



News Release: September 23, 2024
Contact Person: Winnie Blackwood
Telephone: 518-954-3203; Mobile: 518-396-6178
Email: blackwoodw@libertyarc.org
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Liberty ARC Celebrates Direct Support Professionals Commitment to People With Disabilities

Agency Held Week-Long Celebration for Direct Support Staff

Amsterdam – Liberty ARC took part in a week-long celebration of their direct support workforce during National Direct Support Professional Recognition Week from Sept. 8-14.

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 throughout the designated week. The American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR) endorses the national week-long recognition of DSPs and their accomplishments.

“Our DSPs deliver each and every day on our mission, ‘Together we support people with disabilities to achieve a quality of life each person values,’” said Jennifer Saunders, Liberty ARC’s CEO. “They ensure the people we support are a member of their community, have a valued role, and get to live their best lives. This week is a wonderful time to thank DSPs for all that they do each and every day.”

DSPs provide support 24 hours a day, seven days a week in residential homes, as well as in the agency’s days 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.

This year’s theme was, “Stronger Together,” signifying and recognizing the unification between Montgomery and Schenectady Counties.

“We would like to thank our DSPs at Liberty ARC. The hard work and compassion that they bring to their jobs every day is immeasurable,” said Liberty ARC’s Chief Operating Office Candace Opalka. “We are so grateful for each of our DSPs. This year is a special year as we welcome DSPs from Schenectady County as part of our team, and as we become one, working together towards the goal of providing the highest quality of supports and services to people with disabilities. We truly are stronger together.”

Liberty ARC thanked their DSPs throughout both counties in special ways for the top-quality support they provide with a week full of activities, including a coffee bar, a luncheon, apple cider and donuts, a t-shirt giveaway, a scavenger hunt, and several raffles.

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 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Montgomery and Schenectady Counties. 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.

###