

Center Happenings

The Center receives \$1.2 Million dollar grant Federal Home Loan Bank of New York (FHLBNY)

This year's Federal Home Loan Bank of New York's (FHLBNY) Affordable Housing Program (AHP) grants will create, rehabilitate, or preserve 619 affordable housing units across seven projects in Albany, Ballston Spa, Guilderland, and Schenectady. The Center will receive \$1,223,732 for CFDS Residence

Renovations (Phase I). Two residences are in Guilderland, on Nott Road and Schoolhouse Road, and a third in the Scotia-Glenville area and include the renovation of 25 units.



Federal Home Loan Bank
NEW YORK

The proposed renovations focus on critical accessibility and infrastructure enhancements. Comprehensive kitchen, laundry, and bathroom remodels will enhance resident safety and caregiver efficiency. The project also includes essential exterior and structural modernization. These renovations and modifications will not only continue to uphold our excellent standard of care and enhance the experience for all of the residents and staff on a daily basis but will also offer an added layer of benefit for a social purpose as much as a physical one, allowing our residents to age-in-place. [Learn more](#)

A Summer of Celebrations & Accomplishments for Langan Students

Summer has been filled with celebrations, accomplishments, and plenty of fun across all our programs, but especially in our education programs. From graduations and school carnivals to Special Olympics events, students have had many opportunities to learn, grow, and shine.

In June, we proudly celebrated seven graduates; five from the Kevin G. Langan School in Albany and two from the Langan School at Prospect Center. Reaching this milestone is a tremendous achievement, and we congratulate each student as they begin their next chapter. Clover Patch Preschool also celebrated the moving up of several students who are ready to dive into what's next!

Students also enjoyed exciting carnival celebrations at Clover Patch Preschool in Glenville, Kevin G. Langan School and Langan School at Prospect, creating memorable experiences filled with games, laughter, and community spirit. At Prospect School, students showcased their talents, determination, and sportsmanship during a Special Olympics event, highlighting the incredible abilities of all who participated.

It's been a wonderful summer of milestones and memories, and we look forward to many more celebrations ahead.



Clover Patch Camp Wraps up First Season Back

After being closed for six years, this summer's return of Clover Patch Camp was highly anticipated, and we were thrilled to welcome campers back once again. We had an incredible summer filled with activities, friendships, and lifelong memories.

A huge thank you to our incredible counselors and staff who showed up every day and gave our campers the very best experience. We are also so grateful to the donors and volunteers who worked

tirelessly in the months leading up to opening day, helping clean up, renovate, and prepare the camp to make this season possible.

To all of our campers and families, thank you for being part of this exciting new chapter. We hope each camper had a wonderful experience filled with memories, friendships, and fun.

[*Watch the Clover Patch Camp video overview*](#)

Northgate Residence Hosts Open House to Showcase Recent Improvements

Northgate recently hosted an open house celebration, providing people with an opportunity to tour the home and see the many improvements completed over the past month.



The project was led by Kayla Lotty, Project and Property Manager, who worked closely with the maintenance department and the Northgate team to coordinate updates throughout the property. Through careful planning, organization, and collaboration, the team enhanced both the interior and exterior of the home, improving its appearance and creating a more welcoming environment for residents and staff.

Improvements like these have a meaningful impact on the daily lives of residents and employees alike. A sincere thank you to Kayla and everyone who contributed their time and effort to make this project a success.



What's Possible when Expertise, Dedication, and Collaboration Come Together

At just 12 years old, Gordon experienced something incredible, his very first time in the pool. What made this milestone truly remarkable wasn't just the moment itself, but the proven impact of a program designed to meet each child exactly where they are.

Through coordinated teamwork, thoughtful planning, and specialized care, Center staff created a safe, supportive, and engaging experience tailored just for

Gordon. In his very first session, he was relaxed, all smiles, and already working on kicking his legs and engaging his trunk, a testament to how effective intentional, individualized programming can be from day one.

His success highlights the strength of a program built on trust, innovation, and teamwork, where every person supported at the Center is given the opportunity

to thrive.

24/7 Respite Care that Families can Trust

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 in Albany.

Whether you need overnight care, after-work/school coverage, or time to take care of your every-day errands, we have a team of experienced and compassionate professionals who you can trust to support your loved one while you're away. We'll work with you to understand their needs and create a schedule that fits your needs, so you can feel confident that your loved one is supported while you're away.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Staff Spotlight

DSPs Recognized for Going Above and Beyond

The CFDS Residential and Adult Divisions have begun a new recognition program. Each month two employees will be recognized for their hard work. Peers and family members of CFDS supported people can nominate their peers for this honor in recognition of their dedication, strong work ethic, and commitment to *helping people get better at life*.



We would like to congratulate the first four employees who were recognized: Aryan Thompson, Christopher Cossart, Felekech Alula-Solomon, and Kindra Nichols. Each of you has made a positive impact on the people we support as well as your colleagues. Thank you for all of your hard work!

Family Network

Advocacy notes: Lending your support to proposed legislation that will positively impact our community is as easy as "one

The Family Network 
At the Center for Disability Services
Where people get better at life™

click." Take a few moments to fill out these "one-click" advocacy initiatives and let your legislators know you support these proposals .

Traveling with Dignity Act: The Traveling with Dignity Act bill seeks to provide "adult changing accommodation" in public places with an occupancy of over 2,500. Examples include amusement parks, auditoriums, theatres, convention and sports centers, and exhibition halls. This bill has passed both houses and now awaits the Governor's signature. You can still support this act with just **ONE-click**. Urge the Governor to sign this bill so that everyone can travel with dignity!

Recognizing the Role of Direct Support Professionals: On August 6, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee unanimously passed the bipartisan **Recognizing the Role of Direct Support Professionals Act (S.3211)**. Introduced by Senators Maggie Hassan and Susan Collins, this bill directs the Office of Management and Budget to establish a dedicated Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) code for DSPs. Creating a distinct code will help collect accurate data on workforce trends, wages, and shortages to help drive policy solutions for the ongoing workforce crisis. **Send a One-Click today**

Tell Congress to protect Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) for New Yorkers with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD). Urge your representatives to reject further cuts or harmful changes to Medicaid! Contact your legislators and support the Latonya Reeves Freedom Act to help protect access to long-term services and supports in homes and communities. If passed, this legislation would:

- Establish concrete state planning requirements.
- Eliminate discriminatory barriers enforced by insurers and government entities.
- Ensure individuals with disabilities can receive long-term services and supports (LTSS) in their homes and communities. **Make your voice heard today**

Together, we can continue advocating for inclusion, independence, and equal opportunities for people with disabilities.

CFDS Foundation News

Siro's Cup

Thank you to everyone who attended the 33rd Annual Siro's Cup! The evening was truly unforgettable as we honored Michelle and Walter Borisenok and **Old Tavern Farm**, and we are incredibly grateful for the support of all who joined us. The night was filled with great music, amazing food, and awesome people. We're also truly grateful to the many volunteers, staff members, vendors and friends of the Center who worked



tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure everything ran smoothly once again this year. We exceeded our goal thanks to the generous support of everyone that contributed to our mission. [Check out the photos from the event here.](#)



35th Annual Sand & Spike International Volleyball Tournament

35 years and still “digging it!” Our thanks go out to the 800 dedicated players and hundreds of spectators, our sponsors and community partners for making this year’s

Sand & Spike International Volleyball Tournament presented by Times Union a success. Special thanks to our incredible Directors-Chris Bowler and Ben Rosenthal for their continued commitment to the mission of Prospect Center and the sport of Volleyball. Congratulations to all of our winners although all participants are winners in our eyes. ***Looking forward to seeing everyone in the sand on August 7 & 8, 2027 for the 36th Annual Sand & Spike International Volleyball Tournament!*** Until next year, “dig deep and rise above.”

[Check out the photos from the event here.](#)

Registration is Open for the 30th Annual Capital Region Buddy Walk

The Capital Region Buddy Walk provides critical funds for the Down Syndrome Aim High Resource Center at the Center for Disability Services to fulfill its mission throughout the year. There is no minimum fundraising requirement, but each dollar you and/or your team raises will provide necessary funds to support hundreds of people with Down syndrome throughout the Capital Region across our day and community programs, schools and residences.



YOU are the most important part of this event because you can make the most difference in its success. Register yourself or your team today, set a fundraising goal and get started! ***Watch this video about the Down Syndrome Aim High Resource Center and what your Buddy Walk fundraising supports.***

[SIGN UP TODAY](#)



Center for Disability Services Inc. | 22 Corporate Woods 5th Floor | Albany, NY 12211 US

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