



# *Women of* DISTINCTION

HONORING WOMEN IN NEW YORK

*Debbie Metz*

Debbie Metz founded the Kyle Meier Mastics Sports Club, Kyle Sports for Special Needs 14 years ago.

Ms. Metz, alongside her grandson, Kyle Meier, has changed the lives of many Long Island children. A Mastic Beach resident, Kyle was born with multiple physical disabilities which have impacted his ability to grow at a typical rate. Ms. Metz wanted what every parent or grandparent would want for their children – for them to be loved and accepted. She also wanted him to have the freedom to play sports and be part of a team.

The Club, with Ms. Metz serving as Commissioner, offers all children with special needs and disabilities the opportunity to participate in an inclusion sports program. It provides a stress-free environment that gives children a chance to experience barrier-free play, to be part of a team, or just the opportunity to play alongside their peers.

Ms. Metz continues to actively reach out for partnerships with her community, local government officials, and nearby schools. She has been instrumental in building adaptive playgrounds in her area. Her next initiative is to partner up with the William Floyd School District to secure adaptive bikes at the schools so the kids can have easier access to them during the bi-monthly meetups at the middle school.

In her own words, "Empower, enjoy, and embrace your children and give them the opportunity to open all the doors to inclusion sports. Spark their interest, motivate their minds, stimulate their hearts, and watch the smiles on their faces."

Her humility, compassion, outstanding work, and commitment to the needs of others is commendable.

***Debbie Metz was selected as a  
2024 Women of Distinction honoree by Senator Dean Murray***

