



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PITTSBURGH MERCY'S  
3RD ANNUAL "BLOOMING ON BAUM" PLANT SALE MAY 25  
TO BENEFIT ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH NATURE**

**PITTSBURGH (May 3, 2018)** – Want to “grow” your garden and help the community this spring? [Pittsburgh Mercy Intellectual Disabilities Services' Alternative Training & Employment Center](#), a day support, employment, and training program for adults with intellectual disabilities, invites the public to attend the **3rd Annual Blooming on Baum Plant Sale** on **Friday, May 25, 2018**, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Center, 4749 Baum Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (Bloomfield).

The sale will feature plants and vegetables that were grown from seed and cared for by the Center's gardeners, including, but not limited to: five varieties of tomatoes; sweet and purple basil; cilantro; coleus; geraniums; marigolds; and more. Participants will receive helpful advice directly from the Center's gardeners.

The requested donation is \$1-6 per plant. The proceeds from the sale will benefit people with disabilities through nature.

“Offering opportunities to interact with nature is one of the many innovative ways that we at Pittsburgh Mercy are promoting whole-person well-being, healthy lifestyle behaviors, and community inclusion for the persons we serve,” stated Jeff Bisdee, program supervisor at Pittsburgh Mercy's Alternative Training & Employment Center. The Center serves 40 adults with disabilities. “Our participants take great pride in nurturing the young plants from seed, watching them bud and grow, and seeing others enjoy the fruits of their efforts.”

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### **3rd Annual Blooming on Baum Plant Sale**

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Gardening and other nature-related programs help promote multiple dimensions of well-being. Gardening offers a stimulating environment. It also increases physical activity, encourages social integration, and promotes emotional well-being by improving mood and behavior.

For a third consecutive year, gardeners from Pittsburgh Mercy will work alongside first responders to plant and care for a community garden at City of Pittsburgh EMS Medic 9 & Rescue 1 Station at 836 South Millvale Avenue in Bloomfield, a half-block away from the Center, noted Bisdee. Past harvests from the garden have been used to prepare healthy snacks.

“The gardeners really enjoy getting out and giving back to the community,” stated Bisdee. “People also tend to appreciate and enjoy the food more when they’ve grown it themselves.”

For more information about the 3rd Annual Blooming on Baum Plant Sale, please contact Jeff Bisdee at 412-661-8916.

#### ***About Pittsburgh Mercy***

[Pittsburgh Mercy](#), a member of [Trinity Health](#), serving in the tradition of the [Sisters of Mercy](#), is a person-centered, population-based, trauma-informed community health and wellness provider. Pittsburgh Mercy is one of the largest employers and the only Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Pittsburgh Mercy includes Bethlehem Haven, McAuley Ministries, Mercy Behavioral Health, Mercy Community Health, Pittsburgh Mercy Intellectual Disabilities Services, Pittsburgh Mercy Parish Nurse & Health Ministry Program, Pittsburgh Mercy’s Operation Safety Net®, and Pittsburgh Mercy Family Health Center. Together, these Pittsburgh Mercy programs and their 1,700 employees serve more than 33,000 individuals annually at more than 60 locations in Southwestern Pennsylvania. To learn more about Pittsburgh Mercy or to make a donation in support of its important work in the community, visit [www.pittsburghmercy.org](http://www.pittsburghmercy.org).

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