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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ECLC Dinners Set New Fund-Raising Record!

CHATHAM – ECLC of New Jersey's two spring fund-raising gala dinners have netted a total of \$48,000, a new record for the Chatham-based nonprofit!

The events are organized by ECLC's schools for children with special needs in Chatham and Ho-Ho-Kus to support the ECLC Foundation.

The Foundation provides supplemental funding for after-school activities at the schools, respite (overnight) weekend trips, alumni enrichment programs, weekend dances, capital projects and for ECLC's adult services: P.R.I.D.E. and Community Personnel Services. Without this extra funding, this lifelong support of people with special needs would not be possible.

About Us

Established in 1970, ECLC of New Jersey provides education, enrichment and employment to children and adults with special needs, including those diagnosed with autism, Down syndrome and severe learning and/or language disabilities.

ECLC's special-needs schools in Chatham and Ho-Ho-Kus enroll more than 300 students, ages 5-21. As students reach age 21 and prepare to graduate, transition

specialists from ECLC's affiliate Community Personnel Services (CPS), take over, guiding them into the next chapter of their lives. CPS specialists help students find meaningful jobs in their communities and provide ongoing support and advocacy in the workplace.

Graduates who are not ready for work are guaranteed a spot in the P.R.I.D.E. program, where they enhance their independent living skills, socialize with peers and volunteer. A defining hallmark of P.R.I.D.E. is that clients choose their activities and are rarely in the center all day. Learn more about ECLC at www.eclcofnj.org.

ECLC is a member of the Alliance of Private Special Education Schools of North Jersey, a coalition of more than 30 state-approved private special education schools in Northern and Central New Jersey dedicated to helping parents and educators better understand and access appropriate program options in special education. Learn more about the Alliance at <http://specialeducationalliancenj.org>.