

DISABILITY AWARNESS DAY JULY 26, 2018

WHEREAS, the Town of Clarkstown recognizes that the ultimate goal of all governmental action and service is to improve the quality of life for all Rockland County residents; and

WHEREAS, on July 26, 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) which establishes a clear and comprehensive nation mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, **BRIDGES** has a leading role, both in Town of Clarkstown and Rockland County, in the implementation of the goals of full inclusion as enumerated in the ADA; and

WHEREAS, since its inception in 1986, **BRIDGES**, which stands for Building Relationships, Investing in Diversity, and Genuinely Empowering Self, has promoted an independent living philosophy, championing consumer empowerment and control, and pledging to help individuals, regardless of disability to live independently in all areas of life; and

WHEREAS, in the past year, **BRIDGES** has continued to extend service in many vitally important areas, focusing on promoting leadership and autonomy while providing advocacy for people with disabilities, including increased peer services, the development of employment opportunities for Veterans and the expansion of the agency's mental health and substance abuse services; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with the 28th Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act the Town of Clarkstown joins with **BRiDGES** today to celebrate the progress made, and reaffirming the principles of equality and inclusion while recommitting our efforts to reach full ADA compliance; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clarkstown extends a special recognition to today's award recipients, TOUCH, CDPANNYS, Victoria Iglesias, Candida Lagrange and Martine Arline as their unique challenges and contributions are a testament to the success of **BRIDGES**; and

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that I George Hoehmann, Supervisor of the Town of Clarkstown, and on behalf of the Town Board, do hereby publicly and formally express our gratitude, praise and appreciation, as we hereby proclaim July 26, 2018 as **DISABILITY AWARNESS DAY** in the Town of Clarkstown.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSE THE SEAL OF THE TOWN OF CLARKSTOWN TO BE AFFIXED THIS 26TH DAY OF JULY 2018.

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George Hoehmann

Supervisor, Town of Clarkstown