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PRESS RELEASE

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LEXINGTON'S VICTORIA MORRISON HONORED WITH CASHA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Gloversville, NY – On Monday, October 20, 2014, Lexington – Fulton County Chapter, NYSARC, Inc.'s own Speech-Language Pathologist Victoria Morrison was honored with the Capital Area Speech-Language and Hearing Association (CASHA)'s Distinguished Service Award at CASHA's Annual Conference in Albany.

CASHA'S Distinguished Service Award is presented annually to a Speech-Language Pathologist or Audiologist or individual who has made outstanding contributions to the fields of Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology, to the communicatively impaired, or to professional organizations that serve these groups. Morrison was chosen for this distinction by a panel of her peers.

Morrison has played a vital role with CASHA for many years as an active member, President (1999), Executive Board Member and frequent presenter at CASHA's monthly programs. She has worked at Lexington for ten years, is Co-chair of the Fulton County Chapter of the Autism Society and she often presents at state and local workshops and conferences. She was nominated for, and ultimately received, this prestigious award based on her expertise in childhood intervention, Autism, and fluency; dedication to the field; and involvement in community activities.

Michelle King, lead singer of Lexington's renowned band, Flame, said about Morrison, "Vickey helps me socialize with people. She inspires others and has given me hope that I am able to share with the social skills she has taught me. She asks me questions and I am now able to ask her questions back. I am able to talk to her when I am worried about something and she helps me write social stories so I can understand and better socialize." Michelle's mother, Mary King, said, "Vickey has helped Michelle communicate and express herself with confidence. Vickey has truly been a blessing."

Lexington Executive Director Shaloni Winston said, "Vickey has been instrumental in developing and implementing supports for people who are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and has helped establish and grow Lexington's Early Intervention program which provides critically needed therapies to 18 children in Fulton County. We congratulate Vickey on yet another achievement."

For more information, please contact Katherine Ehle at (518) 736-3909 or

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Lexington, a Chapter of NYSARC, Inc., is a private, not-for-profit agency providing a wide range of services to adults and children who are disabled in Fulton and Albany Counties. Created in 1953 by a group of concerned parents, Lexington is recognized as one of the leading agencies of its kind in New York State.

For more information about Lexington and its programs and services, visit <u>www.lexingtoncenter.org</u> or "like" us on Facebook: Lexington – Chapter of NYSARC, Inc. or <u>www.facebook.com/LexingtonARC</u>

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