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December 2015  
Arc of Dutchess Foundation  
84 Patrick Lane, Suite 130  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Dear Friend:

We understand.

Letters of appeal are common this time of year and the myriad causes that are looking for support are worthy. At the Arc of Dutchess, we, too, are working to better lives and it is our hope you will agree that our efforts deserve your support.

Serving children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families in Dutchess County since 1971, the Arc of Dutchess, formerly Dutchess ARC, was founded on the principles of respect, support, full inclusion and community participation of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, an ethic that continues to drive our current and future directions.

Through our work, more than 900 people with development disabilities and their families currently benefit from the Arc of Dutchess programs, including nearly a dozen different clinical therapies and twice as many habilitation programs, along with vital services related to residential supports, respite and other family resources, student and parent assistance in the transition from school to adulthood, educational advocacy and guardianship, plus recreation and youth programs.

With the dwindling of state-provided support for adults and children with developmental needs—including appropriate housing, school programs and employment opportunities—those in need are turning to the Arc of Dutchess for support more than ever. And so, we are turning to you.

Know that about 91 cents of every dollar we receive goes directly to programs and services provided to the individuals we support, such as:

- Job readiness training and coaching for individuals employed with local businesses.
- Residential support from a few hours a day to 24/7 with medical and nursing care.
- Recreation and Teen Clubs' activities, including dramatic plays, trips to New York City, live theater shows, outdoor activities and participation in Special Olympic events.
- Enriched daytime activities which include volunteer participation in community projects, such as the Dutchess County Office of the Aging Meal Delivery Program, the Central Sterile Unit at Vassar Brothers Hospital, the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program and more.

Your tax-deductible gift, this year, will help us advance and enrich the critical supports we provide to so many deserving families in Dutchess County.

Please consider making a donation to better the lives of our community's people. It matters to them. It matters to us. And we're sure, it matters to you, too.

Warmly,

*Corinne Weber*

President, Arc of Dutchess Foundation