



**LIBERTY**  
ARC

A chapter of **The Arc**  
New York

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Liberty ARC Honors Direct Support Professionals for Their Pivotal Role In the Lives of People With Disabilities**

### **Agency Held Week-Long Celebration for Direct Support Staff**

**Amsterdam** – Throughout National Direct Support Professional Recognition Week, Liberty ARC celebrated the hard work and dedication of their direct support workforce.

The special week was held Sept. 10-16. Liberty ARC, as well as agencies across the nation, thanked Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) for their unwavering 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.

“Our DSPs are the heart and soul of our organization. They are the individuals that ensure we are delivering quality services and supporting people to live their best lives,” said Liberty ARC CEO Jennifer Saunders. “Thank you for continually being there for the people you support. They can count on you, whether it’s a shoulder to cry on or to share a success with. Thank you to our Direct Support Professionals for being a part of our agency.”

DSPs provide support 24 hours a day, seven days a week in residential homes, as well as in the agency’s day support programs and community settings working 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. It is a rewarding job where close relationships are formed between the people supported and the DSPs.

To coincide with the life changing work DSPs perform daily, Liberty ARC’s theme for the week of recognition was, “I’ll Be There For You,” based on the hit television show, Friends.

Special ways in which the agency thanked DSPs in Montgomery County and incorporate the theme include a lunch with subs, a coffee bar, free ice cream, scavenger hunts, giveaways, surprise awards, and t-shirts.

“Our DSPs at Liberty ARC are the friend, mentor, teacher, and guide as they walk beside the people we support as they reach for the greatest achievements in their lives,” said Liberty ARC Chief Operating Officer Candace Opalka. “We are truly grateful for who they are and everything they bring each and every day to ensure people are living their best lives.”

### **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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