



Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE)
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*****PRESS RELEASE*****

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STATE, COUNTY, AND TOWN LEADERS COME TOGETHER FOR RIBBON CUTTING AT MEDFORD SPECIAL NEEDS VOCATIONAL HUB



Town of Brookhaven Supervisor Ed Romaine (far left) joined with members of the FREE community to cut the ribbon on the new Medford vocational Hub.

OLD BETHPAGE, NY – Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE) hosted an Open
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House/Ribbon Cutting ceremony at their newest Vocational Hub in Medford. Town of Brookhaven Supervisor Ed Romaine joined with FREE to officially open this much-needed Vocational Hub. The Vocational Hub will serve as part of FREE's "Program Without Walls" which allows individuals with different abilities to have access to volunteer and job opportunities in the greater community.

"Employment is key to making our individuals full, productive members of the community. This Vocational Hub is another tool we can use to help them fulfill that goal," said Robert S. Budd, CEO, FREE.

FREE, a leader in the field of human services dedicated to helping individuals of all abilities realize their full potential, opened this Hub to better serve individuals with autism and different abilities in the Medford area. FREE's opening of the new Medford Hub site accomplishes these objectives; including reconfiguring resources to maximize opportunities, build proper plans to ensure seamless transition from center-based to integrated community options, and developing supports that respond to the needs of the people.

Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE)

Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE), founded in 1977, benefits and proudly supports more than 4,000 individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities, mental illness and traumatic brain injury. It is the mission of FREE to assist individuals of all abilities realize their full potential. FREE provides a diverse array of supports and services including: housing; recovery services; transition to work; employment; day, community and family services; respite; crisis services; education and after school support; specialty health services; and advocacy.

FREE also collaborates with a variety of diverse 501(c)(3) nonprofit partners on educational, vocational, rehabilitative and a myriad of other creative initiatives to enhance the local communities and the lives of more than 25,000 people that reside within them. Each of the valued partners of the FREE Network has a unique mission, vision and strategic goals that are aligned in purpose, and embody the spirit of the meaningful work we do every day. For more information, please call 516-870-7000 or visit www.familyres.org.

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