



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

HAUPPAUGE, NY -- Rodd Andrews, District Manager for Walgreens, and Smithtown Store Manager Dan Lewis recently gave a presentation to professionals from The Employment Connection at United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) Suffolk about employment opportunities available with the drug store chain.

Walgreens exemplifies a corporate employer who recognizes the untapped labor source of individuals with disabilities. Know for its' outreach in hiring individuals with disabilities who qualify for new and vacant positions within the company, 40% of the company's workforce at its' South Carolina warehouse are people with a disability.

"Both The Employment Connection – UCP Suffolk and Walgreens have a reputation for providing employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. With the company's expanding presence on Long Island, it is natural for Walgreen's to partner with UCP Suffolk's The Employment Connection meets both of our needs," said Rodd Andrews.

In the past year, over 600 individuals were served through The Employment Connection. The menu of services offered includes, employment evaluation, training and job placement. Of those individuals, over sixty percent had learning disabilities and physical disabilities caused by stroke, heart disease, multiple sclerosis, and various physical injuries. The other forty percent were individuals with cerebral palsy, neurological, cognitive and physical challenges. Employment These goals can and do range from those entering into first time employment to those re-entering the workforce after an illness or injury.

According UCP Suffolk's Director of Adult Day Services, Pat Caso, "Clearly, Walgreens realizes the potential of people with a disability, as evidenced by the company's past hiring practices. A partnership between us would be beneficial for both organizations. It would allow The Employment Connection to place its skilled, qualified, dedicated workers in vacant positions, while filling the growing employer demands of Walgreens as it expands across Long Island."

For information on employment services offered by UCP-Suffolk's The Employment Connection contact Gary Crowe, Employment Coordinator at 631-232-0011 ext 511.

About United Cerebral Palsy -UCP Suffolk, based in Hauppauge, NY, supports almost 4,000 children and adults with disabilities and their families annually by providing services which include, but are not limited to, job training and placement, physical therapy, individual and family support, as well as early intervention, preschool, school age, adult day and residential programs. UCP also operates a Health Center and Center for Assistive Technology Services. For more information, visit www.ucp-suffolk.org or call 631-232-0011.

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