

GERI JEWELL TO BE KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT 2011 CP of NYS ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN SARATOGA SPRINGS



Actress and motivational speaker Geri Jewell will deliver the Keynote Address at the Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State Annual Conference October 24 at the Hilton Hotel in Saratoga Springs.

Introduced to millions as *Cousin Geri* on the NBC hit comedy “Facts of Life,” Geri Jewell has risen to become a leading force in disabilities advocacy. Jewell started her acting career as the personal choice of legendary producer Norman Lear for her role in the ground-breaking NBC sitcom. She was the first person with a visible disability to become a regular performer on a national, prime-time television show. During her run on the show she broke barriers by addressing issues of disability awareness.

Jewell is internationally recognized as a powerful motivational speaker and trainer. By revealing insights about the world as she sees it, she turns the focus from disabilities to a celebration of ability, resulting in an inspiring and empowering experience.

Jewell has also continued with her acting. She was selected to be part of the Emmy-winning HBO series, “Deadwood,” and is a recurring character on “Young and the Restless.” She made her film debut this year in an independent feature shown at the Tribeca and Fort Lauderdale Film Festivals.

She has also released an autobiography, “I’m Walking As Straight As I Can: Transcending Disability in Hollywood and Beyond.”