

August 2023



What's Happening in Our World This Month?

DEI at CP, New Videos, Important Visits, Upcoming Celebrations, and More!

Dear CP Family,

Throughout the CP network, our team is doing extraordinary things and making a real difference in the lives of people with disabilities alongside veterans, seniors, newly arrived immigrants, and other communities who can take advantage of our best-in-field care.

From our recent outreach and visits with important elected officials to an expansion of CP's wheelchair clinics, the work we are doing matters and the folks who are in charge of making sure it is recognized properly are seeing it. Read more on page 4.

Speaking of recognitions, I have to note that August and September will be full of opportunities to say thank you to our CP team. In August, the Summer BBQs will kick off on Staten Island, followed by the Bronx & Manhattan teams. We will also come together to honor many of our friends who have been here for decades at the "Employee Longevity Celebration" on August 23 and 24. You can see more on page 5, and those marking anniversaries received emailed invites Friday, with more to come!

And, we would not be the Agency we are without the many different people who make up our team. Diversity is central to all we do at CP Unlimited and helps us better able to advance our mission in every way. I am proud to work with a team as committed to cross-cultural understanding and welcoming everyone as they are to the people we support. [Our new DEI video](#) is something I hope you will all take the time to watch.

With wishes for a healthy and happy August,

-Joseph M. Pancari, President & CEO

DEI at CP Unlimited

As an agency, we live our mission in the community we create for our CP Family. This includes creating a workforce reflective of the world, united by our work and the satisfaction earned by making a difference.

In 2020, CP Unlimited launched an internal DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Committee designed to help all employees bring their whole-selves to work and educate our 2,500-strong CP Family on various holidays, celebrations, and cultural observances throughout the year. For our team members, this can be anything from a Chinese art lesson, a cooking class for Ramadan, or resources to help recognize Juneteenth.

We strive to deepen cross-cultural understanding as it is the shared belief that only through compassion and exchange can we best deliver on the CP mission and support people with I/DD, while making our Agency a leading place to create a career with impact and meaning.

See the new DEI at CP webpage that illustrates our commitment and features a new video with many of our CP team discussing diversity and the culture at the organization:



or scan



Increasing Mobility in the Hudson Valley



On Saturday, July 15, CP Unlimited expanded its complimentary wheelchair clinics to the Hudson Valley, with an event at Carmel Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

We are so very happy to report that 28 people who use wheelchairs were able to take advantage of this service and received a full cleaning, sanitizing (for non-powered chairs), and a complete inspection to ensure proper functionality.

Each wheelchair clinic is an opportunity to meet new folks and provide a helpful service that increases personal independence and mobility. In turn, this means people who use wheelchairs are a more visible and integrative part of their local communities and allows them to achieve a fulfilling life.

[See more, including a video with our dedicated Rehabilitation Team, in the recap story online >>](#)

More CP News: Important Visits

SEN. PETER HARCKHAM TOURS HUDSON VALLEY DAY HAB



During the tour on July 21, Senator Harckham got to chat with our supported persons about their self-advocacy work and experiences in the Hudson Valley. He also saw our art education activities and other skills-building exercises. But perhaps the most exciting moment was getting one of the Day Hab fish named after him! [More from his visit >>](#)

SI BOROUGH PRESIDENT VITO FOSSELLA VISITS CHC



Mr. Fossella and his team took advantage of their time, meeting persons supported and members of the CP Family during their tour and discussion.

Most importantly, we were able to convey the impact of our mission across the city and work on Staten Island while clarifying the potential of CP Unlimited to accomplish so much more!

[See details and photos from his experience on Staten Island >>](#)



Gathering as a CP Family

SUMMER RESIDENTIAL & DAY HAB BBQS: AUGUST / SEPT



Summer BBQ and Picnic Schedule



August 12: Staten Island CLS
Cora Hoffman Center
2324 Forest Ave., SI, NY 10303
12:00 - 4:00 PM



August 26: Bronx and Manhattan CLS
ADAPT
1826 Stillwell Ave., Bronx, NY 10469
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM



September 2: Brooklyn CLS
Carmen Aquilone Day Program
842A Lefferts Ave., Bklyn, NY 11203
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM



September 8: Queens CLS & CPNS
Hempstead Lake State Park
10:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Since 1946, Constructive Partnerships (CP) Unlimited has promoted opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to achieve fulfilling lives.



Every summer season, CP Unlimited Residential and Day Hab programs seek to take advantage of the warm and welcoming weather by putting on our annual BBQs for the people we support, their DSPs, and local community leaders.

- **August 12: Staten Island CLS**, Cora Hoffman Center | 12:00 – 4:00 PM
- **August 26: Bronx and Manhattan CLS**, ADAPT, 1826 Stillwell Ave. | 11:00 AM–4:00 PM
- **September 2: Brooklyn CLS**, Carmen Aquilone Day Program, 842A Lefferts Ave. | 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- **[Now] September 8: Queens CLS & CPNS**, Hempstead Lake State Park | 10:00 AM – 1:30 PM

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARY EVENTS: AUGUST 23/24



This year, many of our colleagues are observing 10, 20, 30, even 40+ years with the Agency!

In recognition, we are reviving a pre-COVID program, CP's "Employee Longevity Celebration" where we will gather with people marking significant professional milestones with us later this month at special programs in Midtown Manhattan.

Check your email to RSVP (first invites sent Friday!). We look forward to recognizing you!

**events will cover staff with anniversaries from 2019-2022*

From the Field Communications

PREVENTING A *TRIPLEDEMIC* THIS FALL & WINTER

From Ira L. Salom, MD MSc(Med) FACP CPE, Chief Medical Officer of CP Unlimited

To prevent a repeat of last winter's "tripledeemic" of respiratory illnesses (Flu, COVID, RSV- Respiratory Syncytial Virus), everyone is encouraged to get vaccinated. What is new, however, is that the first RSV vaccine for use in persons 60 and over was recently approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

What does this mean to the CP community? Our residents are at particular risk and deserve maximum protection. Our staff also need to guard against these spreadable diseases.

We are in conversation about obtaining the new RSV vaccine. Senior staff are working on the logistics of identifying eligible residents, assuring permission is in place, and getting people to vaccination sites. Immunization starts in September and earlier is better! Plan on getting vaccinations in September and October.

SEE CP IN *THE DAILY VOICE: PUTNAM COUNTY*

CP Unlimited Plans Fall Formal for People with Disabilities, November 4

CP Unlimited is infusing some sparkle in the Hudson Valley this autumn at the Agency's second annual "Fall Formal," for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their dedicated staff. Local officials, partner organizations, and area business leaders will also be invited to attend and share in the shine!

The logo for "DAILY VOICE" is displayed in white, bold, uppercase letters on a red rectangular background.

On November 4, more than 100 folks from across our shared communities will enjoy music, a catered meal, a raffle, photos, dancing, and more at Millcreek Caterers in Hopewell Junction, New York. Plans are being put together to make it the most glamorous event for the people supported by CP Unlimited in residential, day habilitation, and Article 16 settings. Tickets and sponsorship info will be available soon.

[Read more online >>](#)

HR: New Hires at CP

Welcoming New Members to the CP Family and Recognizing New Promotions!

Damilola Alade, Direct Care Counselor

Marie Alvarez, Residence Counselor

Marie Benjamin, Direct Care Counselor

Kiara Brockington, Direct Care Counselor

David Castro, Independent Living Skills Trainer

Ketmann Danis, Day Shift Supervisor

Kiyana Dean, Community Habilitation Specialist

Angelina Gentile, Residence Counselor, Wappingers

Dorcas Gideon, Rehabilitation Counselor

Olatubosun Jewoola, Behav. Intervention Specialist - I

Chelsea Little, Residence Counselor/Medical Coord.

Evelyn Monroe, Direct Care Counselor

Erick Oliva, Direct Care Counselor

Tinamarie Rovito Gomez, Clinical Psychologist

Nancy Stewart, Direct Care Counselor

Joan Walker (is now) Director of Day Services

See 4 New Videos From the CP Team on our YouTube Channel:
Thanks to **Evita Daniels**, **Robin Dubose**, and **Yaritsza Guzman**!



CP Wheelchair Clinic in Hudson Valley, July 15, 2023



All About CP's Long Island City Day Hab with Yaritsza Guzman, Senior Habilitation...



Robin Dubose, Community Skills Specialist, on Her Work and the People we Support



Evita Daniels, Community Skills Specialist, on Mornings at CP Unlimited's Carmen...

Final Announcements and Follow Links



James (Jim) Hutter is Appointed Secretary of the CP Board of Directors

Jim joined the Board of Directors in 2021 and is Chair of CP's Governance and Nominating Committee, and a member of the Finance and Investment Committee, the Program Committee, and the IT Committee.

Based in Darien, CT, Mr. Hutter is a financial and business leader active in the nonprofit world, most notably serving as Chief Financial Officer for Harlem Children's Zone until 2021.

Join the CP Community Online



[Facebook.com/ConstructivePartnershipsUnlimited](https://www.facebook.com/ConstructivePartnershipsUnlimited)



[Linkedin.com/company/constructive-partnerships-unlimited-cp-unlimited/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/constructive-partnerships-unlimited-cp-unlimited/)



Find us here: [CP on YouTube](#)
