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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Westchester Building Inspectors Bring Gifts of Joy to Children of Cerebral Palsy of Westchester's BRIDGE School in Rye Brook

RYE BROOK, NY – NYSBOC (New York State Building Officials Conference) Westchester Chapter members supported a Secret Santa event for students of CPW's BRIDGE School on December 20, 2023. Each BRIDGE School student received an individualized gift, which would not have been possible without the generous and dedicated members of NYSBOC's Westchester Chapter and their families who purchased, wrapped, and donated over 70 presents. NYSBOC State President Sal Pennelle joined BRIDGE staff in handing out presents and cheering on the students as they sat with Santa. The event was a wonderful experience and brightened the day of all in attendance.



L-R: Joseph Saracino (NYSBOC Chapter Treasurer), Joe Russo (NYSBOC Chapter Secretary), Sal Pennelle (NYSBOC State President), Frank Diodati (NYSBOC Chapter President), Linda Kuck (CPW Executive Director), Stephanie Russo (CPW Associate Executive Director), Tia Tibbitts Levinson (CPW Director of Development), Steven Stanislawczyk (NYSBOC Member), Lawrence Chiulli (NYSBOC Chapter Vice President). Photo by Honora Banks.

The New York State Building Officials Conference Westchester Chapter, under the leadership of Frank Diodati, has been a tremendous supporter of Cerebral Palsy of Westchester over the past 12 years. Since 2012, members have donated holiday gifts to each student in CPW's school program, and in 2014 chose CPW as their charity of choice. Proceeds from their annual fundraising events have been used for capital

improvements to CPW's main campus in Rye Brook, including renovations to the gym, construction of a sensory room, and the development of CPW's adaptive playground, Harmony Park.

New York State Building Officials Conference Westchester Chapter is an organization of building officials who meet regularly to review code updates and code enforcements at 42 municipalities in Westchester County. The group currently has 150 active members.

Celebrating its 75th year in 2024, **Cerebral Palsy of Westchester's** mission is to advance the independence, productivity, and full citizenship of people living with all developmental disabilities including autism, neurological impairments, intellectual disabilities, epilepsy, and cerebral palsy. CPW's main campus is located in Rye Brook, NY, housing a special education school, an adult day habilitation program and recreation programs. CPW operates the United Preschool Center in White Plains, as well as seven group homes throughout Westchester. 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, visit cpwestchester.org.

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



L-R: Barry Wasser (BRIDGE School Principal), Santa (Freddie Rivera – BRIDGE School Teacher's Aide), Joan Colangelo (CPW Director of Special Projects), Linda Kuck (CPW Executive Director), Sal Pennelle (NYSBOC State President). Photo credit Honora Banks.

Please see more images on next page.



Santa (Freddie Rivera - BRIDGE School Teacher's Aide) with BRIDGE School students. Photo credit Honora Banks.