



# CHAUTAUQUA OPPORTUNITIES, INC.

## A COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP



*Helping people. Changing lives.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **NRG Energy and Chautauqua Opportunities Celebrate Opening of New Transitional Youth Residential Facility in Dunkirk**

*—Project Supported by NRG Energy's \$255,000 Grant—*

**PRINCETON, NJ; October 7, 2009**—Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. and NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG) today celebrated the completion of a new transitional youth housing facility, funded by a grant from NRG, the owner of Dunkirk Power Station. Chautauqua Opportunities used the grant to renovate a residential building in northern Chautauqua County and transform it into a modern facility that provides housing and support services for youth as they move toward independent living.

“We are so thankful for the work that NRG has done for us—they donated not only money, but manpower and support,” said Roberta Keller, Executive Director of Chautauqua Opportunities. “With the assistance and support from NRG, we are able to provide local at risk youth with positive life options.”

Since 1999, Chautauqua Opportunities has been providing services for youth through its Transitional Independent Living Program, where participants are given a sense of personal safety, a structured environment and the opportunity to gain self-worth based on achievement and character. The new facility, located in Dunkirk, is a full-service, furnished home where up to eight youths, ages 16 to 21, can live for up to 18 months while they develop these increased self sufficiency skills. Program participants, who receive support and guidance from adult mentors, also are encouraged to enroll in school and/or become employed, as well as become involved and remain connected to the community.

“This new housing facility fills a long-standing need in Chautauqua County by offering a stable environment in which our local youth can learn and grow,” said Drew Murphy, President of NRG’s Northeast Region. “Moments like today are important to everyone involved and the good that comes out of it will be evident for years to come.”

Supporting Chautauqua Opportunities is one of many employee-driven efforts sponsored by NRG’s Global Giving initiative. Over the past five years, NRG has made financial grants to non-profit organizations that address vital community needs through targeted and sustainable service programs consistent with the Company’s four focus areas: community and economic development, education, environment and human welfare.

#### **About NRG**

NRG Energy, Inc., a Fortune 500 company, owns and operates one of the country’s largest and most diverse power generation portfolios. Headquartered in Princeton, NJ, the Company’s power plants provide more than 24,000 megawatts of generation capacity—enough to supply more than 20 million homes. NRG’s retail business, Reliant Energy, serves more than 1.6 million residential, business, commercial and industrial customers in Texas. A past recipient of the energy industry’s highest honors—Platts Industry Leadership and Energy Company of the Year awards, NRG is a member of the U.S.

Climate Action Partnership (USCAP), a group of business and environmental organizations calling for mandatory legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. More information is available at [www.nrgenergy.com](http://www.nrgenergy.com).

**About Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.**

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI) is a private, not-for-profit, community-based organization incorporated in 1965 as part of a network of 1100 Community Action Agencies formed to implement the initiatives of President Johnson's War on Poverty. Since that time, COI has evolved in response to local needs and conditions and now has a number of designations and licenses related to specific services. COI is a grassroots agency both governed by and serving the people of Chautauqua County. Its eighteen member Board of Directors is drawn from the community it serves and is made up in equal parts of representatives of the private sector, public sector, and low-income community.

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**Contacts:**

**NRG:**

Lori Neuman, Director, Communications  
609.524.4525

**Chautauqua Opportunities:**

Roberta Keller, Executive Director  
716 366-3333