



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Supporting People with Disabilities since 1989

707 Alexander Road, Suite 208, Princeton, NJ 08540

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Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to Celebrate Opening of New Red Ribbon Academy: Adult Medical Special Needs Program for the 21st Century

PRINCETON, New Jersey - On Wednesday, March 27, 2013, at 2 p.m., Community Options, Inc. (COI), along with the Parents Group, will celebrate the culmination of a goal set years ago with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony presenting the Red Ribbon Academy. The ceremony will take place at the new Red Ribbon Academy, located at 506 Hamburg Turnpike, Building 5, Wayne, NY 07470.

As of right now, there are no organizations in NJ that aid adult individuals who have the most severe, fragile, medical disabilities in a way that fosters growth and progress. In 2010, this issue prompted a group of NJ parents to request day support services from the NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities. Five mothers who have children with special needs took the lead representing a large group of families of young adults with a myriad of conditions; they named themselves "The Parents Group."

The Parents Group hoped to inspire the creation of a day program that not only provides support and supervision by highly trained medical professionals, but also allows access to all the benefits of a community-based program, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and volunteerism. The parents specifically requested that COI operate this program.

Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc awarded Community Options, Inc. (COI) a grant in support of the Community Options Red Ribbon Academy: Adult Medical Special Needs Program for the 21st Century. The program will have a direct impact on 25 people in NJ with the most significant disabilities such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy, and intellectual disabilities.

For more information about Community Options, Inc., please visit www.comop.org.



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For more information about the Red Ribbon Academy and the specifically tailored and advanced technical equipment that will outfit the program, please read a more detailed press release at:

http://www.comop.org/presskit/pdf/2013Jan09_COIPressRelease_JanssenPharmaceuticalsAwardsCOIaGrant.pdf.

Community Options Inc. (COI) is a national nonprofit organization incorporated in 1989 and headquartered in Princeton, New Jersey. The organization provides residential and employment supports to people with disabilities. The agency philosophy is that all people can and should live and work in the community, regardless of their level of disability. COI currently operates in Kentucky, New Jersey, New York, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas. For more info please visit www.comop.org.

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CEO available for comment. Photos available upon request. If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview, please call (609) 352-5280 or e-mail Kathryn at Kathryn.Sampson@comop.org.