

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Media Contact:

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UCP of Long Island to Host Breakfast with Santa Event for Children with Disabilities



Commack, NY – The Children's Center at UCP of Long Island will host its annual Breakfast with Santa event on Saturday, December 9th at 9 a.m. The event will take place at the school at 9 Smiths Lane in Commack.

The children and their families will be treated to a delicious and hearty breakfast and they will have an opportunity to take photos with Santa. "Our Breakfast with Santa event gives our children a chance to celebrate the holidays in a comfortable and fully accessible setting," said Principal Ingrid Trouvé. "Many of our students cannot attend places such as malls to get their photos taken with Santa due to their disabilities, so annually we bring all the fun to them."

Each year, more than 200 people attend the holiday celebration. This year's event is sponsored by UCP of Long Island Board Members Steve Louro of Professional Group Plans, Robert Bernard and Gerard Schmitt. Breakfast with Santa has become a favorite among students, families and staff. The event includes holiday music and raffle prizes for guests. "Breakfast

with Santa puts everyone in the holiday spirit," Trouvé said. "The best part is seeing the smiles on all the children's faces."

The Children's Center at UCP is at the forefront of Early Intervention, Preschool and School Age programming, serving over 80 infants and children through age 21, with a wide range of developmental disabilities. Staff is formally trained in the MOVE Philosophy (Mobility Opportunities Via Education) which uses specifically designed equipment and activities, which promote mobility and independence. Through the "First Bites" and F.E.A.S.T. (Food Exploration and Sensory Techniques) programs an interdisciplinary team supports children with problematic feeding needs. The Center continues to introduce new and innovative programs designed to meet the needs of children with disabilities and their families.

For more information on The Children's Center, visit <u>thechildrenscenter-ucp.org</u> or for more information on UCP of Long Island's programs and services, visit <u>ucp-li.org</u>.

For more information regarding event coverage, please contact Danielle De Souza, Public Relations Manager at 631-232-0011 ext. 457.

For over 65 years, UCP of Long Island has been committed to advancing the independence, productivity, and full citizenship of people with disabilities by creating **Life Without Limits**. UCP of Long Island provides programs and services to children and adults with disabilities annually. The Children's Center at UCP of Long Island offers early intervention, preschool and school aged programs. The agency provides Adult Day services which include Day Treatment, Day Habilitation and Respite programs, and job training and placement services.

For information on UCP of Long Island programs and services, please visit ucp-li.org.