

November 2023



What's Happening in Our World This Month?

Our Team at CP State, “Traveling with Dignity”, Yonkers Ribbon Cutting & More!

Hello to All Across the CP Family!

We are approaching the end of the year and, as we all know, it will be a quick run-up to the holidays and 2024!

I also know we started the month with some unanticipated technology complications and I want to offer the gratitude of the entire CP network to the IT Department for getting us back online and in communication with speed and diligence.

While we reconnected digitally, we were also doing so offline at the CP State conference and I hope everyone will take pride in the accomplishments of our community as we expanded our presence throughout the program and in upstate NY (see page 2)!

And, I don't want anyone to miss the outstanding work of the CP Unlimited- Hudson Valley division, as we see the results of our concerted outreach efforts as our people educate and advocate to create real benefits for people with I/DD throughout New York State (see page 3).

Continue reading for more, and please above all else, continue doing the terrific job you are doing on behalf of the people we support.

With Appreciation,

Joseph M. Pancari, President & CEO

CP Unlimited at the CP State Conference



CP Unlimited made a splash at the recent CP State Conference on October 11-12 in a variety of ways. In addition to holding a wheelchair clinic and sampling our Heat with Heart Hot Sauce, the CP Family celebrated the recognition of several of our team honoring their great impact and innovative work. Most significantly, **Paul DiGiovanni**, Associate Director of Rehabilitation, was awarded the Joseph Dutkowsky, MD Clinician of the Year Award for his innovative wheelchair clinic maintenance and cleaning program.

Additional CP team members received Staff Recognition Certificates marking their efforts going above and beyond for the people we support, including: **Arlene Perricone-Saumell, Jennifer Tetor, Karon Lalite, Kristina Sellers, Lawrence Johnson, Mary Grace Whitehead, Raquel Mays-Judge, and Yonette Dey.**

[Explore more from the conference, including photos and videos >>](#)

MAJOR: Press Conference on Nov. 6



Announcing the *Traveling with Dignity Act* at CP Unlimited Hudson Valley

Strengthening Inclusivity and Increasing Accessibility in New York State
with Senators Peter Harckham and Rob Rolison

"I need a changing table. I get changed every two hours and if I don't get changed, I can't do it and I have to go home. And then I miss that part of the program. ...I also can't go to the rally [on November 15]." -Betty Williams

The stellar team at our Hudson Valley Division has been making inroads with area officials to broaden our abilities to advocate for our people, the Agency, and the I/DD field.

One of our closest friends, New York State Senator Peter Harckham (District 40), has been a stalwart ally- and impressive bowler- joining the CP HV family for a variety of social outings and formal programs.

Senator Harckham has also championed a more accessible and inclusive Hudson Valley, and is sponsoring bill # 7697, the "Traveling with Dignity Act" which seeks to mandate adult changing facilities at any commercial venue in New York State accommodating more than 2,500 people. The idea is to ensure that persons with disabilities, veterans, seniors and others who need help with changing be given an inclusive solution to any toileting issues on site.

Given the experiences of our Direct Care staff, who helped inform his office about this issue, Senator Harckham chose CP Unlimited to hold a press conference announcing the bill yesterday. Betty Williams and Diego Ortiz, persons supported by CP Unlimited, were able to share their stories.

[See the recap with video from the conference and quotes from officials >>](#)

Recognizing Employee Dedication: Catholic Charities Longevity Event



In 2016, CP Unlimited formally brought on a large cohort of the Catholic Charities team (435 employees), residential settings, and Brooklyn Day Habilitation programs to great fanfare and success.

Said Rev. Msgr. Alfred LoPinto, then-CEO of Catholic Charities, in 2016: “We remain committed to keeping [our people] connected to the very special services we have provided them for years. The agreement with [CP Unlimited] has achieved that and I am grateful that OPWDD worked with us to implement this plan.”

Last week, the Agency recognized this team with a special luncheon celebrating their journey and contributions to each organization. We thank all of these dedicated members of the CP Family for their many years of service and obligation to the people we support.

[See more from the event, including additional photos >>](#)

Employees of the Quarter: Q3 2023

We congratulate the following employees for going above and beyond for the people we support and being named a CP Employee of the Quarter for Q3 2023!

They will be honored with a special program on November 9, and we hope everyone will take the time to thank these exemplary colleagues and peers!



Anthony Zaccheus, Direct Support Professional- 225 Brooklyn Avenue
Bernice Mirville, Direct Support Professional- Manhattan – 50 Battery Pl.
Claudette Campbell, Direct Care Counselor- 2616 Beverley Rd.
Darlene Savary, Direct Care Counselor- 64 Madsen Ave.
Dorcas Olatuja, Habilitation Aide
Eduardo Linares, Maintenance Worker
Ellen Hoffman, Medical Case Manager- Bronx residential team
Gerald Harrison, Direct Care Counselor- West Farms Center
Glory Etim, Rehabilitation Counselor- Watermelon
Jeanette Evans, Senior Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Aduna, Employment Specialist
Kellyann Dawes, Direct Care Counselor- West Farms Center
Kevin Bede Anywanu, Direct Care Counselor- 175 Ardsley Loop #2G
Loretta Orelien, Charge Nurse
Maria Cofano, Direct Care Counselor- 333 Heberton St
Numin Nuhn, Behavioral Intervention Specialist- Manhattan / Queens
Sarah Edwards, Speech Pathologist
Tanisha Bailey, Community Skills Specialist- Carmen Aquilone
Tasha Walcott, Behavioral Intervention Specialist
Vertrell Collins, Residence Counselor- Bronx
Yvette Gonzalez, Habilitation Counselor- West Farms Center

CP's Fall Formal was *Fab-u-lous!*



On Saturday, November 4, over 100 of the people supported by CP Unlimited, families, friends, and supporters, came together to celebrate at Mill Creek Caterers in Hopewell Junction for the Agency's annual Fall Formal event!

The sparkling evening featured music, dancing, dinner, a raffle, and lots of smiles on everyone's faces!

[See more from the event, including additional photos >>](#)



Yonkers Ribbon Cutting on November 17



We hope to see you at our public ribbon cutting program and tour of the new Yonkers home on November 17, showcasing comprehensive, barrier-free supports for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. [Click to RSVP to Jennifer Efferen to attend >>](#)

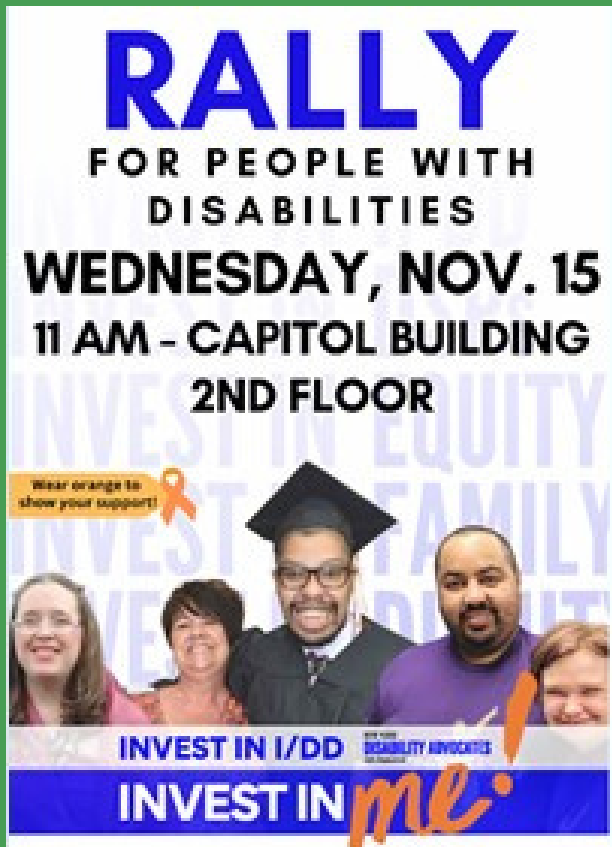
Marching in the 2023 Disability Pride Parade:

Photos from the October 22 Event in Manhattan



From the Field Communications

GET ON THE BUS TO JOIN CP IN ALBANY NOV. 15!



Join the CP Unlimited contingent to add your voice at the upcoming rally in Albany on Wednesday, November 15 at 11:00 AM in the War Room at the NYS Capitol Building.

You are needed to amplify the call to action for increased investment in the future of people with I/DD and the disability support field.

RSVP to Maureen Doherty to reserve your seat on a CP Transport bus to Albany >>

THROUGH THE LENS: NEW IMAGES FROM THE PROGRESSIVE VISIONS PHOTO CLUB

FEBRUARY 4 - MARCH 3, 2024

The National Lighthouse Museum, the leading maritime sentinel arts center, and CP Unlimited will present a new photo exhibition at the Museum covering the grounds and interiors of the space as seen through the eyes of members of CP's Progressive Visions Photo Club.

The exhibition, opening February 4 and running through March 3, 2024, will feature approximately a dozen black and white and color images of local monuments, exteriors, and permanent displays captured on excursions to the area in late 2023 by the Progressive Visions Photo Club.



CP Unlimited: New Hires and Promotions

We recognize the accomplishments of team members who received recent promotions:

Antoinette Lawrence is now VP, Community & Government Liaison, Staten Island

Melissa Cacciola is now Hudson Valley Residential Admin

Melinda Rivera is now a Residence Counselor in The Bronx

Welcoming new members of the CP Family to our team:

Victoria Agayeva, Director of Nursing- Hudson Valley

Johanne Augustin, Community Habilitation Specialist

Quadir Barley, Direct Care Counselor

Jamal Cannady, Driver's Aide

Monique Clarke, Residence Counselor (Registered Behavior Technician (RBT))

Kiya Emanuel, Direct Care Counselor

Chancene Fisher, Direct Care Counselor

Lauren Ford, Direct Care Counselor

Nadia Haywood, Direct Care Counselor

Brenda Henry, Direct Care Counselor

Cemecca Lane, Direct Care Counselor

Kia Lewis, QIDP-Day Program- Hudson Valley

Ashley Nunn, Direct Care Counselor

Mercedes Rivera, Direct Care Counselor

Angel Rodriguez, Peer Companion

Daniel Rodriguez, Residence Counselor (Registered Behavior Technician (RBT))

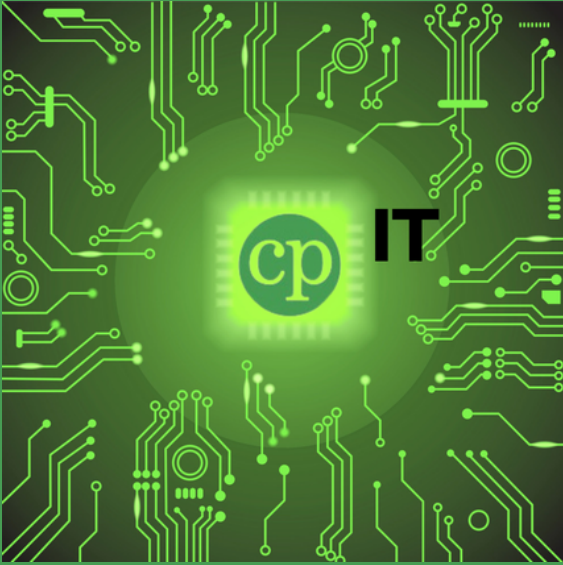
Dalayah Simmons, Direct Care Counselor

Julius Stevenson, Residence Counselor Per Diem- Hudson Valley

Oneisha Thomas, Residence Counselor

IT Department Communications

IMPORTANT SECURITY UPDATES FOR NOVEMBER



Security Update 1 – There are two new Data Loss Protection filters that will be put in place on **Friday, November 10**.

Emails containing a social security number will be automatically encrypted by the system before being sent to the recipient. The recipient of these messages will receive a URL link that they will need to click to access the message.

Furthermore, any emails that contain bank account numbers, credit card numbers, or other sensitive financial information will be encrypted by the system before being sent to the recipient. As always you can continue to manually encrypt any messages by typing “confidential” or “encrypted” in the subject line.

Security Update 2- Users may be prompted to change their password at logon due to a new security policy that will be implemented on **Monday, November 13**.

Any user account that the system identifies as “high” risk will automatically be forced to change their password before being allowed to log into Microsoft Office365. The password change process is the same as the self-service process and will require MFA to complete. The password change prompt may be triggered by but not limited to logging in from an unfamiliar computer or location, brute force password attempts against the account or other security related issues.

Please comply with the password change prompts to gain access to the system

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL LORRAINE LAYNE

Celebrate Diwali with Us on November 14

THE CP DEI COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO:

Celebrate Diwali

JOIN US ONLINE VIA TEAMS-
OR IN PERSON AT CENTRAL-
AS WE ENJOY A DIGITAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM
WITH 'THE CULTURE TREE' AND
A LIVE *BHARATANATYAM* DANCE LESSON!

Tuesday, November 14
12:00 - 12:45 PM
Dance Lesson @ 12:15 PM

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RSVP to:
DEICommittee@cpofnys.org
and let us know if you will join us digitally or in person!

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/)



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