

CPW Hosts 7th Annual Autism Awareness Walk

On Thursday April 25, 2019, Cerebral Palsy of Westchester (CPW) hosted its 7th Annual Autism Awareness Walk at the United Preschool in White Plains, in celebration of National Autism Awareness Month. The students, wearing matching blue shirts and animal-themed sunglasses, completed two laps around their campus with smiles on their faces, singing and dancing along to accordion accompaniment by Chloe Thompson, the school's musical therapist. A visit by the White Plains Fire Department, Station 7, made the day extra special. The firemen told the children about fire safety and showed them the gear used in fighting fires.

A *Pieces of Hope Tree* was created and is on display at the Preschool, filled with personalized puzzle pieces hand drawn by the students and purchased by supporters to raise awareness and to raise money for CPW's autism services that benefit children and young adults. In addition to CPW's United Preschool, additional services include a teen and young adult social club and our Saturday Explorers adaptive recreation program.



About CPW's United Preschool: The United Preschool Center (UPC), located in White Plains, offers an integrated learning experience for children with and without disabilities. UPC promotes a learning environment where all students are welcome, safe, and valued, with appropriate supports to participate alongside their peers. Teachers and staff ensure that children reach their full potential by embracing diversity among all learners, providing flexible learning and assessments, and laying the foundation for education equity in all aspects of students' lives. Specialized services include speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychological counseling, and music. For more information please contact the Program Director at 914-946-4781 or email info@cpwestchester.org.

About Cerebral Palsy of Westchester: Celebrating its 70th year in 2019, Cerebral Palsy of Westchester's mission is to advance the independence, productivity, and full citizenship of people with all developmental disabilities including autism, neurological impairments, intellectual disabilities, epilepsy and cerebral palsy. Through a comprehensive network of educational programs, therapeutic services, employment training, recreations, advocacy and residential sites, the agency has helped thousands of children and adults in Westchester and Fairfield Counties live more productive and satisfying lives. The organization's motto is: Realizing Tomorrow's Potential . . . Today!

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