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## **United Cerebral Palsy of Suffolk Recognizes 1,195 Years of Staff Dedication**

**Hauppauge, NY** – The excellence and longevity of 124 members of the dedicated United Cerebral Palsy of Suffolk (UCP) staff were publicly acknowledged and applauded at the 19th Annual UCP Employee Recognition Awards Breakfast held recently in Hauppauge. The ceremony was made possible by the generous underwriting support of returning sponsor, People's Alliance Federal Credit Union.

According to UCP Suffolk's President and CEO, Stephen H. Friedman, "As we embark upon our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary we are pleased to acknowledge a combined total of 1,195 years of quality service in five-year increments, from five to 40 years. This event highlights the extraordinary commitment and longevity of our employees who have made it possible to provide exemplary service over the past 60 years. These are the folks, who go the extra mile without being asked, and care deeply about our UCP participants, and their co-workers. They truly take pride in their jobs and in our agency. They more than deserve the recognition they are given today. Their consistent dedication has helped to foster a quality of excellence that is evidenced in all of the programs and services throughout UCP Suffolk."

Director of Human Resources, Jayne Mancusi, formally acknowledged employee Karen Gramarossa for her continued devotion and on-going efforts to encourage Life Without Limits for people with disabilities. An Assistant Coordinator - Day Habilitation Services, Karen does much more than merely assist in coordinating the daily activities and keep fastidious records and logs which ensure the Day Habilitation program runs smoothly. The participants and her co-workers appreciate her knowledge, respect, friendship and support. The staff recognizes her as humble, positive, and precise and a true advocate for people with disabilities. For these attributes, and the stellar example she sets for others in the agency, Karen was presented with the *2009 UCP Quality is Excellence Award*.

During the ceremony, two members of the Suffolk Board of Directors were re-inducted for new, three-year terms. Board Chair, Colleen West-Levy expressed admiration for her colleagues and the UCP staff. She praised the dedication of all being recognized at the breakfast and offered her continued leadership and determination in fulfilling the agency mission.

**About United Cerebral Palsy:** UCP Suffolk, based in Hauppauge, NY, provides services to 4,000 children and adults with disabilities annually throughout Suffolk County, sixty five percent of whom have a disability other than cerebral palsy. The Children's Center offers early intervention, preschool and school age educational programs. Programs for adults include adult day services, job training and placement and residential opportunities. UCP also operates a comprehensive Health Center. For information, visit [www.ucp-suffolk.org](http://www.ucp-suffolk.org) or call 631-232-0011.

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