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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Camden Life Center Awarded \$839,000 Grant from the Mother Cabrini Foundation

Camden, New York (January 2025) – The Camden Life Center is honored to announce that it has been awarded \$839,000 in funding from the Mother Cabrini Foundation. This transformative grant will enable the launch of the Community Café initiative, a multifaceted program designed to strengthen the well-being and resilience of families and individuals in our rural community.

The funding will support the hiring of three key staff members who will spearhead efforts to establish:

A **Teaching Kitchen** that promotes healthy eating and culinary skills.

A **Youth Center** offering safe, substance-free recreational opportunities for local youth.

Recovery Café Meetings, providing peer support and a sense of belonging for individuals in recovery.

Starting in January 2025, these new team members will temporarily operate out of the Camden Life Center's administrative space as we work toward securing funds to renovate our cafe to accommodate the full scope of this program.

This grant reflects the shared mission of the Mother Cabrini Foundation and the Center for Family Life and Recovery to empower underserved communities. The Community Café initiative will create opportunities for connection, growth, and healing for residents of Camden and the surrounding areas.

The Camden Life Center offers a wide variety of services through thoughtful partnerships with service agencies. Working together, partner agencies such as Come to the Table Counseling, Center for Family Life and Recovery, Helio Health, Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency, the YWCA, and others each bringing their own unique specialization of services and programs to our community. The goal of this collaboration is to bring the most requested and needed services and support right onto Main Street, Camden.