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Healthcare hires

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[Linda LaSheen, the mother of a son living at New Hope Community, has been appointed to the New Hope board.](#)

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New board member at New Hope Community

LOCH SHELDRAKE, NY — New Hope Community, a nonprofit providing person-centered services and supports for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD), announced the appointment of Linda LaSheen to the New Hope Community board.

As a New Hope Community parent and advocate—her son, James, resides at New Hope—LaSheen will join a strong board composed of other family members, as well as community leaders and business professionals.

LaSheen spent several years serving as PTA president and vice president for PS 37R on Staten Island, where James attended grade school. She also works as a paraprofessional

for the New York City Department of Education. In each role, her goal has always been to provide the support and opportunities necessary to build “best lives” for young people with I/DD, she said.

“Their happiness fills me with joy,” LaSheen said. “I have devoted much of my life to advocating for and working with people with I/DD and their families, through my own experience raising my son, and my years as a PTA member serving the needs of children.”

Additionally, she is a support parent for Parent to Parent of New York State, a statewide nonprofit that supports and connects families of individuals with special health care needs.

“Linda’s passion for working with the I/DD community is amazing and I look forward to working with her as a new member of our board team,” said Debra McGinness, Chief Executive Officer at New Hope Community.

LaSheen and her husband live on Staten Island, and they visit their son weekly at his home in Loch Sheldrake. James, his housemates and their staff always look forward to their arrival and the wonderful homemade meals they often bring for everyone to enjoy, a New Hope spokeswoman said.

LaSheen began her first two-year term with New Hope Community Board in March and will serve for six years.