



## What's Happening in Our World This Month?

End of Year Messaging, Upcoming December Events, and Looking Ahead to 2023

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Dear CP Family,

The holiday season is here again and we look forward to celebrating with our CP family and persons supported at various events and parties all month long!

Given the holidays and new years eve, this time of year is always a bit more active than previous months and we hope you take time to appreciate all of the blessings in your life. During this time, we pass on our special appreciation for your strength, passion, and time spent making this a memorable and meaningful December experience for our people.

And, we look forward to better reflecting these efforts on our updated website when we launch it in the coming weeks!

This is all part of the Agency's promise to our CP team: To always think of innovative ways to create diverse, cross-collaborative bridges to care and community.

All of us look forward to celebrating our shared achievements and wishing our friends and supporters a happy holiday season!

# End of Year Letter to the CP Family From Joseph M. Pancari

2022 was a year marked by change and challenge, and through it all the CP team has been a steadfast, compassionate, and nimble group, always willing to help our persons supported achieve fulfilling lives.

When I moved into the role as President & CEO, I promised to maintain the Agency's culture of commitment for one another—both as skilled colleagues and as integral parts of the engine driving change and improvement for all of our people day in and day out.

To that end, we have worked to create new platforms designed to channel your voices and propel enhancements to how we make your time here personally and professionally fulfilling. From October's Town Hall, we learned much from staff from across the Agency around resources and tools that facilitate cross-collaboration and communications. Committed efforts in the Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion space has let more voices be celebrated, reflecting the communities we serve and the people who make up our team.

Concurrently, this has been a year where we grew our ability to make an impact in the field. By convening OPWDD and OMH in a series of meetings for the first time, with the help of our friends at CP State, CP Unlimited became a unifying force that elevates the standard of care for people with I/DD by helping government motivate new opportunities for cooperation among providers. Inroads on new housing proposals will be of specific benefit to the Agency as we look to vary funding streams and the pool from which we can connect people to our supports.

We also applauded the achievements of staff, honored for their skills, passion, and dedication: Virginia "Ginny" Zelhof, CP's Director of Training, was recognized with the Natalie Rogers Employee of the Year Award from CP State and Maureen Doherty, Executive Assistant Supervisor, Ronald Hetsberger, Direct Care Counselor, Ruby Rodriguez, Billing Specialist, Craig Swedin, Facilities Manager, Rhonda Powell-Ashe, Residential QIDP, Frederick Byron, Habilitation Specialist, Sheila Banks-Pitcher, Habilitation Specialist, and Laura Herdman, Residential DSP received Staff Recognition Awards. Nadine Johnson was also recognized as a Community Care RX DSP & Support Staff of the Year.

Speaking of our fantastic family, we know there is a need to expand the CP Unlimited team and we will make every effort to deepen our current initiatives. What I have heard has been a valuable tutorial in demonstrating how we can make extra effort to show your work matters, and how very much all of the people we support—and their families—appreciate your kindness and care.

On behalf of the Agency, I thank you for all you do and wish you a new year of health, happiness, and success.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Pancari  
President & CEO

# Borough-Based Holiday Events



## Residential Team Celebrations

### Brooklyn CLS & CPNS

**December 9**

Russo's On the Bay

162-45 Cross Bay Blvd

Howard Beach, NY 11414

12:00-6:00PM

### Staten Island

**December 11**

Daddino's Ballroom

460 Brielle Ave.

Staten Isl., NY 10314

4:00PM to 9:00PM

### Queens CLS & CPNS

**December 18**

Antun's

96-43 Springfield Blvd.

Queens Village, NY, 11429

4:00PM to 8:00PM



## Day Habilitation Celebrations

### West Farms

**December 14**

11:00AM-12:30PM

### Cora Hoffman Center

**December 16**

11:00AM-12:30PM

### Long Island City

**December 20**

11:00AM-12:30PM

# Celebrating International Persons with Disabilities Day on December 3



The team at CP Unlimited acknowledges this International Day for People with Disabilities. We join with global advocates and allies calling for a world more accepting and accessible to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Today is all about promoting the rights and well-being for persons with disabilities and we are proud to apply this noble idea in every facet of our work. Every year, our efforts elevate and educate our persons supported, and a wider network of families, community leaders, administrators, businesses, and the public.

Thank you to all who support our work today, and everyday forward.

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## Parent Advocacy Videos Now Online

Part of our work to capture the story and voice of various individuals connected to CP involved speaking with Parent Advocates, whose passions and advocacy have greatly supported our efforts to provide opportunities for their children to live fulfilling lives.

### Meet **Maryann Virga** and **Rosanne Trimarchi**



*Click the images to watch!*



# Upcoming at CP Unlimited

## CP'S HOLIDAY PARTY IS FRIDAY!



Join CP Unlimited colleagues at our official holiday party this Friday, December 9, at the Flatiron Penthouse in Manhattan, from 5:00-9:00 PM!

Dinner, drinks, music, and fun will be in ample supply as we celebrate the year and our shared achievements from all of 2022!

**Don't wait! Get your tickets today (\$50 for staff, \$100 for Executive team members)! Spouses Welcome (separate ticket needed) >>**

*Borough-Based Parties Will Also Be Held*

## SHARE YOUR HOLIDAY PHOTOS WITH US FOR SOCIAL MEDIA!



We would love to include your holiday celebrations on the CP social media pages! Tag us **@constructivepartnersunlimited** on Facebook or email pics to [communications@cpofnys.org](mailto:communications@cpofnys.org)!

# HR: New Hires at CP

**Congrats to the following CP team members on their promotion!**

**Pauline Burke** to Residential Supervisor

**Stella Esele** to Habilitation Coordinator

**Chenea Thorney** to Residence Manager-NE

**Sandra Thorney** to Residential Coordinator-NE

*Did you know?*

*In 2022, CP Unlimited hired more than 230 new people to join our team and promoted more than 30 people into new roles to better tap their skills!*

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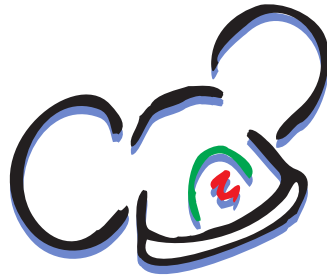
Don't forget to select **United Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State Inc.** on AmazonSmile to support us as you purchase gifts this holiday!

# Final Announcements

## Expanding Entertainment at Day Habs

Hey Mickey! Day Habs are now able to access Disney+ programming commercial free thanks to the assistance of our IT and Programs team!

We hope all of our persons supported enjoy this new suite of educational and fun programs.



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## Follow CP Online and Help Using Amazon Smile



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