

## **Next Chapter Book Club: Branch Opens in Loudoun for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities**

**LEESBURG, Virginia – January 14, 2014** – In early February, a new book club will be starting in Loudoun County. This book club is uniquely geared towards adults with intellectual and cognitive disabilities. The initiative is being created through the *Paxton Campus* and *Loudoun County Public Library*, and with financial support from *100 Women Strong*.

Next Chapter Book Club is a nation-wide program, with a style of facilitating each meeting that empowers and encourages people of all abilities to make friends, read and discuss stories together, and be in a community setting. Club members do not need to be able to read and may participate as much or as little as they want during the twice monthly club meetings. Just like any other book club, members will choose the books they want to discuss, the place they want to meet, and how they want to structure their club. This is the first chapter in the Loudoun County area.

We are seeking adult members for our book club and facilitators to help with the discussions. The Book Club will have its first session on Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm in the Teen Center at Rust Library in Leesburg. The volunteer training will be held on Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm in the ALLY Advocacy Building on Paxton Campus, 601 Catoctin Circle, NE, Leesburg, VA 20176.

If you or anyone you know may be interested in joining the Book Club, or may be interesting in volunteering to facilitate the Book Club Discussions, please contact Rachel Roseberry, her contact details are below.

In 1922, Rachel Paxton had a vision to turn her home and property into a safe and welcoming environment for underprivileged families. In 1967, a group of parents whose children had special needs formed The Arc of Loudoun, a non-profit to start a school for their children when no one else would. In 2010, those two visions combined when The Arc of Loudoun moved to the Paxton Campus. Since then, the Campus has grown into a full-service organization to provide an integrated and innovative learning environment for all ages and abilities. Programs include The Aurora School, Open Door Learning Center preschool, STEP Up vocational training program for adults, and ALLY (“A Life Like Yours”) Advocacy Center, all devoted to serving people with disabilities and their families, as well as helping children of all abilities thrive in our community.

For more information, contact Rachel Roseberry, Communications Coordinator of Paxton Campus, at [roseberry@paxtoncampus.org](mailto:roseberry@paxtoncampus.org) or by phone at 703-777-1939.