



Left photo: Pictured is Liberty ARC’s Assistant Director of Employment Services Colleen Verhayden, left, with Careers For Me graduate Joseph Velasco, right. **Right photo:** Pictured from left to right is Liberty ARC’s Director of Employment Services and Industrial Operations Erin Abele, Careers For Me graduate Frankie Perez, and Hilda Montalvo-Santiago, a Senior Employment Support Specialist at Liberty ARC, who oversees the Montgomery County portion of the career exploration program.

AMSTERDAM

Vocational accomplishments celebrated at Liberty ARC

Liberty ARC’s Career for Me held a graduation ceremony to recognize 10 people for their hard work in completing the one to two year-long program in their effort to prepare for entering the workforce.

Careers for Me is a time-limited career exploration program. Participants take part in job site tours, attend job fairs, host guest speakers, and learn about different industries.

Each month explores a different industry and set of careers.

Throughout the year, participants are gaining skills and knowledge to prepare for employment while discovering their personal strengths and vocational interests.

Participants also prepare a draft resume, obtain interview skills, participate in trainings transferrable to many workplaces including first aid/ CPR and respectful workplace/harassment, and prepare for their transportation needs.

At the ceremony, participants from both Montgomery and Schenectady Counties were recognized for their accomplishments and presented with certificates. The celebration also included a luncheon and a live musical performance.



Pictured are participants in Liberty ARC’s Careers For Me program during their recent graduation ceremony.

Those who received recognition are Jamie Frederick, Adriel Harris, Shamera Harris-Clark, Autumn L., Nina Maddalla, Gabriel Massey, Ethan Miosek, Frankie Perez, Justin Schram, and Joseph Velasco.

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.

ABOUT THE ARC NEW YORK

The Arc New York is the largest provider of supports and services for people intellectual and developmental disabilities in New York state. The 35 local Chapters of The Arc New York collectively support more than 60,000 people with disabilities and their families in every county of the state, and employ more than 30,000 people in the shared mission to provide people with intellectual, developmental and other disabilities the ordinary and extraordinary opportunities of life. Founded by families more than 75 years ago, The Arc New York continues to be an influential advocate for the rights, opportunities, and inclusion of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.