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NEWS RELEASE

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Westchester County welcomes Mentoring Day participants Including students from New Rochelle High School

White Plains, NY.... New Rochelle High School Project Search students were given the opportunity to explore a field that interests them as CAREERS for People with Disabilities, Inc. (CAREERS) coordinated the fourth annual Mentoring Day on October 27th. A collaboration with Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino, the Westchester Office for the Disabled and ACCES-VR, the event paired mentors from throughout the County and individuals with disabilities who were interested in learning about the skills needed to be successfully employed.

“Westchester’s Mentoring Day is a wonderful opportunity for individuals with disabilities and County employees to share their strengths and learn from each other,” remarked CAREERS Executive Director Tina Cornish-Lauria, who has organized the event for the past four years. “As always, Westchester County staff made our participants feel welcome and needed. Everyone involved valued the experience,” Cornish-Lauria said.

Seven students from New Rochelle High School, as well as clients from CAREERS, Keon Center, WJCS and ACCES-VR were matched with volunteer County mentors, based on the interests of each mentee. County departments hosting the students were Human Resources, Tourism, Parks and Recreation, Office for People with Disabilities, County Attorney’s Office and Corrections. Students worked side by side with mentors for several hours performing tasks including data entry and clerical work, responding to inquiries and researching events. Participants at the Department of Corrections were taken on a tour of the facility.

At the end of their mentoring shift, students received certificates from Westchester’s Deputy County Executive Kevin Plunkett, who noted how honored he was to be able to be part of this special day in Westchester County.

Since 1987, CAREERS has provided job placement and support services to people with disabilities in Westchester and Putnam Counties, and provided services to over 2,500 others. CAREERS’ mission is to insure that all individuals with disabilities find sustained, meaningful employment in the communities in which they live. We work one-on-one with each client and employer to facilitate ongoing success in the workplace and help those with disabilities reach their maximum level of

self-support and self-reliance. All of CAREERS' services are provided free of charge to clients and employers.

For additional information about how CAREERS helps disabled individuals, or for employers in need of qualified help, contact CAREERS' Valhalla office at (914) 741-8500. For more information, please visit www.careersforpeoplewithdisabilities.org.



Christopher Lovello, a student in New Rochelle High School's Project Search Program, receives a Certificate of Appreciation from Deputy County Executive Kevin Plunkett for his participation in Westchester County Mentoring Day. Christopher spent the morning working in the Office for People with Disabilities.

Mentoring Day Participants were thanked by Deputy County Executive Kevin Plunkett, standing back row, fourth from right and Evan Latainer, Director of the Westchester County Office for People with Disabilities, kneeling center.

