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*****PRESS RELEASE*****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 30, 2018

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NEWSDAY NAMES FAMILY RESIDENCES AND ESSENTIAL ENTERPRISES A WINNER OF THE LONG ISLAND 2018 TOP WORKPLACES AWARD



Left to Right: Back Row-John Best, Senior Vice President, Human Resources and Professional Development, Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE) Front Row: Left to Right-Fred Catapano, Recruiting Manager; FREE; Anita Dowd-Neufeld, Chief Administrative Officer, FREE; Pat Hogan, Employee Relations Manager, FREE; Robert S. Budd, CEO, FREE **Old Bethpage, NY** – Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE) is proud to announce that it has been awarded a 2018 Top Workplaces honor by Newsday. The list is based solely on employee feedback gathered through a third-party survey administered by research partner Energage, LLC (formerly WorkplaceDynamics), a leading provider of technology-based employee engagement tools. The anonymous survey measures several aspects of workplace culture, including alignment, execution, and connection, just to name a few.

"Top Workplaces is more than just recognition," said Doug Claffey, CEO of Energage. "Our research shows organizations that earn the award attract better talent, experience lower turnover, and are better equipped to deliver bottom-line results. Their leaders prioritize and carefully craft a healthy workplace culture that supports employee engagement."

FREE, an organization that benefits and supports more than 4,000 individuals with intellectual disabilities, mental illness, and traumatic brain injury, has always prided itself on being a wonderful place to work. The agency harnesses the creativity and passions of employees and matches it to the dreams of the individuals supported.

"On behalf of everyone at FREE, I am honored to accept this award," said Robert S. Budd, CEO, FREE. "At FREE we take great pride in being a place where an employee can grow and feel supported," he continued. "Our employees tell us you will never find a more rewarding job and we agree."

"Becoming a Top Workplace isn't something organizations can buy," Claffey said. "It's an achievement organizations have worked for and a distinction that gives them a competitive advantage. It's a big deal."

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 help 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 <u>www.familyres.org</u>.

About Energage, LLC

Headquartered in Exton, Pa., <u>Energage</u> (formerly known as WorkplaceDynamics) is a leading provider of technology-based employee engagement tools that help leaders to unlock potential, inspire performance, and achieve amazing results within their organizations. The research partner behind the <u>Top Workplaces</u> program, Energage has surveyed more than 47,000 organizations representing well over 16 million employees in the United States.