



Media Contact:
Tia Levinson, Director of Development and PR
(914) 937-3800 ext. 353
tia.levinson@cpwestchester.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cerebral Palsy of Westchester Announces Ida Storm Relief Fund

Storm Ida causes Major Damage to the Nonprofit's Building and Equipment

RYE BROOK, NY, September 13, 2021– Cerebral Palsy of Westchester (CPW) announces the kickoff of a \$500,000 fundraising campaign to raise funds to repair its building and property. CPW incurred over \$1 million in flood damages caused by remnants of Tropical Storm Ida on September 2, 2021, when a storm surge from an adjacent brook engulfed its entire 50,000 sq. ft. one floor main building.

The catastrophic damages include floor replacement, insulation removal/sheetrock repair throughout the entire building; and technology equipment losses, including 40+ computers; medical and rehabilitation equipment and supplies including disposable bibs, diapers, wipes, gloves, face masks and shields, musical instruments, art supplies, gym mats, therapy balls, furniture, and office supplies. The storm has forced the temporary closure of the main building that houses a special education day school for 84 children with multiple disabilities; a day habilitation program for 110 adults with disabilities who participate in activities, formalized training, and services that improve self-help, socialization, and daily living; as well as a Respite program serving 26 individuals and their families. 250 employees have been displaced including direct support professional staff, schoolteachers, therapists (occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy), administration, IT, facilities, and transportation personnel.

CPW is seeking funds as insurance will not cover all repair and replacement costs. Anyone interested in making a donation, please consider the following:

- For direct donations, visit CPW's website at <https://cpwestchester.org/donate> or mail a check to: Cerebral Palsy of Westchester, attn: Development Dept
1186 King Street, Rye Brook, NY 10573
- To purchase needed replacement supplies, visit our wishlist of items on Amazon.com at https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1ZPVTRP2SW61R?ref=wl_share
- For donations of furniture or services, please contact Stephanie Russo, CPW's Associate Executive Director, at stephanie.russo@cpwestchester.org or (914) 937-3800 ext. 411

Cerebral Palsy of Westchester, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, was founded in 1949. With a main campus located in Rye Brook and now in its 72nd year, CPW'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. To the best of our knowledge, we are the largest such agency in the region and annually serve more than 1,500 adults and children with developmental disabilities. Through a comprehensive network of educational programs, day services, residential sites, therapeutic services, employment training, recreation programs and advocacy, the agency helps children and adults in the region live more productive and satisfying lives. The organization's motto is: *Realizing Tomorrow's Potential . . . Today!*

For more information, contact Tia Levinson, CPW's Director of Development and Public Relations, at 914-937-3800 ext. 353 or email tia.levinson@cpwestchester.org.

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