



Melissa Heifetz Tapped to Serve as Executive Director of Family Synagogue, Steps Down at The Arc of Loudoun

Leesburg, Virginia, April 4, 2018 – Today, The Arc of Loudoun at Paxton Campus announces the departure of Melissa Heifetz, Executive Director, effective April 20 as she takes on the opportunity to serve as the Executive Director of her family synagogue, Congregation Beth Emeth in Herndon. The Chief Operations Officer, YaTonya Abdullah, will assume the duties of the Executive Director on an interim basis until a permanent Executive Director is hired.

Melissa has been with The Arc of Loudoun since 2014; previously serving as the Administrative Director of ALLY “A Life Like Yours” Advocacy Center. During her tenure at ALLY, she grew its advocacy and supported employment programs. She also created the Positive Interactions with Law Enforcement initiative. As Executive Director for the past year, Melissa helped establish two new programs on campus: Aurora Behavior Clinic and Ability Fitness Center. In 2018, Melissa received the Nonprofit Executive of the Year Award at the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce Community Leadership Awards. Melissa says, “Over the last 4 years, it has been my honor to work at The Arc of Loudoun. I have never seen a team as talented, hard-working, and dedicated as the team here. With the incredibly strong leadership in each of the organization’s 5 programs, I am confident that the programs will continue to grow and thrive.”

The staff at The Arc of Loudoun wishes Melissa much success as she transitions into her next role as the Executive Director of the synagogue. Kendra McDonald, Clinical Director for The Aurora School and Aurora Behavior Clinic reflected, “Melissa has been such a strong supporter of all programming for individuals with disabilities at The Arc of Loudoun. She always encouraged the staff to be creative and make things a reality. Personally, she has inspired me to go after things I want to grow on campus. Melissa will definitely be missed. We hope to continue her legacy!”

George Pellicano, President of the Board of Directors of The Arc of Loudoun says, “On behalf of the Board of Directors, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Melissa for her years of service to The Arc of Loudoun at Paxton Campus and as Executive Director for the past year. Under Melissa’s exceptional leadership, The Arc has grown and our programs expanded to support even more individuals with disabilities. We appreciate Melissa and her dedication to ensuring all people in our community have an opportunity to lead ‘A Life Like Yours,’ and we wish her the best of luck in the future.”

The Arc of Loudoun on Paxton Campus...

...maximizes the potential of children while supporting families and individuals with disabilities so that they may thrive in the community.





Paxton Campus
The Arc of Loudoun

601 Catoctin Circle, NE
Leesburg, VA 20176
Tel: 703.777.1939
Fax: 703.777.1935
www.paxtoncampus.org

The Arc of Loudoun at Paxton Campus is a non-profit organization that advocates for and provides direct service to children with disabilities, as well as their families, caretakers, and the professionals who work with them through its many programs: The Aurora School, Open Door Learning Center Preschool, ALLY “A Life Like Yours” Advocacy Center, Aurora Behavior Clinic and Ability Fitness Center. The Arc of Loudoun celebrated 50 years of serving people with disabilities in 2017. To get involved with The Arc of Loudoun you can attend our upcoming spring 2018 events: [50th Anniversary Celebration Gala](#) on April 21st, [Ability Fitness Golf Tournament](#) on May 10th, and [Music at the Manor Festival](#) on May 19th.

For more information visit www.thearcofloudoun.org or contact Morgan Payne, Marketing and Communications Coordinator for The Arc of Loudoun at Paxton Campus, at mpayne@paxtoncampus.org or by phone at 703.777.1939 ext. 106.

The Arc of Loudoun on Paxton Campus...

...maximizes the potential of children while supporting families and individuals with disabilities so that they may thrive in the community.

Serving Loudoun for
50 years
1967-2017

The Arc.
Loudoun