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**CHILDREN'S COORDINATED SERVICES INITIATIVE (CCSI) BRINGS
HOLIDAY CHEER TO CHILDREN IN PUTNAM COUNTY**

Putnam Family & Community Services teamed with Green Chimneys and the Putnam County Youth Bureau to bring the CCSI year to a close with food, toys and fun

Putnam County, NY – As members of the Children's Coordinated Services Initiative (CCSI), Putnam Family & Community Services (PFCS), Green Chimneys Outreach Center and the Putnam County Youth Bureau teamed once again on December 10th to host their Annual Children's Holiday Party. More than 100 people representing over 30 families, including 50-60 children and their parents/relatives, gathered at the Carmel Fire Department to celebrate the holiday season with food, fun and festivities.

In cooperation with the Toys for Tots Foundation, a program run by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, toys were distributed to all children in attendance in the hopes of making the holidays extra special for the kids. Other generous donations made this wonderful evening possible, including funds to buy gift cards for presents suitable for the older children and food for holiday dinners, as well as funding for a wonderful buffet dinner served up by the Arthur Avenue Deli.

The CCSI team and supporters including Connie Chin, Beberly Lopez, Christina McGuigan, Stephanie Roberts, Bonnie Soldano, Diana Burns-Wetzel and Elyse Gehring all of PFCS joined Jessica Day and Elizabeth Owen from Green Chimneys and Putnam County SPOA Coordinator, Dawn Mullins, to coordinate gift giving, decorating and running the evening. "The families we serve through the CCSI program have said that this event is the highlight of their holiday season," said Christina McGuigan, PFCS CCSI Team Coordinator. "Everyone has a wonderful time, and the children are so excited to get gifts that they might not otherwise have received during this holiday season. It's great to be able to bring such joy."

Putnam County notables joined to support the holiday cheer including: Judge James Reitz, Family Court Judge; Michael Piazza, Commissioner of the Putnam County Department of Social Services, Mental Health and Youth Bureau; Joseph DeMarzo, Deputy Commission of Social Services, Mental Health and Youth Bureau; and Janeen Cunningham, Executive Director of the Putnam County Youth Bureau.

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About Children's Coordinated Services Initiative (CCSI)

CCSI is a partnership between family members and service providers designed to assist families whose children have mental health needs. The goal is to keep families together by creating linkages to community based services.

About Putnam Family and Community Services, Inc.

Putnam Family and Community Services, Inc. (PFCS) is the only private non-profit agency providing recovery-based mental health and substance use disorder treatment and prevention services in Putnam County, NY. PFCS offers hope and healing to people of all ages through a comprehensive range of services including individual and group counseling, care management, family advocacy, parenting education, community outreach, psychiatric rehabilitation, and medication management. For more information, visit www.PFCSinc.org or www.Facebook.com/PFCSinc.