



Oh, the places we'll go...



Dear Friends of The Arc of Essex County,

The promise of expanded service offerings and greater choice provided by the state's new fee-for-service system is now a reality at The Arc of Essex County. Enrollment is up and new families are requesting to join our programs in record numbers.

Over the course of the past 12 months, we've increased our after-work respite offerings, opened the Park Place Apartments program, and planned innovative recreational and social outings for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. That's just the start. **Your steadfast investment and support of our mission makes this expansion possible and is changing lives.**

As we continue to grow our services and enroll more individuals in activities, The Arc of Essex County is committed to upholding the high quality of care our families have come to expect. In order for expansion to continue, we need to remain agile and responsive to our participants' needs.

While the new fee-for-service system has enabled The Arc to broaden our scope of services, there remains limited funds for transportation. Without reliable transportation that accommodates all needs, access to engaging community activities diminishes. **We need your help.**

The Arc of Essex County currently manages a fleet of nearly 100 vehicles that transport our participants to a variety of community based activities. Running seven days a week and with routes for programs including Children's Saturday Group Respite, Community Recreation, Adult Day and Residential Programs, these vehicles need to be as adaptive and versatile as The Arc.

With your help, we hope to add two additional 12-person, wheelchair accessible vans with seating that can be reconfigured to accommodate varying mobility needs. With a total cost of \$55,000 per van, will you help us raise the needed funds to add these vehicles to our fleet and ensure all service recipients will have the opportunity to engage in activities in the community?



Imagine the opportunities our children and adults will experience thanks to *your \$50 contribution*. From concerts in the park, to volunteer activities and recreational outings, your donation will enable those we serve to be fully engaged within their community.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication to The Arc of Essex County and to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Please make a donation TODAY, so our children and adults right here in Northern New Jersey can experience new adventures tomorrow.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda C. Lucas".

Linda C. Lucas
Chief Executive Officer

P.S. – Have you considered making a holiday gift in the name of a loved one or staff member?