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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Choices For Community Living Celebrates 20 Years of Service, Commitment to People With Disabilities

**Dover** – Choices for Community Living (CCL) held their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala at the Modern Maturity Center recently to celebrate their years of service in providing top-quality supports to people with disabilities throughout the state of Delaware.

Guests at the gala included CCL staff, people supported, family members, and board members, as well as CEO Jennifer Saunders and Chief Operating Officer Candace Opalka.

"We are so happy to be celebrating CCL's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and the organization's tremendous growth over the past two decades across the state of Delaware," Saunders said. "Together we are celebrating where we are now, as well as honoring our history that got us where we are today. We look forward to the next 20 years of opportunities to continue growing."

Staff and people who receive supports from CCL were recognized at the gala for their milestone years of service with the agency.

Past directors were also recognized for their years of contributions to CCL. Steve Knight was presented with the Champion Award for his unwavering commitment to CCL's Culture. Carrie-Ann Schmidt received the Commitment to Excellence Award for her commitment to excellence and her outstanding Leadership at CCL.

Knight served as the Statewide Director of CCL for over a decade and retired in 2020. Knight was committed to ensuring the organization had a culture of respect, integrity, and family. Four years later into his retirement, Knight is still committed to CCL and works part-time as a Direct Support Professional.

Schmidt was instrumental in the opening and growth of CCL in 2004. Then in 2006, she served as Residential Director until 2010. Currently, Carrie-Ann is a Director of Operations in New York for Liberty ARC, which CCL is a subsidiary of.

"We are where we are in our journey because of their dedication, support and leadership," said Katina Scott, the current Statewide Director of CCL. "Thank you."

## **About Choices for Community Living**

Choices for Community Living Delaware, Inc. (CCL Delaware), is a subsidiary of Liberty ARC, the Montgomery County Chapter of The Arc New York. CCL Delaware has provided top-quality supports and services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities since its founding in February 2004. Today, the agency provides services to 73 individuals throughout the state; including residential, day, and hourly support. Our mission is, "to enable persons with disabilities, their families, and other individuals in need to achieve a quality of life driven by choice." Since 2009, CCL Delaware has been accredited by The Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL), based on our implementation of person-centered services and supports, and their impact on supported individual's quality of life.

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