



FOR RELEASE JULY 27, 2017
For Additional Information Contact:
Kim Brown
(860) 496-2152

LARC Announces New Executive Director

July 28, 2017: Torrington, CT: The Arc of Litchfield County, Inc. (LARC) is pleased to announce that following a national search, it has hired Michael Menard as Executive Director to lead LARC in its quest to bring community to all within the greater Torrington area.

“The Board of LARC underwent an extensive search to find the most qualified individual. We were fortunate that so many truly outstanding candidates were interested in the position. It was unanimous, though, that there is no one more qualified and equipped to lead LARC in the years to come. Not only does Mike embrace our vision of ‘community for all’, he is a progressive leader who will be able to move LARC’s vision strategically forward while meeting any challenge head-on,” stated President of the Board, Kimberley Brown.

Menard brings significant experience having led large, complex and diverse divisions at the University of Connecticut, including running the UConn Torrington campus. During that time he forged collaborations and community partnerships with municipal, non-profit and business communities. Menard also brings skills in facilities infrastructure, budget and finance, public safety, community outreach, government and community relations, personnel, staff recruitment and development, information technology, fundraising and donor relations.

“I feel it is a great privilege to join the team of dedicated men and women who comprise the LARC family. Through my work I have seen extraordinary passion, purpose-driven leaders and the satisfaction that comes from making a real difference in the lives of those in the community. Perhaps nowhere is that more apparent to me than through the people I have met at LARC. To be able to help LARC continue to build on its extraordinary reputation in the region and beyond truly is an honor.”

Menard has served in a variety of administrative positions at the University of Connecticut for the past twenty-two years. While at Hartford, he led a full and part-time staff of over 200 people and managed a \$7 million operational budget. He earned a B.A. from Worcester State College, his Master’s Degree and later his Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut. He was part of the Design Team for the North Hartford Health and Wellbeing Collaborative, Board of Directors for the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education, Torrington Development Corporation and Northwest Connecticut Economic Development Commission.



“LARC’s vision of community for all is one that resonates with me in a very special way,” remarked Menard. “I believe in connecting diverse groups of people and organizations with each other, helping them find common ground, and working collaboratively toward shared and mutually beneficial goals. My goal at LARC is to be a catalyst that will help move LARC ever closer to an inclusive community where differing abilities are celebrated.”

The Arc of Litchfield County (LARC), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was founded by families 50 years ago to support loved ones with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Guided by a vision of Community for All, LARC promotes individual empowerment, choice, respect, and dignity. On a daily basis, LARC serves 220 individuals throughout Northwest Connecticut. Services include residential group homes, in-home supports, transportation, day, and employment programs.

###