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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APPLETON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT HOSTS SECOND LARGEST
WINGS FOR AUTISM EVENT IN U.S.

GREENVILLE, Wis., Oct. 27, 2016 - [The Arc's Wings for Autism®](#) event at [Appleton International Airport](#) Oct. 22 was the second largest Wings For Autism event held in the U.S. since the program began in 2014. The event broke records by drawing in more than 250 participants.

The Wings For Autism event was held in partnership with Appleton International Airport, [Allegiant Air](#), [Autism Society of the Fox Valley](#), [Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation For Autism](#), [Fox Valley Autism Treatment Program](#), [SOAR Fox Cities](#) and [WisconSibs](#).

Wings for Autism helps alleviate some of the stress people with disabilities and their families experience when flying. The program provides families with the opportunity to participate in the entire airport experience by practicing entering the airport, obtaining boarding passes, going through security and boarding an airplane.

Wings for Autism also gives airport, airline, TSA professionals and other personnel the opportunity to observe, interact and deliver services in a structured learning environment.

"We saw many smiles from participants and family members during the event," said Airport



Wings For Autism participants welcomed aboard the plane.



Wings For Autism participants prepare to board the plane.

Director, Abe Weber. "We especially appreciate the support from our local autism agencies; their input really helped make the event a success."

The Arc Senior Executive Officer of National Initiatives, Karen Wolf-Branigin, traveled from Washington D.C. to attend the event.

"The simulated flight experience gives both children and parents the confidence to plan an airplane trip and enjoy a vacation just like everyone else," said Wolf-Branigin.

Appleton International Airport is planning to host two more Wings For Autism events next spring and fall. Visit TheArc.org/WingsForAutism to stay updated on event dates and to sign up.

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Appleton International Airport

Appleton International Airport serves business travelers and vacationers with flights around the country. Allegiant Air flies out of Appleton International Airport to four nonstop destinations. The airport also has flights to major hubs around the U.S. on Delta Air Lines and United Airlines.

The Arc

The Arc is the largest national community-based organization advocating for and serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities including autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy and various other developmental disabilities. The Arc has a network of more than 650 chapters across the country, promoting and protecting the rights of people with I/DD and actively supporting their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes and without regard to diagnosis.

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Stay in touch!



