



As we continue to celebrate Disability Pride Month, we are excited to share some incredible highlights from our Harc community. Recent events have demonstrated the dedication, resilience, and talents of the individuals we support, and we are grateful for your ongoing partnership in our mission of "Changing Lives, Changing Minds."

A standout moment was the inaugural performance of our theater group, Harc's Beyond the Stage. The show, titled "Smooth Criminal," was an extraordinary success, showcasing the artistic talents and hard work of the participants we support. The show was filled with excitement, creativity, and pure joy, leaving a lasting impression on everyone who attended.

The play's hero, Karlos, delivered a powerful message that resonated with all of us. He said, "All of you in this show, all of you in this room, everyone in the world can be a hero. A hero faces challenges, and we all face challenges every day. A hero is clever, brave, and strong, and we all show cleverness, bravery, and strength every day. A hero is admired for their personal abilities, qualities, and victories, and each individual here shows their amazing abilities, qualities, and victories every day. Please raise your hand if you are a hero."

Karlos' words perfectly encapsulate the spirit of Disability Pride Month. At Harc, Inc., we see heroes in every person we support and in every member of our community who contributes to our mission.

We are also thrilled to share the inspiring journey of Kadeisha, Bri, and Hector, three participants in our employment program. They will work at our Capable Kids summer camp, providing care and support for children with disabilities. Their commitment and enthusiasm remind us of the incredible potential within every individual.

Your support and generosity have been instrumental in empowering these heroes to reach their full potential and lead fulfilling lives. As we look forward to more performances and achievements, we are filled with hope and excitement for the future. Thank you for believing in our mission and for your continued support.

Together, we can create a world where everyone is valued and respected for who they are. Happy Disability Pride Month!

- Russell

Strengthening Community: The Partnership Between Hartford Federal Credit Union and Harc



*The value you need.
The service you deserve.*

Beth Mazza is the Executive Vice President at Hartford Federal Credit Union in Hartford. Our organizations share a close and impactful relationship, and we are grateful to have Beth share her story and how Harc has influenced both the company's community values and her

personal life.

In 2023, Hartford Federal Credit Union generously donated \$10,000 to our auction and gala, a contribution for which we are extremely thankful. This support helps Harc maintain and improve the services we provide for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Additionally, Hartford Federal Credit Union is the first company to join our ambassador program. This program involves engaging, networking, and advocating for Harc's mission, of changing lives and perceptions of people in the I/DD community, as well as providing valuable services to families and their loved ones with disabilities.

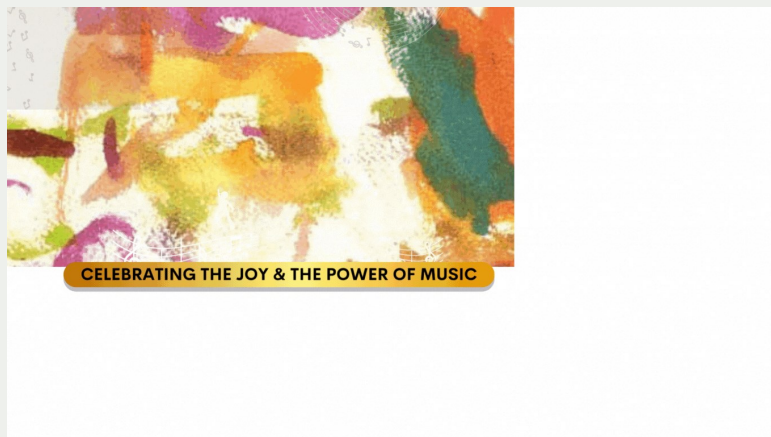


Left: Ed Danek, President & CEO, Right: Beth Mazza, Executive Vice President

Beth expressed her admiration for Harc's mission after visiting our building and meeting our staff and individuals. She was particularly moved by being greeted with joy by an individual named David, which made her feel welcomed. Beth first learned about Harc when she realized our organization was just a few blocks away from their company.

During a parking lot renovation at their office, Beth called our Operations Director, Ramona Rancourt, seeking assistance for parking. Ramona generously offered their employees the use of our parking spaces, emphasizing, "that's what neighbors do." This act of kindness and generosity left a lasting impression on Beth and her company. Beth emphasized her passion for Harc and its values, expressing that they are always eager to contribute whenever possible.

Beth has recently become a board member at Harc and is eager to advocate for our organization and its mission, both professionally and personally. She believes that Harc is truly changing lives, and she is committed to supporting our cause.



We are honored to announce that NFP will be the chair of the 2024 Auction & Gala.

[Buy Tickets!](#)



Our campers at Capable Kids summer camp at Camp Courant are enjoying an outstanding summer so far. With a series of thrilling field trips and engaging adventures, their days have been packed with excitement. They've explored Lupa Zoo, the Dr. Seuss Museum, and five surrounding museums in Massachusetts.

The Connecticut Science Center was another highlight, as was attending a Yard Goats game with all the Camp Courant campers. Movie nights featuring *Despicable Me* and *Inside Out* were a big hit, and the fun continued with bowling at Spare Time in Windsor Locks. The campers eagerly anticipate their upcoming visit to Quassy Amusement Park. On-site at Camp Courant, campers participate in a wide range of activities, including arts and crafts, nature exploration, yoga, health and wellness sessions, music, computer science, sports, and swimming. One of the summer's highlights was our camp carnival, where the popcorn, cotton candy, and waterslide were especially enjoyed.



Josh Is a ..."Starr"

Josh Starr is an active participant in Harc's day programs, including our advocacy program, and he volunteers his time generously. We are thrilled to announce that Josh is now also a member of our board!

In the video below, Josh shares his experience of being a part of Harc for over 25 years. He speaks about how his life has been profoundly influenced by Harc and our dedicated and impactful staff. Josh looks forward to serving on our board and is excited about this new opportunity.

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Don't forget to get your Mystery Sock Subscription box! For only \$13.99 you will get an awesome sock from our collection; this price includes free shipping. Hand picked by our Harc SockStarz employees and specially packaged for you and your loved ones!

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Newington Knights of Columbus: A Tradition of Charity & Support



The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal organization dedicated to promoting and conducting educational, charitable, religious, and social welfare works. The Newington Knights of Columbus, represented by Grand Knight Walter Malkauskas and incoming Grand Knight Jun Napuli, graciously donated a check to Harc.

Walter Malkauskas, a dedicated member for 17 years, has long been familiar with Harc through his council's frequent contributions. "Supporting people with disabilities has always been a high priority for us. We run a Tootsie Roll drive to help raise funds for the I/DD community. It's a great feeling to support Harc and a privilege to help represent the council," Walter shared.

Jun Napuli, set to succeed Walter as the new Grand Knight, expressed his enthusiasm for the role. "It feels good to help and serve people in need. It's part of our giving. Seeing the tangible impact of our efforts gives us a sense of purpose," Jun said.

The Knights of Columbus remain committed to their mission of charitable giving, continuing to make a significant impact on the communities they serve.

Harc's Beyond the Stage Performance!

Harc's Beyond the Stage: "Smooth Criminal" was incredible! TheaterWorks Hartford and Harc joined forces for an electrifying collaboration. The amazing cast from our day programs worked tirelessly to prepare for an unforgettable show. In this thrilling story, an evil developer schemes to demolish Harc and build a toxic waste dump, but our "Smooth Criminals" must thwart his plans and save the day. Featuring stellar singing, delightful dancing, and powerful poetry, we had it all! Partnering with one of the finest local theater companies in the Northeast, our talented individuals took center stage and left everyone with

performances to remember.

An extra special thank you goes out to our writer and director, Chris Bushey, who volunteered his time and talents; to Darlene Zoller, who choreographed the dynamic "Beat It" dance; to Sue Polansky, who guided our singers through "ABC"; to DJ Dale, for keeping the beat moving; and to the staff at TheaterWorks, who made our actors feel like stars



A Heartfelt Message From the Family Of Houston & Hubert



Thank You, Harc and your Birth to Three, Capable Kids and Camp Bulova programs.

In 2017, when Houston Wang was diagnosed with autism, Birth to three sent a clinician to service him at our home. The service agency was named Harc. After getting familiar with the staff of Harc, I learned that their agency provides camps for special populations. My two children were eligible to participate and joined this camp. I cherished this opportunity.

My two children went to this camp every summer thereafter, as well as Camp Bulova from September to June. (Camp Bulova offers respite to families with children with intellectual disabilities and/or medically complex conditions.)

Harc's Birth to Three program served Houston until he was three years old, and he went to school. Later, my two children continued to learn various skills at Harc.



From 2019 to 2024, Hubert and Houston learned various skills in the summer camp and Camp Bulova. Which included interaction with teachers, conversations with friends, and making arts and crafts. In their lives at home, they can care for themselves, help with housework, clean the floor, wash clothes, cook simple meals, and choose their favorite clothes by themselves. They are gradually becoming more and more independent.

In 2012, Houston was diagnosed with cancer. During chemotherapy, Hubert insisted on staying at Harc, which reduced a lot of my life burden. With the joint efforts of our family, we defeated cancer. In 2023, my two boys returned to summer camp.

In the past five years, we have been very



pleased with the skills that our boys have learned and progress they have made. We are very grateful to Harc for its support, understanding, and help to special families. The services provided by Harc have saved us a lot of money, and we use the money saved to cultivate our children's hobbies. Our boys can now play the piano, violin, swim, draw, skate, ski, and participates in the Special Olympics.



Houston and Hubert are now very cheerful and confident. However, there are still many problems in their future life. I hope that all sectors of society can be more tolerant and understanding of special people. Thank you Harc, for helping the children grow up over the years.

- Xiufeng Zheng

What a Successful 2024 Walk N' Roll!



Our 2024 Walk N' Roll was a resounding success, raising \$39,000 towards the purchase of a new accessible van for the Harc fleet. Your support and donations made this possible. Over 260 walkers joined us to support their team captains. Keith McGilvery from Fox61 added enthusiasm and excitement as our emcee, and we were thrilled to have community volunteer groups from the Hartford Probus Club, the Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association, and Tecta America.

We also extend our gratitude to our sponsors: the Hartford Parking Authority, Talcott Financial, Enterprise Fleet Management, WorxBranding, Dr. Stephen Becker, and of course, the Yard Goats. Additionally, we are excited to share that Zelia Melo, captain of Team Joey, surpassed her goal by raising \$10,000, making this the team's biggest year so far!

The weather was perfect, and Harc participants and families were elated. They had so much fun at Dunkin' Park on that beautiful Saturday. There were numerous fun activities and games, face painting, snacks, a raffle with many wonderful items, and even baby goats!

Thank you to everyone who came out to support Harc.



~ Donor-Advised Funds ~

If you have a donor-advised fund (DAF), you should know that **Harc, Inc.** is an IRS-qualified public charity, and therefore eligible to receive contributions from your gift fund. Please follow the instructions provided by your fund regarding minimum contribution, the process for recommending grants, etc.

Our Taxpayer Federal Tax ID# (EIN) is: 06-0710289. Our legal name is: Harc, Inc. Please make checks payable to Harc, Inc. and mail to the following address:

Harc, Inc.
Philanthropy Department
900 Asylum Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105

What is a Donor-Advised Fund?

A donor-advised fund (DAF) is a philanthropic vehicle established at a public charity that allows donors to make a charitable contribution, receive an immediate tax benefit, and then recommend grants from the fund to public charities of their choice over time.

How Does it Work?

- 1.) Establish your DAF by making an irrevocable, tax-deductible donation to a public charity that sponsors a DAF program.
- 2.) Advise the investment allocation of the donated assets (any investment growth is tax-free).
- 3.) Recommend grants to qualified public charities of your choice.

3 Easy Steps to Using Your DAF to Support Harc, Inc.

- 1.) Contact your representative at your DAF and recommend a grant of a specific amount be sent from your fund to Harc, Inc.
- 2.) Please email Eloise Mongillo, Chief Philanthropy Officer, at emongillo@harc-ct.org to alert us that your gift is on the way.

For more information, please contact:

Eloise Mongillo
Chief Philanthropy Officer
Harc, Inc.
900 Asylum Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105
860-218-6048
emongillo@harc-ct.org

Thank you to Harc's generous corporate and foundation donors. Your leadership in carrying forward the vision of our founding families ensures that Harc remains strong and continues to be an innovator in our field.

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Thank you for your support!

Support Harc's Mission

With your donation, Harc can continue to fulfill our mission of changing lives and changing minds. Your support enables us to provide essential services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Every contribution makes a difference, impacting the lives of the individuals and families we serve. By clicking the donation button below, you can make a meaningful difference today.

Donate



Changing lives, changing minds

