



**STUDENTS AT LITCHFIELD HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPATE IN
ALTICE CONNECTS CHARITY CHAMPIONS PROGRAM**

***First Selectman Leo Paul Recognized Students for Their Commitment;
School Presented with \$1,000 Check for Smile Train***

New York - March 17, 2017 – Yesterday, First Selectman Leo Paul joined Altice USA to recognize Litchfield High School students for their efforts to raise money and awareness for Smile Train, a charity providing corrective surgery for children with cleft lips and palates. The school participated in the Altice Connects Charity Champions program which, since 2009, has promoted volunteerism and encouraged high school students to raise funds for the charity of their choice. To raise money and awareness for Smile Train, Litchfield High School Interact students hosted a “Teacher Spelling Bee” which teachers, administrators and staffers participated in while students monitored the event.

Following remarks at the event from Litchfield High School Interact Club Advisor Theresa Simaitis, Altice USA’s Laura Jordan and First Selectman Leo Paul presented the students with a \$1,000 check from Altice USA for Smile Train. Altice USA is a leading telecommunications company that provides Optimum TV, phone and internet services in areas of Connecticut, New Jersey and New York.

“I would like to thank all of the students involved in the Altice Connects Charity Champions program,” said First Selectman Leo Paul. “Because of their commitment, Smile Train is able to continue making a difference in the lives of so many individuals in need. I also commend Altice USA for this program that helps young people realize the importance of helping others and engages students in such a positive way.”

“The Altice Connects Charity Champions program creates a true partnership between schools, students and community organizations by supporting the local charitable efforts of high school students,” said Lee Schroeder, senior vice president, government and community affairs, Altice USA. “Giving back to our communities is of utmost importance to Altice USA and we commend the students at Litchfield High School for their passion and dedication in raising awareness and supporting this important cause.”

Earlier this year, Altice USA announced it has partnered with 44 high schools to kick off its annual “Altice Connects Charity Champions” community program. Participating high schools select a charity that is important to them and organize a series of events and activities to raise funds for their selected cause. To support these efforts, Altice USA provides each school with seed money to put towards their fundraising efforts, as well a donation to each school’s charity of choice. Upon completion of the program, Altice USA awards the schools that best demonstrate how they inspired civic responsibility through their charitable efforts by showcasing school spirit, creativity and commitment. Through this program, Altice USA is donating more than \$75,000 to local charities and schools.

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