



LIBERTY
ARC

A chapter of **The Arc**
New York

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Liberty ARC Celebrates Commitment, Compassion of Direct Support Professionals

Agency to Hold Week-Long Celebration for Direct Support Staff

Amsterdam – Liberty ARC is recognizing their direct support staff throughout National Direct Support Professional (DSP) Recognition Week from Sept. 11-17. This year’s theme for Liberty ARC’s DSP week is, “Simply the Best.”

During the special week of celebration, Liberty ARC, as well as agencies across the nation, will be thanking their direct support workforce for their commitment to providing top-quality supports and services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR) endorses the national week-long recognition of DSPs and their accomplishments.

“Every day the Direct Support Professionals at Liberty ARC provide excellent supports to those within the agency, and ensure the people they support are living their best lives and meeting their personal goals,” said Jennifer Saunders, CEO of Liberty ARC. “Our hard working DSPs are *simply the best* in the ways they demonstrate their commitment to Liberty ARC’s mission.”

Liberty ARC is thanking their DSPs that work across Montgomery County in special ways for the support they provide with a week full of fun activities, including an ice cream giveaway, corn hole and Jenga competitions, surprise awards, prizes, and a fun, life-size game of Hungry, Hungry Hippos. Montgomery County and the City of Amsterdam representatives also presented proclamations to Saunders and DSPs to celebrate the special week and honor those that serve people with disabilities in the community.

DSPs provide support 24 hours a day, seven days a week in residential homes; and also work in the agency’s days support programs and community settings with people of different ages and abilities. Their selfless roles include providing physical assistance, helping people fulfill their goals in life, and finding ways to engage the people they support with their community.

“The job of a DSP is one of heart and great compassion,” said Candace Opalka, Liberty ARC’s Chief Operating Officer. “It is a fulfilling and rewarding job where close relationships are formed between staff and those they support. Thank you to our direct support staff for each word of encouragement and act of strength and kindness that changes the lives of the people we support. Throughout the week, we ask that you show your appreciation for the DSPs that live and work in our community.”

About Liberty ARC

Liberty ARC, the Montgomery County Chapter of The ARC New York, is a not-for-profit agency that provides top-quality supports and services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We are proud of our six decades of bringing these innovative and valuable programs to those most vulnerable in our community. While staying committed to our framework the agency has grown our employment, residential, day supports, family support and health-related programming throughout the years. Our mission- *Together we support people with disabilities to achieve a quality of life each person values* - together with our *Values* make up the foundation on which our culture is framed. We are extremely proud to be a pioneering agency, which coupled with a dynamic workforce and our person-centered mission makes Liberty ARC a stand-out in our field.

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