

Description of Program:

Agency Overview

The Arc Eastern Connecticut was established by two groups of families in 1952 and currently provides advocacy and supports to over 700 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including those on the Autism spectrum, and their families across the entire eastern CT region. Our services touch every aspect of a person's life including residential supports, employment/job development for students and adults, day support services, in-home supports, retirement services, and micro-enterprise ventures throughout the region. We also operate the Community Life & Advocacy (health/fitness, social/cultural programs, self-advocacy, civic participation, personal enrichment) program—the only program of its kind in the state.

Description of and Need For the Program

The specific project for which we are seeking funds involves the replacement of old and leaking windows at our supported group residence at 1671 Center Groton Road in Ledyard, which provides round the clock supports to six women with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), some of whom have limited mobility and/or are older and medically fragile. We are hoping that we can find C-corporations this year who will cover all or part of the project. The home was constructed in 1961 and the windows and doors are original to it. Many no longer open and close properly, creating drafts in the winter and excessive A/C costs in the hotter summer months. Repairs have been made over the years and stop-gap measures have been such as insulating plastic sheets and weatherstripping, but qualified contractors have informed us that most have exceeded their useful lives and should be replaced. (The large bay windows, however, were more recently repaired and determined to be in reasonably good shape, and since their replacement would also include roof replacement, they will not be replaced.) The contractor worked with the COO to select windows that not only have the highest energy rating, but they are also aesthetically pleasing for both participants and the surrounding neighborhood.

Safe ventilation in the summer months and greater insulation during the winter also assists in the mitigation of colds and other respiratory illnesses.

Neighborhood area to be served

The supported group residence is in on RT 117 in Ledyard close to the Groton Town line. The project is limited to serving people with IDD living in that residence.

Plan to implement the program

Work will be performed by a licensed contractor familiar with the agency and the people we support. The contractor will coordinate with Administration and the House Manager regarding days and times that work will be conducted, in order to provide the least disturbance of the people living in the home. Administration will receive periodic updates on the project's progress (including the timeline for receipt of materials, which currently runs into several months). Representatives from the agency will also make regular inspections of progress and receive reports from staff, who are on the premises 24 hours/day.