

The Board of Directors from the Arc of Seneca Cayuga and the Arc of Yates which includes family members of the people we serve announced on November 16th that they will merge into one organization and be known as Mozaic, a name that describes our many diverse people and programs that are being bonded together into one strong community.

“This describes our future as one organization. We hope that you are as excited as we are to see the growth of our organization.”- Allen Connely, CEO of Mozaic.

The two groups are independent, affiliated chapters of The Arc of the United States and The Arc New York and are licensed, contracted service providers of the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities. The agencies provide residential, daytime, employment and social supports to individuals with Intellectual and Developmental disabilities (IDD) and their families.

The Board of Directors Chair, Mary Pat Harris believes this merger will strengthen the agencies position and give them the ability to expand the services and supports they provide throughout the Finger Lakes Region. “The Arc of Seneca Cayuga and the Arc of Yates have a common mission, and passion to advocate for families and people with IDD,” she said. “In creating Mozaic, the combined talents, personalities and gifts can only strengthen the supports that our families have come to expect.”

The merger is expected to serve more than 2,000 people and their families across the Finger Lakes Region. The new group’s 2020 budget will be over \$30 million and the agency will employ more than 700 people. Mozaic will continue operations at Finger Lakes Textiles as a Department of Defense contractor; here Mozaic continues to be able to provide an additional 100 jobs in our community that includes 60 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

“The leading reason for this merger was our intention to expand our services and supports to people with Intellectual and Developmental disabilities and to also include Behavioral Health Services to Medicaid Eligible individuals. We are starting to see more of these needs in our communities and we are in a position to assist.” Connely said. “We will also continue to thrive and grow our business’ including Finger Lakes Textiles as a Department of Defense contractor, and with Arctic Gear our commercial headwear line. We have a lot of big plans to expand our organization and bring more jobs and opportunities into our communities.” Connely continued.

Harris, said the planned merger comes at a time when the state is pushing for nonprofit groups to merge. “Both agencies are at a place where we are able to take this step on our own terms. We’re sister organizations who have worked together over the course of the last two years and this merger brings together more opportunities.”

The integration of both organizations is set to take place over the course of the next year, but we would like to reaffirm that our customers, people we support as well as our community will continue to receive the same high-quality supports and services, they have come to expect.