



Advocates for people with intellectual disabilities  
and related developmental disabilities

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**Testimony re "DDS Employment and Day Supports Medicaid Waiver  
Application"**

Before the Committees on Appropriations and Human Services  
December 8, 2010

Senator Harp, Senator Doyle, Representative Geragosian, Representative  
Walker, and Members of these Committees:

Good afternoon. I am Lynn Warner, the Executive Director of The Arc of Connecticut, a 59-year-old statewide advocacy organization for individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families. We have 23 local chapters that provide supports, services, and advocacy throughout the State of Connecticut.

I am here today to testify in support of the application for the Department of Developmental Services Employment and Day Supports Medicaid Waiver.

The Arc of Connecticut was created by the will of parents who strongly believed in community access for their children and that they not be hidden behind walls. That belief has been our foundation for nearly 60 years. We fully support every avenue that opens doors to full integration and inclusion for people with intellectual disabilities.

By moving this application forward, it becomes a win/win situation. The State of Connecticut recoups valuable and needed dollars from the Federal Government and people with intellectual disabilities are given access to employment, socialization, and opportunities in their communities. Therefore, we strongly urge the members of these Committees to approve this portion of the application process for the Employment and Day Services Medicaid Waiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you this afternoon.

**The Arc/Connecticut, Inc. Member Chapters:** Futures, Inc., Middletown / Greater Enfield Arc / Family Options, Watertown / The Arc of Farmington Valley / Friends of New Milford, Inc. / The Arc of Litchfield County / LOV-Arc, Westbrook / MARC, Inc., Manchester / MARC: Community Resources, Portland / The Arc of Meriden-Wallingford / The Arc of Greater New Haven / The Arc of New London County / Options, Unlimited / The Arc of Plainville / The Arc of Quinebaug Valley / SARAH Inc., Gulford / SARAH Seneca Residential Services / SARAH Taxis Residential Services / STAR, Norwalk / The Arc of Southington / Tri County Arc, Columbia / Waterbury Arc / WeCAHR, Danbury

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