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

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**LOCAL NON-PROFIT ANNOUNCES NATIONAL ACCREDITATION**

**OLD BETHPAGE, NY** – Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE) announced today that they have been awarded the coveted three-year Quality Assurance National Accreditation from the Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL). For more than 40 years, CQL has been a leader in raising the bar for human service organizations and systems to continuously define, measure and improve the quality of life of all people. Organizations that are awarded accreditation by CQL meet a stringent set of criteria and demonstrate an on-going commitment to person-centered excellence.

“It is with great honor and pride that we make this announcement,” said Robert Budd, Chief Executive Officer of FREE. “I’d like to take the opportunity to thank all of the valued team members who are a part of FREE for cultivating a vision that ensures each person we serve is heard and their dreams for how they want to live their lives are supported,” he continued.

**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, r

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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 Family of FREE Network have a unique mission, vision and strategic goals that are aligned in purpose, and embody the spirit of the meaningful work we do every day.

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