



**New Hope Community**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## New Hope Community Appoints Amy Spadafino to Board of Directors

**Loch Sheldrake, NY** – New Hope Community is pleased to welcome Amy Spadafino to their New Hope Community Executive board. Spadafino's twenty-five years of experience supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) will further enhance New Hope Community's position of advocacy as their governing leaders commit best efforts to drive their important mission forward.

As a parent of a young man with autism, Spadafino has a profound understanding of the resources necessary to enrich the lives of those with I/DD. Over the years, she has extensively committed her time and expertise to many peer groups, focusing on family support and advocacy. Spadafino served as an Early-Intervention Service Coordinator at Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) in Valhalla, NY, where she worked with numerous families seeking support for newly diagnosed family members. She also contributed to the implementation of critically needed programming for children with I/DD during her tenure with the Family Support Services Consumer Counsel.

Additionally, Spadafino served as a parent-to-parent member of WIHD, as well as a parent advocate within the Byram Hill School District, in Westchester County. Her keen insight into the obstacles and challenges families face supported her ability to provide realistic, holistic choices that empowered people with I/DD to experience a life that authentically speaks to their needs, wants, and wishes. Most recently, Spadafino spent six years as the Fiscal Intermediary Liaison for Self-Direction at Select Human Services, a division of New Hope Community, Inc.

Spadafino received the *Woman of Distinction* award from New York State Assemblyman Chris Burdick's Disability Council and is an OPWDD-certified Self Direction Broker. In her earlier professional life, she held the position of Vice President of Sales and Marketing for a division of the Anne Klein Company.

New Hope Community Chief Executive Officer Debra McGinness commented, "We are beyond pleased to welcome Amy Spadafino as a new member to our board team. Ms. Spadafino brings an amazing combination of professional and personal life experiences that will add great value to our board positioning and decision-making as we continue to do our best to forward New Hope Community's mission."

### **About New Hope Community**

*New Hope Community is a not-for-profit human services organization providing support for individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. Established in 1975 to serve as a nurturing and caring alternative to large institutions which were found to have violated the most basic human rights and conditions, New Hope Community has become recognized*



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*as a leading provider in the human services field. Services include clinical and nursing care, day programming, education and recreation, leisure activities, a robust supported employment program, summer programs for youths, and more. The agency has always maintained a person-centered approach aimed at enhancing 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 presently supports and serves over 300 individuals and is a leading employer in Sullivan County, with more than 650 staff. Learn more at [www.newhopecommunity.org](http://www.newhopecommunity.org).*



Amy Spadafino, New Hope Community Executive Board Member