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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 12, 2020

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<u>CAREERS Support Solutions Celebrates 33 Years</u> <u>of Providing Jobs for People with Disabilities</u>

Honoring Employees' Perseverance and Dedication Takes on Added Significance Due to Health Crisis

Valhalla, New York, November 12th, 2020 – CAREERS Support Solutions celebrated 33 years of helping people with disabilities achieve the dignity, financial independence and sense of community they deserve through having jobs they enjoy during a virtual celebration on Tuesday, November 10th.

The annual event honored people who have shown excellence in a variety of areas throughout the year. The awards this year held extra meaning due to COVID-19, as many CAREERS' clients work in essential businesses and have been working since the beginning of the healthcare crisis. Their ability to go to work every day and perform well, maintain a positive attitude, manage stress and stay healthy during this unprecedented time takes uncommon commitment and hard work. Among the key honors given were Employee of the Year, Employer of the Year, Supervisor of the Year, Most Improved and Outstanding Co-worker Awards. (full list of awards attached).

For the 16th consecutive year, **PepsiCo EnAble** was the Premier Sponsor of the event and first-time Supreme Sponsor was **CVS Health. Curry Automotive** and **Enea, Scanlan & Sirignano** were Major Sponsors.

Contributing Sponsors include: Contemporary Care, Croonquist Group, Hart Vida & Partners, James Quinn Painting, Karen Brown, Kitson Law Firm, New York-Presbyterian Hospital, ShopRite Supermarkets, and Unitex Textile Rental Services.

Awards of Appreciation were given to CAREERS' corporate and foundation supporters, including, CVS Health, HOPE for Youth Foundation, PCSB Community Foundation, People's United Community Foundation, and the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley.

"Always a highlight of the year, our Anniversary Celebration provides the opportunity to recognize our hard working clients with disabilities, sponsors, generous supporters and caring employers," CAREERS Executive Director **Tina Cornish-Lauria** said. "We may not be celebrating in the same

room, but we are indeed together. We have persevered and now have well over 100 clients back at work. I'm truly proud of our staff and clients and look forward to a better 2021," she added.

CAREERS client Cindi Palermo was named Employee of the Year for 17 years of great work at Target in White Plains and her exemplary commitment throughout the pandemic. The Most Improved Award went to Cynthia Anderson for successfully overcoming personal and professional challenges at her job at Stop & Shop in Port Chester. T.J.Maxx/Marshalls/HomeGoods received Employer of the Year for giving superior guidance and oversight to CAREERS interns and employees and, in an inspirational show of support, for providing some compensation during the shutdown. For their compassion, on-the-job assistance and kindness, Gloria Howard of Green's Natural Foods in Mt. Kisco and Fabiana Ramos of Marshalls in Brewster received Outstanding Co-Worker Awards.

About CAREERS Support Solutions, Inc.

CAREERS' mission is to ensure that individuals with disabilities achieve the dignity, financial independence and sense of community they deserve through sustained, meaningful employment. Since 1987, CAREERS has secured over 2,700 job placements and provided support services to thousands of people with disabilities in Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess Counties.

For more information on CAREERS programs for individuals with disabilities or employers in need of qualified help, contact CAREERS' Valhalla office, which serves central and lower Westchester at 914-741-8500, or the Carmel office, which serves northern Westchester and Putnam Counties, at 845-225-8007. For more information, please visit www.CAREERSSupportSolutions.org, or friend us on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/CAREERSSupportSolutions.

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2020 CAREERS Support Solutions 33rd Anniversary Celebration

Awards and Recipients

Employee of the Year Cindi Palermo, Target, White Plains

Employer of the Year T.J.Maxx/Marshalls/HomeGoods (various locations)

Supervisor of the Year Sean Higgins, Brewster Plastics

Personal Achievement Awards Giavanna Cilento, Over the Rainbow Child Care

Philip Ferris, Brewster Plastics

Anthony Gammarati, Stop & Shop, Mt. Kisco Mariah Scarnati, Marshalls, Mohegan Lake

Most Improved Cynthia Anderson, Stop & Shop, Port Chester

Internship Excellence Award Jacob Diaz, S & H Uniform, White Plains

Outstanding Parental Support Award Tricia DeAngelis, Carmel

Outstanding Program Support Award Imani Brereton-Drakes, ARC Mid-Hudson

Outstanding Co-worker Awards Gloria Howard, Green's Natural Foods, Mt. Kisco

Fabiana Ramos, Marshalls, Brewster

Outstanding Advocate Award Sharon Green, Stop & Shop, Port Chester

Retirement Honoree Vincent Migliaccio, Harrison

Awards of Appreciation CVS Health

HOPE for Youth Foundation PCSB Community Foundation

People's United Community Foundation

Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley