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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Staff at Liberty ARC Recognized For Milestone Employment Anniversaries**

**Amsterdam** – Liberty ARC held their annual Employee Recognition Dinner in November, recognizing 129 employees who have achieved significant employment milestones with the agency.

During the dinner at Glen Sanders Mansion in Scotia, honorees were recognized who achieved five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40-years of service – with the group totaling an impressive 1,740 cumulative years of employment with Liberty ARC.

“Liberty ARC’s Employment Recognition Dinner is one of my favorite nights of the year as we get to celebrate our employees’ longevity with the agency and their milestone anniversaries,” said Liberty ARC CEO Jennifer Saunders. “We are so proud of this fantastic group of staff members, who are true examples of commitment to Liberty ARC’s mission and values. Congratulations to our milestone employees!”

Deborah Hardy, an Assistant Hab Specialist I, and Residential Manager Nora Pavlak are both celebrating 40 years of employment with Liberty ARC. Deborah is a pivotal team member of the day habilitation programs where she acts as a staff lead and a wealth of knowledge who is always there to help her coworkers with her many years of history with Liberty ARC.

Nora and her extensive experience and deep understanding of Liberty ARC have made her an asset to the organization and an inspiration to other managers. As a manager, Nora fosters a supportive team environment that inspires those around her.

Gail Maloney, Deborah Pac, Patricia Payne, and Catherine Unislawski received 35-year recognition. Gail and Patricia worked in Liberty ARC’s Residential Department, supporting and caring for people with

disabilities on a day to day basis. Gail, who will be retiring in November, is an Assistant Manager Live In, and Patricia is a Direct Support Awake Night. Deborah is a part of the Transportation Department as a Bus Driver, while Catherine Unislawski has worked in the Human Resources Department as the Assistant for the entire 35 years she has been with Liberty ARC.

Other acknowledgements of the evening:

Thirty years of recognition awards were given to Custodian Shawn Carr, Direct Support Professional Timothy Clark; Assistant Director of Clinical Services Jill LaFlamme; Behavior Specialist David Limbrunner; Direct Support Awake Night Dayne Peck; Day Hab Direct Support Professional Edmund Shufelt; and Director of Facilities Management Dennis Yacobucci.

Twenty-five years of recognition awards were given to Director of Employment Services and Industrial Operations Erin Abele; Custodial Supervisor Vincent Deshane; Residential Manager Debby Figueroa; Residential Registered Nurse Sharon Haile; Staff Training Assistant Melissa Lasher; Receptionist Mary Leip; Senior Habilitation Coordinator Melissa Montanye; Day Hab Direct Support Professional David Salvagni; Public Relations Administrative Assistant Beverly Salvo; Senior Habitation Coordinator Rebekah Schuyler; Assistant Manager Robert Spraker Jr.; Physical Therapist Linda Stump; Residential Manager Andrew Sweet; and Assistant Manager Susan Woodcock.

Twenty years of recognition awards were given to: Elena Booth, April Buboltz, Holly Davis, Pamela Delano, Deborah Ham, Melissa Jonker, Lisa Klim, Marie McLean-Blackwood, Renea Pacheco, Molly Serafini, Rebecca Smith, Sarah Snell, and Pamela Wadsworth.

Fifteen years of service awards were given to : Sue Bryant, Trevor Cline, Edward Delgado, Amy Devendorf, Christine Ferris, Sherri Ford, Jenny Hart, Jennifer Place, Yola Richardson, Laura Seredensky, Tricia Smith, Amy Stearns, Lisa Thatcher, and Kenneth Thomas.

Ten years of service awards were given to: Brett Bellinger, Brooke Booth, Patricia DiScenza, Jessica Ferguson, Julian Fitzgerald-Chisholm, Karissa Fitzgerald, Casey Graham, Oleta Haynes, Erin Ilagan, Tammi Kane, r LyRissa Mento, Kevin Parks Brandi Prall, Davendra Ramharak, Demetria Rios, Frank Rivera Jr., Lolalynn Robinson Maggie Rodriguez, Amy Sanchez, Paula Szabo, I Shante Vaughn, Michael Vooys, Adobi Woods.

Five years of service awards were given to: Neil Amyan, Samantha Anthony, Austin Barnes Sandra Becker, Mackenzie Bennett, Mark Bentz, Sheena Blackwood, Kimberly Boles, Antonette Bracchi Mark Brice, Elizabeth Bridge, Magalinnda Clavien, Nikol Casanova, Ashley Chapman, Rafael Curbelo, Peter DuFault, Theodore Elliot, Micah Freeman, Amanda Gatto, Nicole Gifford, Aaliyah Goodson, Matthew Gordon, Jeremy Hotaling, Markie Hugo, Brianne Jennings-Skottke, Jennifer Jessop, Destiny Julien, Robert Kilmer, Michael Knoll, Meghan LaPort, Idalis Lara, JoAnn Logan, Nathan Mandsager, Melanie Margeson, Jesse Markes, Michael May, Benjamin Martin, Rayshona McClaney, Gardy Milor, Jennifer Nichols, Derrick Perry, Kimberly Rickard, Kanika Rozier, Aubrey Smith, Allison Snell, Pablo Torres, Summer VanNostrand, Jimacie Vasquez, Brandon Warner, Cory White, Julia Woodard, and Robert Yesse.

### **About Liberty ARC**

Liberty ARC, a 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.

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