

## CCARC Fashion show's a hit

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NEW BRITAIN — CCARC's third annual Toast to Fashion show raised a gross of \$40,000 to support individuals with disabilities throughout the Central Connecticut region.

"This was our best ever fashion show," said Carol Reilly, vice president of development at CCARC. "We're up \$11,000 from the \$29,000 we raised last year and we saw a jump in attendance from last year's 220 people to 300 this year."

The show, held March 28 at St. George Greek Orthodox Church on West Main Street, featured a catered dinner, live and silent auctions, a cash bar and martini bar, with a performance by Prudence Sloane and Joel Silvestro of The Dancing Duo.

Reilly said another popular feature of the show were "dream bags" placed at the center of each table and containing valuable bidding items.

The bags "were named after CCARC's mission to make dreams happen," Reilly said. "Some of our popular auction items included a boat charter and a vacation stay at a home on Martha's Vineyard."

Reilly said she received high praise when she asked attendees for their reviews,

"We had emails flying in," she said. "Our Board President, Dr. Richard Judd, said that one person said 'there is no pretense here' and another said 'the benefit is obvious.'"

Twenty men and women modeled for the show, including such prominent New Britain figures as Mayor Erin Stewart, former Mayor Tim Stewart, Superintendent of Schools Kelt Cooper, and Sharon Beloin-Saavedra, president of the Board of Education. Outfits were provided by Connecticut Furs, Inc. of New Britain, Men's Wearhouse of West Hartford and Silkworm Boutique of West Hartford.

For more information about CCARC, visit [ccarc.com](http://ccarc.com) or call (860) 229-6665.

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