

February 2023



What's Happening in Our World This Month?

CP's **New** Website, Hudson Valley Community, Staten Island events, and more!

Dear CP Family,

Hello and Happy February! We move forward after a January of recognition and reinvention, having relaunched the CP website, observed Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Lunar New Year, and celebrated the achievement of 22 graduates from our Adult Education program with a special ceremony.

This month offers a unique opportunity to show your love in more ways than just Valentine's Day! For Black History Month, we invite you to share photos of your family with us so we can present a tapestry of stories and pride with our community.

And, on February 13, you can stand alongside the CP family in support at the New York State Capitol Building at the NYDA Capitol Rally in support of our valued DSPs.

There are more announcements and new ways to share our story to come, and we look forward to announcing them via email, here in future newsletters, and online!

Though this is the briefest month of the year, we know your energy and commitment will never be in short-supply!

OUR NEW WEBSITE IS L-I-V-E!



If you have visited the CP Unlimited website in the last few days, you'll have surely noticed that it is ALL NEW!

You are encouraged to share and explore the updated cpunlimited.org which features streamlined navigation, more focused text, new videos and photos, and the ability to translate the site into various languages!

Making it more user-friendly, the CP website is an accessible portal to our history, successes, and available supports. In addition, the site is a connector to potential donors and a signifier of our presence in the I/DD field.

For our most valued CP Family, the website is also a place where you will see yourself reflected- both in the imagery and in the way we tell our story- by highlighting the passions, commitment, and strength of our team.

Please also remember to share your photos and news with Communications@cpofnys.org so we can promote your developments on our colorful new site!

Adult Education Graduation / DSP Survey



Celebrating Adult Education Graduates

On January 26, we were so proud to celebrate the achievement of 22 students. Over the past year, they enjoyed courses in money management, reading, community engagement, astronomy, and many more. “My son, Akeedo Fisher, is very happy to graduate today. CP is perfect; we plan on continuing this journey with CP for life,” said parent Angela Street. [See a video and a full list of the grads](#) >>



New York Direct Support Professional (DSP) Survey

CP Direct Support Professionals: The goal of this Miami University-based study is to identify factors that impact your quality of life - positively and/or negatively - to better understand what could contribute to a healthier, more rewarding work environment that can improve your financial, social, and overall well-being.

Completing the survey should take about 20 minutes. Your participation is voluntary and you can stop at any time. Individual responses are strictly confidential. [TAKE THE SURVEY ONLINE](#) >>

Supporting CP on Staten Island at Two Events



Staten Island is a borough where the CP Unlimited mission has always had deep roots and where we always work to expand our impact.

We recently enjoyed two events that spotlighted our long-held influence and gave us an opportunity to meet even more local folks. CP's Community Liaison on Staten Island, Antoinette Lawrence, attended each program to introduce our services.

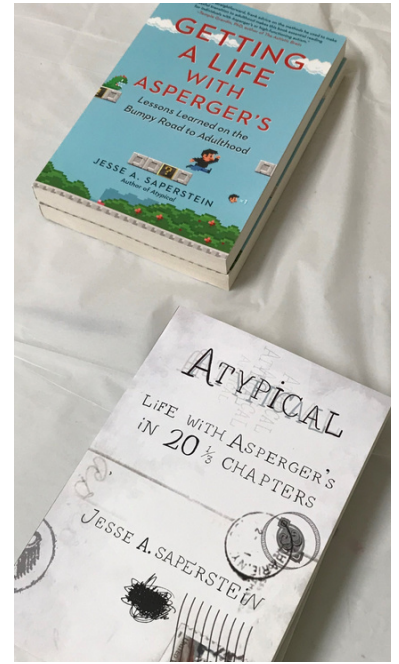
On Friday, January 20, CP Unlimited was the organization of choice at the Commons Café, a local restaurant that channels daily profits to different non-profits making a difference. Opened by The Nicotra Group, Staten Island's largest private real estate developers, the café has been a mainstay helping organizations on the Island help others.

Over 150 patrons enjoyed lunch- and supported CP Unlimited's mission to help people with I/DD achieve fulfilling lives by extension!

The following day on January 21, CP Unlimited was featured at The Richard R. Hungerford School to spotlight our work on Staten Island and beyond. Close to (an additional) 100 neighbors learned about our history and services, alongside the diverse employment options facilitated for people with I/DD. Professional skill-building and community integration are key elements of our pre-vocational supports and the Agency is always looking to expand our many offerings.

The event was an opportunity for connection and we were proud to build further bridges to people who will benefit from our efforts.

Programs in the Hudson Valley



Author Jesse A. Saperstein Speaks to Our People

On Monday, January 30, our Hudson Valley affiliate welcomed renowned author Jesse A. Saperstein at 15 Mt. Ebo Road S., in Brewster, New York who read from his best-selling works, *Getting a Life with Asperger's: Lessons Learned on the Bumpy Road to Adulthood* and his first book *Atypical, Life With Asperger's in 20 1/3 Chapters*.

Around 25 people were in attendance as Jesse talked about his life and experiences, and learning from his mistakes. An informative and inspiring time was had by everyone there.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10:
Enjoy a great bowling experience in support on CP Unlimited as we take to Cortland Lanes with Senator Pete Harckham!



Talented and amateur bowlers come together to try their hand at a perfect game and have a whole lot of fun as we enjoy bowling with the people we support.

To sign up, email Jennifer Efferen at jefferen@cpofnys.org.

Updates on CP Tech and Social Media

HELLO FROM DENESH PERSAUD, CP'S NEW CTO

Dear CP Family,

As many of you know, technology plays a crucial role in our lives and those of the people we support. My primary objective will be the strategic implementation of beneficial technology while ensuring the department maintains secure and reliable systems for our end users throughout the CP network.



Over the next two years, we will begin updating CP's essential technology to better serve our community and improve organizational efficiency. The transformations address legacy technology, security, IT communication, training, and support challenges. While these adaptations will require your support and adjustment, I assure you that we will provide the necessary space and resources to ensure a smooth transition.

All of us in the IT department are here to support you every step of the way and promise to continue providing our people top-level care while making technology accessible.

A NOTE ON FACEBOOK AND CP UNLIMITED

We love when the CP team likes, comments, and shares our curated social media content. But we also realize that having two Facebook accounts (one for CP Unlimited and another for CP Unlimited- Hudson Valley) meant a dual work stream and an opportunity for consolidation.

Due to some backend technical issues out of our control, the process to merge the two pages is unavailable. So, please use this as your first notice that **we will be closing the CP Unlimited Hudson Valley Facebook page in mid-February** and as motivation to find and Like us at [Facebook.com/ConstructivePartnershipsUnlimited](https://www.facebook.com/ConstructivePartnershipsUnlimited) to stay in touch and up-to-date! We look forward to seeing you there!

HR: New Hires at CP

Welcoming new members to the CP Family!

Michael Akpanebe, Rehabilitation Counselor

Dante Benjamin, Community Habilitation Specialist

Patrick Cognato, Training Associate

Stephen Easparro, Greenhouse Manager

Unwanna Edet, Rehabilitation Counselor

Patricia Font, Habilitation Coordinator-NE

Jeffrey George, Human Resources Business Partner

Kimberly Glasford, Human Resources Generalist

Madelon Lanip, Physical Therapist

Stephanie Lewis, Support Broker

Eduardo Linares, Maintenance Worker

Renee Mott, Residential Supervisor

Abimbola Oladeji, Rehabilitation Counselor

Udeme Peter, Rehabilitation Counselor

Amalia Reynoso, Direct Care Counselor

Kathleen Williams, Direct Care Counselor

Verneek Wright-Munnings, Direct Care Counselor

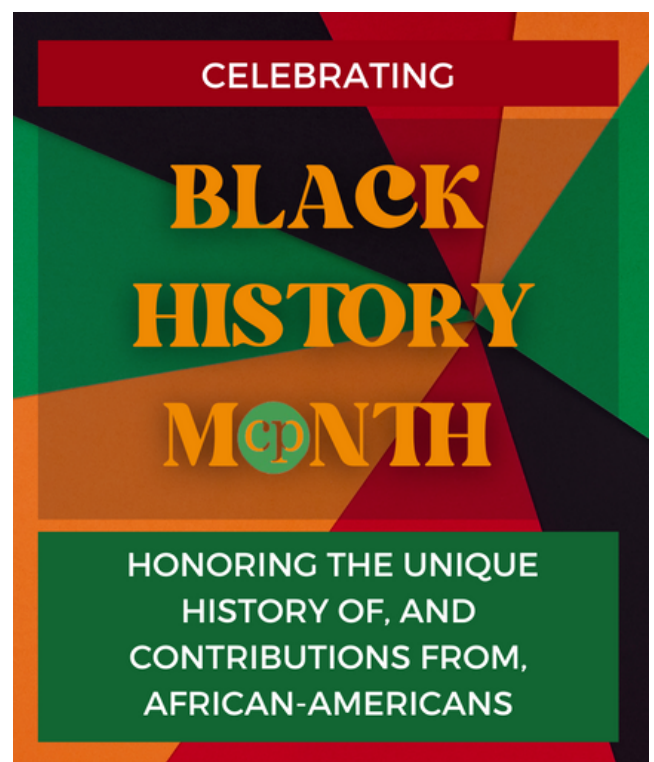
Dear CP Family,

[We mark Black History Month with a message of hope and history and resources to help you learn more >>](#)

How are you celebrating Black History Month?



Share current and historic photos of your family with deicommittee@cpofnys.org and we will present a diverse tapestry of stories with you later this month!



Final Announcements

Photos From our Lunar New Year Calligraphy Workshop!



Celebrating the Year of the Rabbit with a calligraphy workshop at Central Office (livestreamed to our Day Habs and Residences too)!

May it be a year of prosperity, health, and happiness!

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](#)
