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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Variety-The Children’s Charity grants \$20,000 towards the furnishings for a Youth Achievement Center

Des Moines, IA (September 26, 2015) Variety-The Children’s Charity of Iowa awarded Freedom for Youth Ministries (FFYM) \$20,000. These funds will help furnish the Youth Achievement Center with mobile and stackable tables and chairs. The Youth Achievement Center will be used to train the youth employed at Freedom Blend Coffee (FBC). Freedom for Youth Ministries empowers youth across Iowa through the love of Jesus Christ to break bondages, discover their God-given talents, and lead transformed lives.

For the past 3 years, Freedom for Youth Ministries (FFYM) has employed homeless young adults who reside in their transitional housing program to roast, package, and sell gourmet coffee to churches, businesses and individuals. Through the existing business of Freedom Blend Coffee, FFYM is building a full-scale coffee house, offering the opportunity to employ and train hundreds of high school, and young adult students in the future.

“We are excited that Variety – The Children’s Charity partnered with us in 2015 to help build the coffee shop. Now they are helping us furnish the Youth Achievement Center inside the coffee shop where the youth will be trained. They understand our vision of teaching young people how to be well-rounded employees!” said Mark Nelson, the Executive Director at Freedom for Youth Ministries.

“These young people are eager to work and will gain invaluable work skills, such as effectively communicating with customers, developing a positive attitude and working productively, said Brandon Beaman, Freedom Blend Coffee’s Manager.

About Variety-The Children’s Charity: Variety is dedicated to improving the lives of underprivileged, at-risk and special needs children. Funding is provided to programs and initiatives that directly impact the well-being of children throughout Iowa. For more information on how you can be a part of Variety’s work, please visit varietyiowa.com.

About Freedom for Youth Ministries: This ministry was founded in 2003 it serves K-12 and young adults. The 6 acre Des Moines campus includes a wood shop, art/pottery studio, worship center, mechanical shop, welding shop, computer lab, coffee roasterie/shop, teaching kitchen and recreational center. Volunteers teach classes in these areas and/or mentor and/or tutor the youth. There are 2 residences for young adults nearby that provide transitional housing for men and women. There are other Freedom for Youth centers statewide, currently in Mitchellville, Stuart, Perry and Winterset and four others in the Des Moines metro area. For more information please visit www.freedomforyouth.org or call (515) 282-4822.

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