

Mendham woman finds time in busy life to help disabled

By PHIL GARBER, Managing Editor | Posted: Tuesday, July 26, 2011 10:38 am

MENDHAM - With a full-time career and six children, nobody would blame Kathryn Godby Oram for taking some private time.

But the Orchard Street professional is not about leisure as evidenced by her work, family and non-profit responsibilities. Most recently, Oram was named to the National Board of Directors of Community Options, a national non-profit organization that buys and develops homes and employment for people with disabilities.

Oram started volunteering with Community Options about six months ago, after meeting the organization's founder, Robert Stack, at a benefit. She said she was intrigued by the group's mission and met with Stack at his Morristown office.

She introduced herself as a Realtor with Godby Realtors, the company owned by her mother, Kathryn and it soon became clear that Oram could bring her real estate expertise to help the organization.

The organization helps people who have recently been discharged from an institution for developmentally disabled people. The people may have autism, Down syndrome or other disabilities. They are people who could live independently with a bit of oversight.

"They can hold jobs and live great lives," Oram said. "All of a sudden they have their own room and their own stuff and a job. To give someone an actual life, it's a pretty great organization."