

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press Contact: Cheryl Avery  
cavery@spauldingyouthcenter.org or 603.286.8901 ext. 107



### Spaulding Youth Center's *Experiencing Childhood* Fundraiser a Success

**Northfield, NH** – Spaulding Youth Center held its annual fundraising event and celebration, *Experiencing Childhood*, on Wednesday, October 11th from 8:00am-9:30am at the Holiday Inn on 172 N. Main Street in Concord, New Hampshire. The breakfast fundraiser brought Spaulding Youth Center faculty, staff and supporters together for a morning filled with learning, networking and fun. All proceeds will benefit the unique educational program Experiential Challenges Outdoors (EChO) on campus.

Over 100 people attended the event, including Frank Edelblut, New Hampshire's Commissioner of Education, who presented during opening remarks.

"I was honored to speak at this year's event" said Commissioner Edelblut. "I am proud that the state of New Hampshire is home to Spaulding Youth Center, as it's such an important organization and a leader of educational, residential, therapeutic and foster care programs and services for children with various special needs."

Attendees were welcomed by Susan Ryan, CEO & President of Spaulding Youth Center, enjoyed breakfast and social opportunity, and then were treated to a truly interactive presentation from EChO staff members Steve Golden and Jason Sterner. Spaulding Youth Center also presented the 10th Annual Arthur H. Nighswander Community Partner Award to Great Northern Cleaning. Great Northern Cleaning has provided the Spaulding campus with daily cleaning services for over 25 years and a corporate sponsor for nearly as many years.



From L to R: Michael Ventura, Spaulding Youth Center Board of Directors Chair; Susan C. Ryan, CEO & President; Frank Edelblut, New Hampshire's Commissioner of Education



From L to R: Erin and Frank Perkins, Great Northern Cleaning Owners

“Great Northern Cleaning is honored to accept the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Arthur H. Nighswander Community Partner Award,” said Frank Perkins, owner of Great Northern Cleaning. “We are proud of our staff for their hard work and dedication to the health and well-being of the students and staff of Spaulding Youth Center and look forward to our continued partnership with the organization for years to come.”

During the event conclusion, Ms. Ryan provided attendees with ample opportunities to fund specific EChO-related needs on campus. All event proceeds will go directly to enhance Spaulding Youth Center’s EChO program, which provides students the opportunity to experience learning by participating in outdoor adventures, such as kayaking, hiking and snow-shoeing. Each attendee received an emergency whistle and carbiner courtesy of IPG Employee Benefits, the 2017 Experiential Sponsor for this fun and interactive event.



A Spaulding Youth Center student performs a freestyle rap about Experiential Challenges Outdoors (EChO).

Although pleased with the generous donations from event attendees, a variety of opportunities are still available to help our children experience childhood. If you would like to learn more about these opportunities, please contact Cheryl Avery at [cavery@spauldingyouthcenter.org](mailto:cavery@spauldingyouthcenter.org) or 603.286.8901 ext. 107 to be needs to be fulfilled.

“We are thrilled this fundraiser was such a great success” said Susan C. Ryan, Chief Executive Officer & President at Spaulding Youth Center. “It was so touching to see our faculty, staff, and supporters together in one place, interacting with students, supporting Spaulding Youth Center and our EChO program. The *Experiencing Childhood* event helped to spread awareness about our robust curriculum, celebrate our beautiful campus, and our staff’s collective dedication to helping our kids reach their full potential.”

## ABOUT SPAULDING YOUTH CENTER

Spaulding Youth Center is a leading provider of services for children and youth with neurological, emotional, behavioral, learning and/or developmental challenges including Autism Spectrum Disorder. Services include academic, behavioral health, residential, foster care, health and wellness and family support. Spaulding Youth Center Foundation is a tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) nonprofit. For information about Spaulding Youth Center, visit [www.spauldingyouthcenter.org](http://www.spauldingyouthcenter.org).

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