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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Community Partners in Biddeford
Receives \$5,000 Grant from Tom's of Maine**

Community Partners is pleased to announce a recent \$5,000 grant from Tom's of Maine. This grant will help Community Partners offer agency wide workshops in Non Violent Communication (NVC). It will also help fund certification training for management team members so they can lead future workshops, as well as mentor others.

Debra Holloway, Director of Development and Community Relations notes, "Helping all our stakeholders communicate in ways that are empowering and compassionate is really a core value of Community Partners as we support people with developmental disabilities to live valued lives in their communities. Using the tools of Nonviolent Communication (NVC), developed by Marshall Rosenberg, Ph.D., has been a powerful and transformative process that helps people connect, be understood, and get their needs met in healthy ways. We are very pleased to have this generous grant from Tom's of Maine as we move into agency wide workshops and leadership training."

Community Partners is celebrating its 40th year of service and supports for adults with developmental disabilities, now serving people in York, Cumberland, Androscoggin and Kennebec Counties. The non-profit agency currently supports nearly 200 adults with a combination of 40 residential programs, day services, Senior Center (Portland, ME) community inclusion and supported employment initiatives. Last year, people supported by Community Partners volunteered over 6,000 hours for non-profits in York and Cumberland County; and 47 individuals (25%) are employed in their communities.

For more information contact Community Partners at (207) 282-7113 or visit their web site at www.cpime.org.

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