



June 24, 2024  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Tia Tibbitts Levinson  
914-937-3800 ext. 353  
tia.levinson@cpwestchester.org

## The BRIDGE School at Rye Brook Honors Six Graduates with Guest Speakers NYS Senator Shelley B. Mayer and Westchester County Legislator Nancy Barr

RYE BROOK, NY – Cerebral Palsy of Westchester’s BRIDGE School at Rye Brook, a NYS Department of Education-approved special education center serving students with disabilities, ages 5 to 21, held its graduation ceremony on the morning of Tuesday June 18, 2024. The school’s six graduates in formal cap and gown attire were surrounded by their peers from the BRIDGE School, as well as staff, family, and friends, for this special day. Hosted by Principal Barry Wasser, the ceremony opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by the graduates. Musical performances were provided by CPW’s Vocal Groove Ensemble. Guest Speakers NYS Senator Shelley B. Mayer and Westchester County Legislator Nancy Barr spoke on behalf of the State of New York and Westchester County, congratulating the graduates on this wonderful achievement, and wishing them luck in all their future endeavors.



Left Image (L-R): Senator Shelley B. Mayer, Westchester County Legislator Nancy Barr, Graduate Jesus D.A., School Principal Barry Wasser.  
Right Image: (L-R) Teacher Aide Chania Hart, BCBA Patricia Bevilacqua, Graduate Justin P., Teacher Aide Patrena Galimore, Graduate Lajah P., Occupational Therapist Aileen Moncion, Graduate Noor H., Clinical Supervisor Tina Weisman, Graduate Iara G., Speech Therapist Mike Solano, Graduate Jesus D.A., Teacher Jennifer Oliveri, Graduate Malakeih C., Senator Shelley B. Mayer, and Westchester County Legislator Nancy Barr.  
Photo Credit Honora Banks.

Senator Shelley B. Mayer remarked, “Congratulations to the BRIDGE School Class of 2024! I am honored to again be the guest speaker for this year’s commencement and to be a part of this significant milestone for the six incredible graduates. Thank you to Cerebral Palsy of Westchester and Principal Barry Wasser for inviting me to join the celebration.” During the program, six students from Cerebral Palsy of Westchester’s BRIDGE School program were awarded the Triple “C” Award. Each year through the Triple “C” Program, NYS Attorney General Letita James recognizes students for their milestone achievements, acknowledging Commitment, Character and Courage.

A slideshow closed out the ceremony, highlighting the graduates' journeys at the BRIDGE School over the years. Teachers offered words of encouragement to each of the graduates and Principal Wasser presented framed commencement certificates. Congratulations BRIDGE School Class of 2024!

**The BRIDGE School at Rye Brook**, a division of Cerebral Palsy of Westchester, is a special education center serving students with multiple disabilities. It offers a comprehensive program that connects families, students, and educational professionals to help each student reach their academic potential and discover what the possibilities are for them beyond the school setting.

Celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, **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 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](mailto:tia.levinson@cpwestchester.org).*

*Additional images on following page.*



Graduates leading the Pledge of Allegiance



Graduates receiving commencement certificates from BRIDGE School Principal Barry Wasser