



HARC, Inc.
Serving People with Intellectual
and Related Challenges
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Miranda Fitzpatrick-Fortier of Canton HARC's 2010 Young Philanthropist of the Year

Hartford, CT HARC, Inc. is very pleased to announce twelve-year old Miranda Fitzpatrick-Fortier of Canton, as the recipient of its **2010 Young Philanthropist Award**. The award, which will be presented at HARC's 59th Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 24, 2010 at Tumble Brook Country Club in Bloomfield, is presented to a young person who has demonstrated outstanding energy and leadership in philanthropic efforts supporting HARC's mission and people with intellectual disability.

Miranda, at the age of ten, took great initiative in organizing family and friends to form a team of approximately 50 walkers to participate in HARC's Annual Walkathon Events in 2008 and 2009. With her team, *Marching with Mary*, named in honor of her Aunt Mary, a consumer of HARC's services, Miranda raised over \$4,400 for HARC's respite program. With the help of her parents, Irene and Peter Fortier, she had lavender t-shirts printed for the team members, and created a fundraising website to include friends who lived out of the area.

Miranda's mother, Irene says, "We are extremely proud of Miranda for all her efforts and initiative for this worthy cause, however it doesn't surprise us. Miranda is a little girl with an enormous heart, who truly enjoys giving to others."

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According to Miranda, “Seeing my Aunt Mary's joyful smile when she saw the team I had gathered to march with her, made my heart skip a beat! She was so surprised and happy!”

About HARC, Inc.

HARC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of people with intellectual disability and their families. It was founded in 1951 by families, long before community services were available and institutionalization was the only option. HARC is now a strong advocate for civil rights and opportunities, and a major provider of clinical and supportive services which span the entire lifetime: early intervention, respite care, family support, recreation, advocacy, employment and day programs, residential, elderly services and behavioral health and social services.

HARC currently operates 11 group homes and condominiums and 28 supported employment sites throughout Greater Hartford. HARC is a Community Investment Partner of United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut and serves Greater Hartford.

For further information about HARC or to purchase tickets to

HARC's 59th Annual Meeting, Thursday, June 24, 2010, 6:30 – 8:00 pm,

Tumble Brook Country Club, Bloomfield, CT; \$35/person;

go to HARC's website: www.harc-ct.org <<http://www.harc-ct.org>>

or call Jenna Rompelman at (860)218-6089.

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