

Welcome to the Center's New E-Newsletter

We are excited to launch a new e-newsletter series to share information and stories from across the Center for Disability Services' wide array of services and programs. We hope you find this communication helpful and informative. Please forward this [link](#) to anyone who might like to sign up to receive this e-newsletter.



Center Happenings

Renovations Continue at Center Health Care with a Projected Completion in Early Spring

We look forward to revealing the new, welcoming spaces and showcasing the additional accessibility features. Center Health Care also recently completed the implementation of a new medical records system and will welcome a new Director of Operations this month. If you haven't already met him, please read more about our new Chief Medical officer, Dr. Russell Wenacur, who arrived

in May, 2025. [Learn More](#)

CFDS Direct Support Professionals Invest in Exceptional Care

Our Direct Support Professionals are dedicated members of the Center team, committed to delivering exceptional care and support every day. Through our partnership with OPWDD and SUNY Schenectady, employees have the opportunity to participate in the Direct Support Professional Microcredentials program, an initiative designed to foster professional growth while reinforcing the highest standards of service.

We are proud of this collaboration and even more proud of the Center employees who choose to deepen their expertise by taking advantage of these nationally accredited courses. Their commitment to ongoing learning strengthens our organization and enhances the quality of care we provide. Congratulations to our most recent DSP graduates!

DSP I: Janet Harris & Emma Riehl

DSP II: Kelsey Daverin, Katrina Braun & Camelle Osbourne



Clover Patch Camp Reopening in June 2026: Enrollment Open

After a five-year hiatus, we are proud and excited to announce that Clover Patch Camp is set to reopen in June 2026! For decades, Clover Patch has been a place where children (age 5+) and adults with disabilities experience the full joy of summer camp—a place where everything is fully accessible, medical needs are taken care of, and every camper is encouraged to reach their fullest potential.

Campers can look forward to a full lineup of classic summer adventures, including daily swimming, arts and crafts, music and drama, sports, games, nature exploration, theme days, and so much more! Every activity is thoughtfully adapted to ensure each camper experiences success, friendship, and pure fun

[Meet the new Camp Director, Corwin Sullivan-Rocha](#)

[LEARN MORE AND ENROLL](#)

Winter break is coming up soon. Have you made plans to utilize the respite services offered at the Center?

The Center recognizes that caring for a loved one with developmental disabilities is both rewarding and demanding. For families who need additional support, we offer respite services in both Albany and Queensbury. We also offer skilled pediatric respite care at St. Margaret's Center.

[LEARN MORE AND ENROLL](#)



Staff Spotlight

Why Inclusive Hiring Matters: Celebrating Dwyane's 40 Years at CFDS

For 40 years, Dwyane has been a steady and reliable part of the CFDS team. His journey is more than a work anniversary, it is a powerful example of what is possible when organizations embrace inclusive hiring and recognize the talent, heart, and perspective that people with disabilities bring to the workplace.

[Learn More](#)

Family Network

The Center committed to refocusing on family engagement with the rollout of the **Family Network**. A steering committee and sub-committees were established to guide the Center's Family Network to offer family programming, education, and engagement opportunities. Don't miss your chance to give your feedback by completing the **all-family survey**, open now through February 13th, to help identify needs and interests of Center families.



CFDS Foundation

The 518Gives Telethon Returns March 3rd: Donate Now

Mark your calendars and join a longstanding community tradition on March 3, 2026, the Center for Disability Services Foundation's **518Gives Telethon**, a virtual event. This year will be especially meaningful because the telethon will coincide with the kickoff of **National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month**.

Additionally, those who donate \$100 or more may enter a drawing to win a **VIP New York Yankees Experience**.



[LEARN MORE AND DONATE](#)

Thank you to Our Donors...

The Center would like to thank everyone who made a gift to our **Annual Fund** in 2025. Your commitment and generosity truly make a meaningful difference in the lives of the people and families we support. We are grateful to have you as part of our community.

Because of your support in 2025, we were able to:

- Hold multiple enrichment events like, Special Olympics, summer carnivals, proms, and field trips
- Provide enhanced therapies including dance and music therapy
- Host holiday parties, picnics and staff appreciation events
- Purchase learning software, subscriptions and memberships for the people we support
- Update furniture, décor and outdoor spaces in our residences

These are just a few examples of the impact your generosity makes possible, allowing the Center for Disability Services to go above and beyond to truly be the place *where people get better at life*.

