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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 16, 2015

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COMMISSIONERS RECOGNIZE INTELLECTUAL & DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

Cumberland County, PA – At their public meeting today, the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners presented a Proclamation to Sue Carbaugh, Director of the Cumberland-Perry Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Office, in recognition of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in March. The goal is to increase public awareness and understanding of people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities so these individuals have access to community resources for employment, education, housing and social opportunities to improve their quality of life.

Individuals with IDD want to be recognized for their abilities and gifts, and to have dignity and status. They want to be contributing members of their communities by voting, working for pay, volunteering, participating in leisure activities, going to church, owning or renting their own home, and living among family and friends without being segregated. They want to be free from poverty and have a chance to be successful in their lives.

Individuals with IDD want to have the same rights afforded to all citizens. They want to be free to exercise choice in their lives – to live where they want to live, to associate with the people they choose, to move from place to place, to go on vacation, and to negotiate risk. Having control over their lives is very important to IDD individuals, including their relationships, their money, and the services and support resources that are available to them.

The services and supports for individuals with IDD in Cumberland and Perry Counties emphasize choice, control, freedom, and success and are developed in the individuals' home communities. Individuals with IDD are valued members of our communities who deserve our support. For more information on the services and programs provided by the Cumberland-Perry Office of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities visit online at www.ccpa.net/mhidd.

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