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## **FROST VALLEY YMCA**

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# **Frost Valley Receives Community Partner Award at Our House, Inc.'s Annual Achievement Awards**

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CLARYVILLE —Frost Valley YMCA accepted the Community Partner Award at Our House, Inc.'s 27th annual Achievement Awards on September 28 at Mayfair Farms in West Orange, NJ. The Achievement Awards recognize the accomplishments of the organization's residents and participants over the last year. The event also honors staff and community members who have made a significant difference in the lives of the more than 300 individuals they serve.

Our House, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization that provides residential, employment, day services and recreational programs to individuals with developmental and other disabilities. The goal of Our House, Inc., is to promote a high quality of life for these individuals and help them to become productive members of their communities. Frost Valley received the Community Partner Award in recognition of its collaboration with the organization, to ensure that scheduled activities at Frost Valley are appropriate for the population they serve. Throughout Our House's six visits to the Frost Valley YMCA's camp and retreat center in the Catskills, the trips have grown from 16 to 40 participants, many of whom have never attended an overnight trip away from home.

Frost Valley provides meaningful respite opportunities for Our House's Hope Autism Solutions, Volunteer Action Program, and Innovations program participants through enriching outdoor experiences, environmental education and outdoor activities such as hiking, arts and crafts, archery, and, zip-lining. Many of the organization's participants are taking part in activities such as these for the first time, allowing them to gain confidence and independence.

In addition to Frost Valley, the organization honored community members and partners, including the Township of Woodbridge as Program Advocate; Overlook Family Medicine's Dr. Stuart Green as Community Advocate; and MedShare as Community Champion. In addition, volunteers Janet and Hugo Barth received the Patricia Shillingburg Award, given to those who have shown outstanding leadership and vision.

Attended by over 350 guests, including the individuals served by Our House, their family and friends, and community members, the dinner and dance served as a fundraising event for the organization's Foundation. The event was a great success, raising over \$95,000.

**Photos and interviews are available upon request.** Please contact Chief Marketing Officer Amanda Hinski at [Ahinski@frostvalley.org](mailto:Ahinski@frostvalley.org).

### **About Frost Valley YMCA**

Frost Valley YMCA is a values-driven organization that fosters youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility through outdoor educational and recreational programs for all.

Located in the heart of the Catskill Mountains, Frost Valley provides year-round access to nature and fun through programs such as summer camp, adventure trips, farm camp, equestrian programs, group and family retreats, school trips, teambuilding and more. Frost Valley is guided in this pursuit by its core values which serve as pathways for guests as they bond with nature and each other: Caring, Community, Diversity, Honesty, Inclusiveness, Respect, Responsibility, and Stewardship.

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