



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 16, 2008

Contact: Christine Restani
Phone: (631) 232-0011, Ext. 457
crestani@ucp-suffolk.org

United Cerebral Palsy Association of Suffolk Celebrates Grand Opening of Health Center in Central Islip

Central Islip, NY -- October 16, 2008 - United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) of Suffolk's Chief Executive Officer, Stephen Friedman was joined by Suffolk County Executive Steve Levy, UCP Suffolk Board Members, elected officials and community leaders for a ribbon cutting ceremony, marking the Grand Opening of the UCP Suffolk Health Center, at the Kathleen O. Maul Campus on Carleton Avenue in Central Islip.

UCP Suffolk's new, comprehensive, fully accessible, 25,000 sq. ft. Health Center, designed by world - renowned architects **Perkins Eastman** and built by **E. W. Howell**, is a model of accessibility, meeting the health care needs of individuals with a wide range of disabilities. The Center's professional staff provides medical, dental, mental health and rehabilitative services, which exceed the standards of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). In centralizing these services, the UCP Health Center's outstanding doctors and experienced, dedicated health professionals work in unison as a team to address the overall healthcare needs of individuals with disabilities.

Attention to accessibility, convenience and privacy is evident immediately upon entering the building. The reception area is welcoming to all, including individuals who utilize wheelchairs or other assistive devices, while ensuring discretion during the intake process. Other special features such as oversized exam rooms, height adjustable exam tables, fiber optic dental equipment and dual swivel dental exam chairs have been incorporated into the design and furnishings to make this Health Center fully accessible to all.

CEO Stephen Friedman said, "UCP Suffolk is dedicated to meeting the health care needs of individuals with disabilities while ensuring each patient is comfortable and has easy access to all of the services we provide. With the cutting of this ribbon, UCP Suffolk looks forward to being a primary health resource for Long Islanders with disabilities." Friedman concluded, "We are thrilled to be able to provide accessible, comprehensive, high quality health care at this, our newest Health Center location."

Suffolk Executive Steve Levy pointed out the UCP Suffolk is one of the largest affiliates of the national organization, serving both children and adults. "The dedication of this new center is significant for all of us who recognize and appreciate the full range of services that UCP provides, including medical diagnosis, evaluation and treatment; therapy; assistive technology; information and referral; early intervention, and preschool and school age educational programs, among many others," he said.

"We are proud to have designed a facility that reflects the humanity inherent in the important and enriching work that United Cerebral Palsy of Suffolk is doing in its community," said Bradford Perkins, FAIA, MRAIC, AICP, Founder and CEO of Perkins Eastman.

"We created a warm and welcoming environment in a contemporary setting that is fully accessible, open and abundant in natural light, and we brought a sustainable approach to our choice of systems and materials," added Mark McCarthy, AIA, Associate Principal of Perkins Eastman.