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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Liberty Receives Walmart Grant

AMSTERDAM- Liberty has been awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Walmart Foundation to assist in expanding the Liberty/Fulton Montgomery Community College (FM) Community Garden. The intent of the gardening program is to increase educational, therapeutic and relationship building options for the individuals Liberty Supports, while fostering a connection to the college and supporting the community through donations of fresh produce to local charities. The program also offers a wide range of volunteer and learning opportunities for school age children, college students and others from the community. The grant funding will be used to purchase equipment and materials that will broaden the scope of the gardening program.

For three seasons of the year, the Liberty/FM Community Garden will provide 70 individuals with developmental disabilities the opportunity to learn how to plant, tend and harvest produce to share with area residents who receive support from local food banks. The individuals in the program work alongside students and faculty volunteers from the college, students from local schools and area residents interested in gardening and community service.

“Liberty is honored to have received a gift like this that will have a tremendous impact on numerous individuals involved in the project,” said Liberty CEO Mike Decker. “This gives us an opportunity to expand an already successful project into a comprehensive program that will benefit the community for years to come.”

Founded in 1957, Liberty is Montgomery County’s primary provider of services for adults with developmental disabilities and the County’s second largest employer, with 780 full and part time staff. At present, approximately 650 adults and children with disabilities receive supports through the organization’s core programs.

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