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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Linda Civill Community Garden open for 2016 season

Ravena, N.Y. – The Linda Civill Community Garden opened Memorial Day weekend for the growing season. Volunteers are still needed to help maintain some of the beds. The project is coordinated by Hope Full Life Center and STARS Intergen, local not-for-profit organizations.

The garden gives people an opportunity to experiment with gardening and help the needy too. Gardeners maintain their individual plots and also help care for beds growing produce specifically for Helping Harvest, Hope Full Life Center's food assistance program for low-income individuals and families. No experience is needed to participate; skilled gardeners are on hand to answer questions throughout the growing season.

All materials needed for the garden, including the raised beds, soil, water, and tools are provided at no cost. Gardeners are required to provide starter plants or seeds for their 4' x 8' bed.

The garden was launched in 2014 and is named in memory of long-time area resident Linda Civill who was an avid gardener and volunteer at many of Ravena's charities, including Helping Harvest.

"We were very proud to see a steady stream of radishes, string beans, peppers, tomatoes, eggplants, onions, carrots and other vegetables from the community garden go home with low-income families in the area last year," said Rebecca Flach, executive director of Hope Full Life Center, which serves the needy through a variety of programs.

Hope Full Life Center and STARS Intergen are grateful for the support of Persico True Value, Crossroads Ford, Flach Development & Realty, Ravena Fire Department and former Town Supervisor Steve Flach who have provided materials and water since the garden's inception.

"Seeing the success of the garden last year makes us even more willing to lend support again this year," said Linda Bruno, executive director of STARS Intergen. "A garden is the perfect place to draw generations together! The STARS Board of Directors and I are only too happy to be a small part this community project. A grant from the Stewart's Foundation allows us to offer this support."

(MORE)

Residents who have a garden of their own, but still want to help, are welcome to participate. Other community groups are also invited to assist. Weeding, watering and other garden tasks require lots of volunteer support. For more information about the community garden visit HopeFullLifeCenter.org or call (518) 756-9091.

About Hope Full Life Center, Inc.

Hope Full Life Center helps the needy in our community and around the world through Helping Harvest, a food assistance program; Gracefully Chic Boutique, a gently used clothing shop; Peace of Home, which sells affordable furniture and home décor; and Cross Culture Market, an international program that sells largely fair trade products to help poor, abused and forgotten people around the world (crossculturemarket.org). Visit HopeFullLifeCenter.org or learn more about us on Facebook.

About STARS Intergen

STARS Intergen strives to enrich the lives of students and older adults through quality programs that benefit all participants and the community as a whole. Learn more about them at starsintergen.org.

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