Dear Candidate,

The Arc Connecticut is an advocacy organization that has been committed to protecting the rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and promoting opportunities for their full inclusion in their communities for more than 65 years. We are part of The Arc of the United States, the oldest and largest charity federation in the nation dedicated to advancing this mission and, here in Connecticut, we have 14 local Arc chapters that employ, support, and touch an estimated 11,500 individuals who care about disability issues and potentially vote. Local Arc chapters provide an array of services to people with I/DD statewide including but not limited to: residential options, employment services, vocational training, day options, advocacy, self-advocacy, and social recreation.

The Arc Connecticut is reaching out to all gubernatorial and legislative candidates for Connecticut’s government to request their participation in The Arc Connecticut 2018 Candidate Pledge. As a 501c3 nonprofit organization, we are not allowed endorse candidates, but we can provide people with I/DD and their families with information and educational materials indicating which candidates intend to make supporting people with I/DD a priority if elected.

**The Arc Connecticut 2018 Candidate Pledge:**

If elected to office, I pledge to work with individuals with I/DD, families, providers, The Arc Connecticut, and other stakeholders to promote budgetary and policy initiatives aimed at improving the lives of people with I/DD by supporting their full rights and inclusion in their communities and fostering a fair, just, and sustainable system of support in Connecticut.

Please sign onto the Pledge no later than 6:00PM on Friday, October 5, 2018.

The names of candidates who sign-on will be posted on The Arc Connecticut website, and distributed to our local chapters no later than Monday, October 15, 2018. It will be noted that all candidates with valid email addresses were presented with the opportunity to sign the pledge and that a lack of sign-on indicates that the candidate chose not to sign-on.

Please feel free to contact Shannon Jacovino at 860 874-8100 if you have any questions.

Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Win Evarts
Executive Director
The Arc Connecticut

Shannon Jacovino
Director of Advocacy and Public Policy
The Arc Connecticut

The Arc Connecticut