



**For Immediate Release
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MEDIA ADVISORY

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NYS Senator Martin Golden to be recognized by ADAPT Community Network and Brooklyn Developmental Disabilities Council for his Work in Achieving the Pay Increase for Direct Service Professionals

New York, NY – NYS Senator Martin Golden will visit ADAPT Community Network’s (formerly United Cerebral Palsy of New York City) Brooklyn facility to be recognized by the leading New York City disabilities organization and the Brooklyn Developmental Disabilities Council for his leadership in gaining the \$45 million increase in pay for Direct Service Professionals in this year’s New York State budget. The increase in funding comes as part of the year and a half long *bFair2DirectCare* campaign, which was ardently supported by Senator Golden and other legislative leaders of the both Houses.

Senator Golden will meet with adults and children served at ADAPT. He will visit TechWorks, as ADAPT is the leading provider of Assistive Technology in NYC and the regional center for technology, chosen by the New York State Assistive Technology Act Program (TRAID). Senator Golden will be accompanied by Edward R. Matthews, CEO of ADAPT Community Network, as well as DSPs, other program staff, individuals, advocates, and parents.

The funding comes on top of the increase provided to bring workers up to the minimum wage, with a total 6.5% wage increase occurring over two years. This announcement marks the first two steps towards the goal of providing direct care and other low-wage workers in our field a living wage. The new budget includes a 3.25% increase in salaries for 100 and 200 code employees effective, January 1, 2018, with another increase of 3.25% for 100, 200, and 300 code employees effective 4/1/18. These increases are in line with the \$45 million per year State share, \$90 million annually that was part of the living wage proposal supported by the coalition of leading disability nonprofits representing the *bFair2DirectCare* campaign.

What : Visit and Photo-op with Senator Martin Golden and Edward R. Matthews, DSPs, individuals, advocates, and parents
When : Thursday, June 1, 11 am – 12 pm
Where: ADAPT Community Network, 160 Lawrence Avenue, Brooklyn, NY



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About ADAPT Community Network (formerly UCP of NYC)

ADAPT Community Network (formerly UCP of NYC) is the leading not-for-profit agency and a pioneer in providing programs and services that improve the quality of life for people with disabilities. For over 70 years, ADAPT Community Network has created a more inclusive world for New York City children and adults with a variety of challenges. ADAPT Community Network's breadth of over 100 comprehensive programs include education, health, technology, residential, and recreational services for thousands of individuals and families annually. Our programs are delivered by thousands of trained and dedicated staff, including a number of employees who have disabilities themselves. For more information: www.ADAPTcommunitynetwork.org.



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