

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LIBERTY BANKERS GET READY TO “LEND A HAND”



MIDDLETOWN, CT – During the month of June, residents in towns served by Liberty Bank can expect to see bank employees turning out in force to lend a hand to nonprofit

organizations in their communities. Entitled “Liberty Lends a Hand,” this bank-wide effort will engage every one of the bank’s 684 employees in volunteer projects and collections in all 55 branches throughout the month.

Beginning June 1, 684 employees will take paid time off from their jobs to volunteer for nonprofit projects throughout Liberty’s service area of central, eastern, and shoreline Connecticut. Volunteer projects range from landscaping for a Habitat for Humanity house in Portland and painting the Boys and Girls Club of Waterbury, to cooking a barbecue for veterans in New Haven and preparing for a gala fundraiser in Old Lyme.

Bank branches and workgroups will also conduct collections of items to benefit local nonprofits. These will be held the entire month of June and will include items such as toiletries for local shelters, nonperishable food items for the food pantries, books for children, and more.

“Community service is ingrained in Liberty’s DNA,” said Chandler Howard, president and CEO of Liberty Bank. “We see it as part of our responsibility as a community bank, and it’s always been a strength for us. Liberty Lends a Hand is an opportunity to ramp it up to a new level by focusing our entire team on it for a full month. I’m eager to see how big a difference we can make with an effort like this.” He added that the bank plans to tabulate the results of Liberty Lends a Hand, in terms of volunteer hours, items collected, and nonprofits served.

Liberty Bank offers every employee four full paid days off for community service each year. During 2015, 276 of Liberty’s employees volunteered 13,796 hours of their time to help 312 non-profit

organizations. Organizations include soup kitchens, food pantries, Habitat for Humanity chapters, local schools, and Boys & Girls Clubs across Liberty's footprint.

"Liberty Lends a Hand is a month-long initiative, but our commitment to the community continues year-round," said Howard. "Our goal is not just to have one month of giving, but to leverage that month to inspire more giving throughout the year. There are a lot of people and organizations out there who could benefit from our help. Making a difference for them is what this is all about."

Established in 1825, Liberty Bank is Connecticut's oldest mutual bank, with almost \$4.4 billion in assets and 55 banking offices throughout the central, eastern, and shoreline areas of the state. As a full-service financial institution, Liberty offers consumer and commercial banking, home mortgages, insurance, and investment services. Named as a "Top Workplace" by the Hartford Courant for four consecutive years, Liberty maintains a longstanding commitment to superior personal service and unparalleled community involvement.

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