



Message from the CEO, Greg Sorrentino

Happy summer everyone, I hope you have the opportunity to enjoy the warmer weather and time with family and friends. June continued its tradition of being a busy month, including two visits from the Commissioner of OPWDD Kerri Neifeld, once to tour our Center Health Care Clinic and Langan School, in Albany, to meet the 2022 graduates. Later in June, Commissioner Neifeld attended the Kevin G. Langan School Graduation in Albany, and delivered her commencement speech, speaking about each student and her interaction with them earlier in the month. Congratulations to all of our graduates of both the Langan School (Albany and Prospect Center) and Cloverpatch Preschool (Albany, Glenville, and Prospect Center). Regardless if you are continuing on with the Center for Disability Services or going in a different path, we certainly enjoyed your time with us.



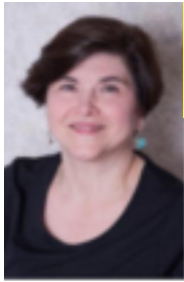
On June 10th, Jackie Richard's graduated from the Capital Leadership Program through the Capital Region Chamber. The Capital Leadership Program is an annual program, which requires application and acceptance by the Capital Region Chamber, and has alumni that include many current community leaders in different businesses. Jackie is a key member of the Center's Residential Services Administration and a co-leader in our Diversity Equity and Inclusion Program.

On June 14th, the Center had a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Health Innovations Incubator & Technology Center (HII-Tech), which is the research and development arm of the Center for Disability Services. HII-Tech's mission is to develop new products and conduct research to improve the quality of life of individuals with disabilities. Currently we have five products in development, with our oral hygiene (toothbrush) preparing to go to clinical trial with Tufts Dental School. HII-Tech currently has four patents submitted, two United States Patents awarded, two articles published, one Innovation Award, and one Best in Class Product to Market. We have engineering students from RPI, Union, University of Rochester, and Cornell University, as well as two high school students working at the incubator, under the supervision of Dr. Eric Ledet and Dr. Lawrence Ruff. The HII-Tech incubator is Local in genesis and Global in impact. We look forward to many more exciting announcements related to our incubator, and the positive impact it will have on our community. A special thank you to Cap Com Cares Foundation and SEFCU for their generous gifts to our incubator.

Finally on June 16th, former New York Yankee Tino Martinez visited the Langan School in Albany, talking with students and staff about his experiences and getting to know a little more about what happens each day at the Center. The students and staff greeted Tino with signs and loud cheers, which he very much appreciated. Tino also attended the Aficionado Experience that evening, helping raise money for the Center, signing baseball's and talking with attendees well into the evening.

July started summer school programs at the Center, and Camp Spectacular in early August at CloverPatch Camp. While we have made great progress in bringing back individuals to programs, all sites are not open yet. International staffing issues have prevented our Overnight Camp from opening again this summer, and we still need additional employees in most programs. Please help spread the word, and have interested candidates look at the Center's webpage (www.cfdsny.org) to view available positions. Thank you to our staff, the individuals we support, and their families for their understanding, patience, and support as we continue to navigate the re-opening, and new variants of the virus.

I hope everyone enjoys the remainder of the summer.



Message From Maria Kansas Devine, M.D. Chief Medical Officer

Happy Summer!

While much of the world is in turmoil, and COVID continues to be present in the news and in our lives, we are pleased to note that we have had little serious illness from the newest variants, I firmly believe this is thanks to our robust immunization status of our staff and our residents as well as the ongoing diligence of our valued staff and families. We are learning to balance fun with safety and are enjoying being outside in the good weather. Many thanks to all.

Center Health Care continues to balance in person and remote visits in all departments and awaits the final determination as to whether these will be allowed for all in the future. Expected Medicare rule changes will limit telehealth to psychiatry and social work in the fall of 2022. We are actively working to educate our Congressional and Senate representatives on the necessity for these services, as we navigate these changes and make sure all our patients are able to maintain current levels of care access.

Also, if you are already an Amazon shopper please consider using Amazon Smile and designate Center for Disabilities as your charity of choice!

Wishing all the best in Health.

Going for the Gold

Matthew Graham has always dreamed of participating in the Special Olympics USA games. To work towards this goal Matt joined the Special Olympics Powerlifting Team. Coach Chris took Matt under his wing and Matt quickly began to thrive.

In June 2022, Matt's dream became a reality as he went to the Special Olympics USA Games at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando, Florida. The competition was intense, but Matt focused on doing his best. The results are in, Matt won 4 medals!! Matt took home a Gold Medal in the Squat, two Silver Medals, one in the dead lift and one in the overall competition, and won a Bronze Medal in the bench press.

Matt has put in a lot of hard work for the Special Olympics and it sure paid off. Congratulations Matt on this huge accomplishment!!



Leadership Tech Valley

Congratulations to Jackie Richards (in pink) on her graduation from the Capital Leadership Class of 2022, through the Capital Region Chamber. Jackie is a Director with our Residential Services administrative team at the Center for Disability Services, and is also a co-leader in our Diversity Equity and Inclusion Program through Tangible Development, LLC. Thank you to James J. Morris IV, Center Governing Board Chair, and Charles Pinckney, Vice Chair for their support as we celebrated Jackie's success.



Queensbury Respite Home



After overcoming some unforeseen challenges the Queensbury respite home will be opening soon! After sustaining significant water damage in the winter of 2020 the opening was put on hold. However, Facilities Maintenance and Operations staff pushed forward to get us here today. A special thank you to Kayla Lottey, Laurel Turner and Tim Bartlett for putting so much effort into getting the program ready for occupancy. They spent countless hours getting everything organized, furnished and adding the all important decorating touches that make a house a home. This is but one example of tremendous team work found throughout the Center. THANK YOU ALL!

HR Content & Resources on Centernet

Centernet has been revamped with all different content pertaining to Recruitment, Benefits, Leave of Absence, Retirement, Financial Education, Wellness, and much more! Please go to Centernet to view all the up to date forms, policies, announcements, trainings, etc.

<http://centernet/>

Congratulations Graduates!



On June 21st Langan School, in Albany celebrated 7 graduates: Ali, Matthew, Olivia, Bikash, Matt, Brianna, and Elaine. Families, friends and staff members were on hand to celebrate. The graduates were presented with diplomas, framed senior photos, and photo collages of memories. The Commissioner of OPWDD Kerri Neifeld joined us as the Commencement Speaker. She spoke about all the upcoming excitement that leaving school will bring. We had special awards presented to some of the graduates. The Kevin G. Langan award was presented to Bikash for showing a desire to succeed and overcome obstacles in order to achieve maximum independence. We also introduced for the first time the Patrick J Riley award which will be an award given annually to a Center staff member who displays exemplary school spirit like the man it was named after. The winner this year was Rose Schrowang, RN.

Also please join us in congratulating our graduates from Langan School at Prospect Center, Jenn, Andreas, Elijah and Matthew!! On the morning of June 21st Prospect staff and family members joined us for the ceremony and reception as we recognized the hard work and achievements of our graduates.

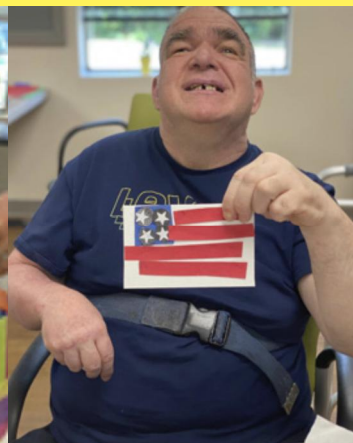
Congratulations class of 2022!!



Havin' Fun in the Summertime!!

Our Day Hab Programs have been busy this summer. We reopened our Delmar Day Hab Program and they kicked off the summer with some camp activities. The Without Walls Program continues to be out and about and has been discovering some really great places in the Capital Region. Charles Park took advantage of the great weather and had fun fishing. Smith Center and the Recreation Programs at Corporate Circle and Glenville celebrated Independence Day, Prospect showed off their creative side with some arts and crafts activities, and 700 SPS celebrated Hattie's 60th Birthday! Everyone has been joining in the fun at all our programs.

We hope that everyone is enjoying the summer as much as we are!



Sizzling Summer Events!!

This summer has been a very busy and successful one for the Center's Foundation.

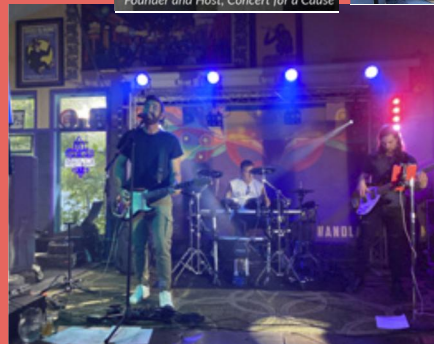
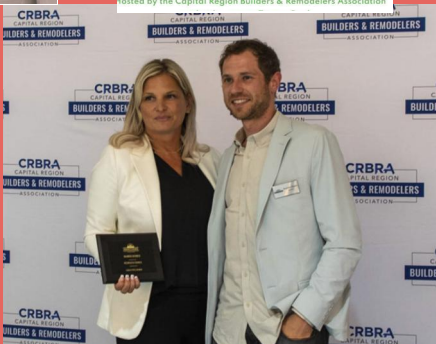
Event Season kicked off with the Capital Region Parade of Homes June 4-5 & 11-12. Proceeds from ticket sales were donated to the Center in support of MOVE equipment!

On June 16th former New York Yankee Tino Martinez was in town for our annual An Aficionado Experience Event, but his first stop was to our Kevin G. Langan School in Albany to meet our students and staff.

The next evening was the 7th Annual Concert for a Cause featuring Ryan Clark. This event was held at Nanola in Malta.

Then on July 13th the 29th Annual Newton Plaza Siro's Cup was held. This year's Siro's Cup Award Recipient was jockey, Joel Rosario. Artist James Fiorentino was recognized and friend and philanthropist William (Bill) Lia Sr. was honored posthumously.

Thank you so much to all of the sponsors and attendees of these great events, and we're not done yet!!





AUGUST 6 & 7, 2022
MILLION DOLLAR BEACH
LAKE GEORGE

Women's & Men's Tournament – Saturday
 Co-ed Tournament – Sunday
Sponsorships available.
 Spectators are welcome!

Register at cfdnsny.org or by calling
 518-832-6113 or heunemann@cfdnsny.org.

Sponsored by **TIMES UNION**



SAVE THE DATE
9.25.2022



Ribbon Cutting at HII Tech



In June, the Center "Cut The Ribbon" on our Health Innovations Incubator & Technology Center (HII-Tech). HII-Tech, the research and development arm of the Center for Disability Services, continues to design products and conduct research to improve the quality of life of individuals with disabilities. HII-Tech has 5 products in our pipeline, 4 patents submitted, 2 United States Patents awarded, 2 Articles published, and has received one Innovation Award. We have also provided 12 fellowships to students at various colleges in New York, who work in our incubator.

A special thank you to the Cap Com Cares Foundation and SEFCU for their generous gifts in support of the life changing innovations produced by the team at HII-Tech. Local in genesis, Global in impact, and this is just the beginning!

Christmas in July!!



After two years of not being able to visit the residents of St. Margaret's Center for the Holidays due to COVID-19, Santa Claus, his elves and members of the Renegade Pigs Motorcycle Club, from all over the country, rode to St. Margaret's Center where Santa visited with residents. Santa and his elves arrived on their motorcycles with members of the Renegade Pigs Motorcycle Club to celebrate the holiday season a little early with the residents.

This year marks the Motorcycle Club's 20th Annual visit to St. Margaret's Center. Renegade Pigs Club Members were escorted to and from St. Margaret's Center by Members of the New York State Police Motor Patrol, the Rensselaer County Sheriff's Motor Patrol and the Albany Police Department.