

Washington, DC -- {U.S. Rep. Michael A. Arcuri (NY-24) was joined by Cayuga County Sheriff David Gould and community members today to announce \$140,000 in congressionally-directed funding secured by Arcuri for a Child Advocacy Center (CAC) in Cayuga County. The funds were included in the Fiscal Year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act, which the President signed into law last week.

“As district attorney in Oneida County for 13 years, I saw first hand how important it is to have a fully integrated support system for children and families faced with a crisis,” **Arcuri said**. “I want to applaud Sheriff Gould and community leaders for working so hard to make sure our children are safe. I also want to thank Ray Bizzari at Cayuga Counseling Services and all the caseworkers who are on the front lines protecting children each and every day. I am glad to bring taxpayer dollars back to the community to protect local families.”

“We, the citizens of Cayuga County, appreciate the hard work Congressman Arcuri has done to get this money for our Child Advocacy Center,” **said Cayuga County Sherriff David Gould**. “It is so much needed in our county to benefit all the victims of abuse. Since Congressman Arcuri took office, I have worked closely with him and he has been an outstanding advocate for the victims of Cayuga County. I know he will continue to help everyone in our county and especially the victims. We really appreciate all he’s doing.”

Cayuga County’s CAC will bring together the law enforcement officials involved in the investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases, the local rape crisis program, and nurses that specialize in treating sexual assault victims within a fully accredited CAC. This will allow the CAC team to streamline services and focus on the specific needs of each child. Funds secured by Arcuri will be used to add and develop the IT infrastructure necessary to support the work of the multi-disciplinary team, CAC staff and other affiliated service providers.

For Fiscal Year 2009, Arcuri secured a total of \$812,264 in congressionally-directed funding for projects in Cayuga County. In addition to \$140,000 for the CAC, Arcuri secured \$196,514 for the Cayuga County Industrial Development Authority to construct a soft cheese production plant in the Aurelius Business Park, as well as \$475,750 for the Cayuga County Regional Digester Facility.

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