

For Immediate Release

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After d'Arc Gala Raises Funds to Support Transportation Needs



(Left) Christine Downin was a great volunteer at the event. (Right) Title Sponsor Plaza Ford's Tom Walls (left) and Katie Hargrove (right) with Shawn Kros, Executive Director of The Arc NCR (center)

(Aberdeen, MD) The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region (The Arc NCR) hosted its 10th Annual After d'Arc Gala on March 29, 2014 at the Water's Edge Events Center in Belcamp, Maryland. This year's event brought together more than 300 supporters for an Asian-inspired evening which included silent and live auctions as well as a performance by the JHU Yong Han Lion Dance Troupe. Chairs of the event were **Tom Walls and Katie Hargrove of Plaza Ford** with **Smyth Jewelers** as the Honorary Co-Chair. **WJZ's Kristy Breslin** served as emcee with **Harford County Register of Wills Derek Hopkins** serving as auctioneer. Musical entertainment was provided by pianist Chris Sengstacke and the band The Klassix. **Amazing flower arrangements were created by Flowers by Lucy.** This successful event raised over \$114,000 to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The Silent and Live Auctions featured 76 exciting packages including A Week in Italy, a Fishing Trip & Crab Feast on the Chesapeake Bay, a Ravens Helmet autographed by Jacoby Jones and Justin Tucker and much more. In addition to the auctions, a lucky winner won a one-carat diamond necklace provided by Smyth Jewelers.

The evening also included the **2nd Annual Fund the Need**. Each year The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region identifies a significant need in the organization and efforts are made to raise money for that need. More than \$17,000 was raised towards the vehicle maintenance fees and the purchase of a new van. Special thanks to the Drescher Foundation for their generous \$15,000 matching grant.

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In-kind sponsors included: Pairings Bistro, Brian's Carpet, Flowers by Lucy, Freestate Challenge Academy, Jim Keefe, Christine Sullivan, Barbara Williams, Sign Central, Silent and Live Auction Donors, and Tim Rea of Video Accord. Thank you to Main Street Oyster House and Liberatore's Ristorante & Catering for hosting pre-events.

Thank you to the generous 111 sponsors who donated items for this year's Pre-Event, Live Auction and Silent Auction!

The After d'Arc Planning Committee included Melody Bennett, Patti Christopher, Julie Chmura, Patty Desiderio, Linda Flint, Jim Keefe, Sue Manning, Melita Maxwell, Sean Parks, Barbara Przybylski, Patrice Ricciardi, and Diane Sengstacke. After d'Arc is an annual gala - visit www.arcncr.org/events.html for updates on next spring's event! Check out The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region's Facebook page for beautiful photos of this year's After d'Arc. For sixty-one years, The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region has helped people with intellectual and developmental disabilities build better lives by providing support services and advocacy to adults and children and their families in Harford and Cecil Counties. For more information, call 410-836-7177 or visit www.arcncr.org.

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For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities