



## **For Immediate Release**

### **Date:**

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### **WWAARC and the Arc Lexington have joined forces to offer college, career and life supports to teens and young adults with autism and other learning differences in the Capital Region**

Albany, NY – [The Arc Lexington](#) and [Warren-Washington-Albany ARC](#) (WWAARC) have created a partnership to expand the Transitions program into the Capital Region. WWAARC offers employment supports to Transitions students who attend the Transitions program in Albany. These supports include internships, career counseling, on-the-job coaching services, job training and more.

Based in Mayfield, NY, the [Transitions](#) program focuses on building academic skills, life skills and general independence for teens and young adults with autism and other learning differences. Through partnership with local colleges, internships in community businesses and supported living opportunities, Transitions helps young people on the autism spectrum or with learning differences make successful transitions from adolescence to young adulthood.

“We are very pleased to be able to form this partnership with WWAARC,” said Shaloni Winston, Founder of Transitions and CEO of The Arc Lexington. “This partnership will allow us to bring truly innovative approaches to address the critical need that exists among so many individuals and families that currently fear how they will face the challenges of life after high school.”

“WWAARC has an excellent program providing a number of supports in the employment realm to people with disabilities,” said Marc Brandt, former Executive Director of The Arc NY and chairperson of the Transitions Advisory Board of Directors. “Their programs are a natural fit for our Transitions students, and they will benefit greatly from WWAARC’s business connections in the greater Albany community.”

“When we were asked to be part of this expansion, our board of directors immediately agreed to assist students in the capital region by partnering to grow this program,” said Dan Murray, Executive Director of WWAARC. “We are proud of our employment program and our mission of ‘Connecting Special People with Opportunity,’ and are confident that our team will be an important and useful part of the services and connections for the Transitions students.” Murray said, “Our employment program has a broad range of business partners that we can call upon to lend internships and to allow the students to have real-world experiences. We are excited to be partnering with The Arc Lexington and Transitions and know that our expertise will enhance the students’ experience while they are in the Capital Region.”

About Transitions:

*Transitions is a premier college and career program uniquely designed for young adults with autism spectrum disorders, ADHD, nonverbal learning disabilities and other learning differences. Crafted from evidence-based programs, the Transitions curriculum is grounded in internationally-recognized approaches that set students on the path to college and career success, and a life of independence. The program offers full-year programs, summer, week-long and weekend programs at its main campus located in Mayfield, NY and in Albany’s Capital District. For information about Transitions and its Albany program and location, please contact (518) 775-5384, email [admissions@transitionsusa.org](mailto:admissions@transitionsusa.org) or visit [transitionsusa.org](http://transitionsusa.org).*

About Warren-Washington-Albany ARC (WWAARC):

*Warren, Washington & Albany Counties Chapter of The Arc New York (WWAARC), located in upstate New York, is a nonprofit organization serving nearly 1,000 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. For more than 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. For more information visit [www.wwaarc.org](http://www.wwaarc.org) or call (518) 793-4204.*

About The Arc Lexington:

*Lexington, a chapter of The Arc New York, is a private, not-for-profit agency providing a wide range of services to adults and children who have disabilities in Fulton, Albany and Schoharie Counties. Created in 1953 by a group of concerned parents, Lexington is recognized as one of the leading agencies of its kind in New York State. For more information about Lexington and its programs and services visit [www.thearclexington.org](http://www.thearclexington.org). Transitions was created in 2015 by The Arc Lexington.*

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