



Green Today, Sustain Tomorrow!



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cerebral Palsy of Westchester is Now Green Certified *through The Green Business Partnership!*

Rye Brook, NY – March 23, 2021 – Cerebral Palsy of Westchester (CPW) is thrilled to announce that, as of February 18, 2021, it has been certified through The Green Business Partnership (GBP), recognizing its commitment to sustainability. The certification was celebrated during a virtual ceremony today via Zoom with local legislators and business leaders in attendance. CPW's Executive Director Linda Kuck opened the event by thanking those who helped CPW to achieve this milestone. The presentation was made by Scott Fernqvist and Dani Glaser of The Green Business Partnership with congratulations provided by Ken Jenkins, Deputy County Executive; Paul Rosenberg, Mayor of Rye; John Ravitz, COO of the Business Council of Westchester; Laura Rizzo on behalf of Con Edison and Laura Rossi on behalf of Westchester Community Foundation. The online event was attended by over 85 people, including County Legislators Debbie Friedman and Nancy Barr; Village of Rye Brook administrators and trustees including Chris Bradbury, Jason Klein and Briggitte Dix; and other local officials, along with CPW staff, program participants, friends and families.

The Green Business Partnership is a mission-driven nonprofit membership organization that awards official green business certification. Businesses and nonprofits join to gain access to the proprietary GBP Greenhouse Gas Emissions Tool and comprehensive online tools used to increase efficiency and save money. Organizations certified by the GBP receive an official seal to validate and promote their commitment to sustainability.

According to Dani Glaser, CPW's "submission for certification demonstrated extensive accomplishments across all program areas: organizational commitment, energy, waste management, transportation, land use, and water." CPW employees exhibit sustainable practices each day, utilizing reusable mugs, and conserving paper and electrical energy. The eco-friendly measures also extend to the agency's program participants, who take part in an annual gardening contest, where creativity is illustrated through uniquely crafted gardens and bird feeders made from recycled items.

CPW's Green Committee was formed in 2011, and the organization's journey with the GBP began in 2014. The committee, made up of CPW staff and program participants, provides an eco-friendly focus for the agency and created a framework to push for GBP certification. Over the years, *GREEN TODAY, SUSTAIN TOMORROW* has become CPW's slogan, representing the agency's effort to reduce waste, and to educate staff and participants on the importance of protecting the environment with the future of the earth in mind. Prior to this year's certification, CPW had been recognized with two awards through

the GBP: *Outstanding Achievement Award for Organizational Commitment* in 2016, and *The Charles W. Brown Jr. Sustainability Award for Visionary Leadership and Commitment to Sustainability* in 2020.

At the conclusion of today's celebration, CPW's Green Committee Chair Genette Gibbs emphasized that the agency continues to ask, "what's next?" CPW will remain proactive, looking for new ways to be green, as well as educate incoming staff and program participants on the importance of sustainability to maintain CPW's eco-friendly environment in the coming years.

Now in its 72nd year, **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, day services, residential sites, therapeutic services, employment training, recreation programs and advocacy, the agency helps 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!*

For more information about The Green Business Partnership, go to <https://www.greenbusinesspartnership.org/>

For more information about CPW, go to <https://cpwestchester.org/> or contact Tia Levinson, Director of Development and Public Relations, at (914) 937-3800 x353 / tia.levinson@cpwestchester.org.

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Thank you!

