

For immediate release:

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Roosevelt Children’s Center Receives Grant from Wayne County Community Endowment

Roosevelt Children’s Center, a program of Wayne ARC, is pleased to announce that it is the recipient of a grant of \$5000 from the Wayne County Community Endowment. This grant will fund the purchase of communication devices for children served at RCC who present with little to no verbal abilities and who require the use of augmentative communication systems to communicate in more functional ways. Many of the children served at Roosevelt Children’s Center have a variety of deficits which impact their ability to develop age-appropriate social and communication skills. These include limited use of language and gestures and deficits in their ability to routinely observe and learn social skills from others. Children with communication deficits must be taught gestures and appropriate social skills to use in all of the scenarios and locations in which they need to be used.

The Assistive Technology Department at Roosevelt Children’s Center/Wayne ARC provides services that address the complex needs of nonverbal, at-risk students who do not benefit solely from traditional speech therapy and need to develop functional communication skills. Augmentative communication systems serve to overcome the disabling effects of communication impairment through the provision of alternative methods of self-expression. Applications for the iPads are downloaded that allow children to combine symbols or photos to communicate their wants, needs, feelings, etc. to adults and children in their environment. For additional information on this grant, please contact Lynne Ward, Director of RCC at 315-331-2086 ext. 110 or at Lynne.Ward@waynearc.org.

The Wayne County Community Endowment consists of several funds established at Rochester Area Community Foundation for the benefit of Wayne County. Two times per year, the Advisory Committee reviews and analyzes the requests and recommends projects to the Board of Rochester Area Community Foundation. The Advisory Committee also encourages expanded philanthropy to meet the ongoing needs of the Wayne County Community. For additional information on the Wayne County Community Endowment, please contact Lori Banning at (585) 341-4357.

Wayne ARC is a private, not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization serving over 1600 people with and without developmental and intellectual disabilities throughout Wayne County. Roosevelt Children’s Center provides a variety of educational and clinical services to children ages birth to 5 years, and their families. Wayne ARC is also a premier employer locally with over 550 employees. For more information regarding Wayne ARC or Roosevelt Children’s Center please contact us at 315-331-7741, visit us on the web at www.waynearc.org or connect with us on facebook.