and have a free standing Respite Center. For over 65 years, WWAARC has represented a longstanding tradition of providing outstanding advocacy, family support, and the very best quality services to many people throughout Warren, Washington and Albany Counties.

About NYSARC Trust Services

NYSARC Trust Services has administered supplemental needs trusts since 1972, helping more than 16,000 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 remain in their communities with greater comfort and independence while providing peace of mind to their family and loved ones. NYSARC Trust Services administers first- and third-party supplemental needs trusts, pooled trusts for income and resource (asset) protection, and individual trusts. When protecting settlement proceeds with a NYSARC Community Trust, we can also administer Medicare Set-Aside (MSA) accounts. For more information, please call (518) 439-8323 or visit us online www.nysarctrustservices.org.