For Immediate Release

At Sunshine Children’s Home,
Unique Residential School Program Brings Learning Home
To Kids with Special Medical Needs

Ossining, N.Y. – Back-to-school is an annual rite of passage that typical kids take for granted each September. But the children who reside at the Sunshine Children’s Home in Ossining have medical needs so severe or complex that living or attending school off premises is not possible -- so this unique pediatric nursing facility is dedicated to bringing the school experience to them in partnership with Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES.

“Every child is entitled to a rewarding education,” says Linda Mosiello, Administrator at the Sunshine Children’s Home. “That’s why we are deeply committed to providing all of our kids with the opportunity to learn, grow and discover their own potential in a safe, loving and engaging educational environment, regardless of the medical challenges they face.”

Bright, colorful classrooms, innovative programs and educational outings are carefully designed to support the children’s cognitive, physical and social/emotional development. In addition to medical care, Sunshine has a collaborative team of special educators, therapists and paraprofessionals who provide special educational services for every stage of development:

Newborn - Age 3
Sunshine’s Early Intervention Program (EIP) is a statewide program contracted with the Department of Health as both an evaluation site and provider of EI services. Sunshine provides a comprehensive range of Early Intervention services to the facility’s youngest residents, including interactive free play, gross/fine motor activity, story time, music and more. Class trips such as apple picking, the botanical gardens and other educational outings provide integral experiences to support community integration and social interaction.

Ages 3-5
The Sunshine Kids’ Clubhouse for Learning and Play, a state-approved, full-day preschool program, uses exploration and discovery to promote confidence, creativity and lifelong critical thinking skills. Students with cognitive and physical challenges benefit from the program’s multisensory developmental approach to learning.
Ages 5-21
Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES has established a satellite school at Sunshine to enable students with unique care needs to participate in a full-day school program under the medically-supervised care of Sunshine’s clinical team including physicians, nurses and respiratory therapists. Sunshine’s clinical and educational staff follow the well-established Pines Bridge School community-based model to provide elementary through high school students with a safe, creative and stimulating learning environment that invites students to learn, explore and reach their maximum potential and level of independence.