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PRESS RELEASE

Livingston Co. Catholic Charities Welcomes Special Ministries of Livingston Co.

Livingston County Catholic Charities is excited to share that on November 9, 2020, the Board of Directors of Special Ministries of Livingston County (SMLC) formally made the decision to close the organization as a legal entity. As a small non-profit that provides programming for adults with disabilities, it was becoming increasingly more difficult to manage the organization, financially support the services, and maintain the focus on quality services. With this decision, Special Ministries of Livingston County will remain as a program now at Livingston County Catholic Charities (LCCC). “We believe in these services and in the program participants. We consider it a privilege to be entrusted with the participants and these programs,” shares Mark Robinson, Executive Director at Livingston Co. Catholic Charities.

For the past eighteen months, LCCC has administered the programs of SMLC. This has occurred through a Memorandum of Understanding between the Boards of Directors of the 2 organizations. It has been a blessing for each of us at LCCC to get know the SMLC program participants, employee team members and the caregivers. During this year and a half, the coworkers and Board Members of each organization have learned that we are a good match and that we were ready to make this permanent.

We started out with some great successes in 2019, but then COVID-19 hit in early 2020 and dealt a significant setback to all of us. However, we’ve been working through this as a team, using creativity and commitment to quality service to serve the participants in the best possible fashion. There have been some bumps, but we continue to work through them and we look forward to full activities as soon as the State and County health authorities indicate we can do so in a safe manner. In the meantime, our team continues to schedule an array of virtual activities. Each month a new schedule is posted on our website at www.LivingstonCatholicCharities.org or on the Special Ministries of Livingston County Facebook page.

To assist LCCC to best provide activities and events in this program, we are forming an Advisory Committee. Three members of the SMLC Board of Directors have agreed to serve on this Advisory Committee and we are seeking a small number of caregivers and interested community people to join us. We are planning for the first meeting of this group to occur in mid-to-late January. Please contact Mark Robinson, Executive Director, at mark@livingstoncatholiccharities.org or 517-545-5944 if you are interested in joining us.