

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Addabbo Jr. Visits Community Options' Home in Queens

PRINCETON, NJ – Joseph P. Addabbo Jr., New York State Senator from the 15th District, recently visited a Community Options' home in Ridgewood, NY.

Addabbo Jr. was given a tour of the home by Dawn, who lives in the one-bedroom apartment with her son. Dawn shared with the Senator how Community Options NY was helping her find a new job. She described her job coach's role in teaching her how to craft a resume as well as guiding her through the application process. Dawn also shared with the Senator about how she and her job coach have been preparing for an upcoming interview at Home Depot. Recognizing her abilities, Senator Addabbo gave Dawn his business card and said that she can use him as a reference. He also offered the services of his office staff to assist her with finding employment in the future.

"I truly appreciate the efforts of Community Options NY in assisting my constituents, as well as individuals across the state, to become independent and have the ability to support themselves and their family," said Senator Addabbo.

Addabbo added that what Community Options does is not only important to the individuals supported, but to the community at large. He shared that in his experience; individuals living in residences in the community are good neighbors and keep their homes and property well-maintained.

Dawn has been receiving services from Community Options NY since 2005. Dawn receives services five days per week, four hours per day. She has been working hard to improve her ability to make healthier food choices, house-keeping, money management and communication skills.

"It was an honor to have Senator Addabbo visit one of our individuals living in a COMOP supportive IRA," said Anne Marie Russo, Executive Director of Community Options' Brooklyn and Queens offices. "Dawn lives with her teenage son who attends a local high school. She shared with Senator Addabbo that the support she receives has helped make the best life for herself and her son. Senator Addabbo is a strong advocate for people with developmental disabilities and believes in the mission of Community Options. We look forward to a long-term successful partnership with him."

Living a very independent life style, Dawn receives limited check-ins from her manager and nurse. Dawn was externally employed from May 2015 to August 2017 and is currently pursuing her next employment opportunity.

Addabbo Jr. was first elected to the Senate in 2008, and currently serves as the Deputy Democratic Conference Whip. Prior to that, he served on the New York City Council for seven years.

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About Community Options, Inc.:

For 28 years, Community Options has developed housing and employment programs for people with disabilities – serving thousands of people through over 40 offices across 11 states. Community Options provides advocacy assistance to empower people with disabilities because all people – regardless of ability level – should live and work in the community with dignity, choice and self-determination. For more information please visit our website: www.comop.org and to follow along with the ComOpCares campaign, search #ComOpCares on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.