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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Putnam County Government Welcomes Mentoring Day Participants

Carmel, New York, May 25, 2018 Area residents had an opportunity to learn by mentoring with Putnam County staff as part of the Seventh Annual Mentoring Day, a collaboration with CAREERS Support Solutions, Carmel High School, The ARC of Putnam and Putnam County government.

Participants were welcomed to Corner Stone Park in Carmel by County Executive Mary Ellen Odell and CAREERS' Executive Director Tina Cornish-Lauria. Mentors from County Departments were paired with individuals with disabilities who are interested in learning skills needed to be successfully employed.

"Students are thinking about life after high school during this time of year and Mentoring Day is a great way to see what it takes to be effective in the workplace," remarked CAREERS Executive Director Tina Cornish-Lauria. "County Executive Odell and her staff are gracious hosts and everyone involved learns from this unique community experience," Cornish-Lauria said.

Participants from CAREERS, Carmel High School and The ARC Putnam were matched with volunteer County mentors from departments including Social Services, Sheriff's Department, Transportation, Veterans Service Agency and the County Clerk's Office. Working side by side with their mentors, they learn organizational, computer and administrative skills, customer service and maintenance.

"Mentoring Day breaks down barriers—both the ones that society contrives with preconceived notions and the ones that each of us develops of our own limits," said Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell. "Every year I hear from the departments how mentees exceed expectations and I see how proud the participants from CAREERS are to accomplish goals. Mentoring Day brings awareness to the community and confidence to those with special needs."

About CAREERS Support Solutions, Inc.

Since 1987, CAREERS has provided job placement and support services to people with disabilities in Westchester and Putnam Counties, and provided services to over 2,700 individuals

with disabilities. 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 individuals and their families, as well as employers.**

For additional information about how CAREERS helps individuals with disabilities and low-income, long-term unemployed, as well as employers in need of qualified help, contact CAREERS' Carmel office, which serves northern Westchester and Putnam Counties, at 845-225-8007. For more information, please visit www.careersupportsolutions.org.

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