



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Anonymous donor gives the gift of safety to people with disabilities**

*The Arc Greater Twin Cities receives donation for Vitals™ Aware Services*

**St. Paul, MN** (Dec. 21, 2017) - An anonymous donor has teamed up with The Arc Greater Twin Cities and Vitals™ Aware Services to give the gift of safety to one hundred Twin Cities families. The Arc supports people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

The Arc announced the generous donation this week in an effort to motivate others to support the expansion of Vitals Aware Services – new potentially life-saving technology designed to create safer interactions between first responders and people with behavioral, mental health and developmental disorders.

“We believe that Vitals™ will promote safety, increase independent living and improve relationships between law enforcement and the mental health community,” said Steve Piekarski, chief program officer, The Arc. “For many of our families, Vitals will be more than a gift. It will support an improved quality of life and a greater peace-of-mind.”

The Arc plans to build awareness of this new service and sees this donation as a great way to promote it to people residing in the newly expanded Vitals™ service communities of St. Paul, Chaska, Roseville, Hopkins and the Three Rivers Park District. Vitals™ Aware Services estimates a cost of \$12,000 to sign up 100 people for a full year’s service plan.

“This is a heartwarming gift that will benefit our most vulnerable population of people. What a wonderful and unique way to participate in the season of giving. We hope this gesture motivates others to give,” said Stan Alleyne, chief of communications and partnerships for Vitals™.



The Vitals™ mobile app gives families of vulnerable individuals the ability to manage a profile that contains information about their loved one's conditions, behavior triggers, de-escalation techniques, medications and caregiver contact information. This information is connected with a Vitals™ beacon and is only shared with law enforcement and first responders when they are within 80' of the beacon.

Vitals™ Aware Services was developed by local entrepreneurs, technologists and investors who were motivated to “give back” after learning about how vulnerable populations are at risk in their communities. The idea is to give first responders crucial information at critical times, so tragedies can be avoided.

In addition to the Arc, Vitals™ is partnering with the PACER Center and the Autism Society of Minnesota, a founding partner, to raise awareness and promote the service.

To learn more about Vitals™ Aware Services, check out our website at [www.thevitalsapp.com](http://www.thevitalsapp.com).

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