



New Hope Community
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Debra McGinness Retires as New Hope Community CEO

Board Thanks McGinness for Seven Years; Focus Shifts to Seamless Executive Transition

Loch Sheldrake, NY – New Hope Community, a nonprofit dedicated to providing support for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), has announced the retirement of Chief Executive Officer Debra (Debbie) McGinness. Debbie has been an impactful, dynamic leader at New Hope Community since 2018. Under her leadership, New Hope Community has strengthened and expanded programs, begun important new initiatives, and diversified communication paths.

From the start, Debbie felt a deep connection with the mission and people of New Hope Community and the community at large. Collaborative partnerships with community organizations such as SUNY Sullivan and BOCES created new opportunities for staff, students, and those supported through New Hope Community to learn and grow. Debbie was instrumental in procuring a grant in DSP and front-line supervisor credentialing for staff advancement and ensured New Hope Community's involvement in the build of a DSP Micro-credential program offered at no cost through SUNY Sullivan.

In 2020, Select Human Services, a \$10 million human service organization founded by Debbie in 2010, merged with New Hope Community. This merger helped expand New Hope's reach and impact to more than 750 people with I/DD throughout the lower Hudson Valley region. In 2022, Debbie was legislatively appointed to the Developmental Disabilities Advisory Council (DDAC). This state-level council works with OPWDD to recommend statewide priorities and goals for people with I/DD. Lastly, Debbie mindfully grew New Hope Community's outreach to support higher levels of health and wellness. She initiated a Community Outreach Dinner in December 2018, which has continued annually, serving over 400 free hot meals to community members in need. Many additional charitable initiatives have flourished, strengthening our relationships with individuals and organizations dedicated to enriching the lives of people with I/DD.

We wish Debbie the very best in her retirement and will always appreciate her impact over these seven years.

"I am honored to have led New Hope Community as its CEO and am very grateful for the many rewarding opportunities and experiences I've had throughout my career. And I am incredibly proud of all our team has accomplished together. As I move into retirement, I am confident that under incoming CEO, Karen Russell, New Hope Community will continue to grow and thrive in the years ahead," said Debbie McGinness.



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Terry Grafmuller, New Hope Community Board Chair, commented, "On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to Debbie for her seven years of exemplary service to the organization. Debbie's leadership has strengthened New Hope Community's strategic positioning and ensures a solid foundation for our future success."



About New Hope Community:

New Hope Community is a not-for-profit human services organization that, for 50 years, has been providing supports for individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. Established in 1975 to serve as a nurturing and caring alternative to large institutions that were found to have violated the most basic human rights and conditions, New Hope Community has become recognized as a leading provider in the human services field. In January 2020, New Hope Community merged with Select Human Services, Inc. (SHS) of Pleasantville, NY, a not-for-profit voluntary agency providing services in Westchester, Putnam, and Rockland Counties. New Hope Community's breadth of services include clinical and nursing care, residential services, day programming, community habilitation, self-direction, support brokerage, service navigators, education, recreation and leisure activities, a robustly supported employment program, summer programs for youths, and so much more. New Hope Community has always maintained a person-centered approach toward empowering the lives of people with disabilities and actively advocates for individual choice in a person's efforts to live, work, and participate fully in his or her community. New Hope Community and SHS combined provide services to over 1,100 people and employ more than 1,370 staff. Learn more at www.newhopecommunity.org.



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