CP UNLIMITED TEAM NEWSLETTER



What's Happening in Our World This Month?

Colorful Celebrations, Summer BBQs, Double Wheelchair Clinics, a New Exhibition, and More!

Dear CP Unlimited:

Happy July! As we get over a particularly warm period in New York City, the hot sun did little to stop the activity and enjoyment of the people we support and the CP team!

We were out and about throughout New York, including at the ballpark in Staten Island (where James C. threw out the first pitch, see photo below) and Hudson Valley, in Central Park for the Achilles Race/Run, and in any place where fun could be had!

This is the heart of the summer, where we welcome people from across our shared communities to various opportunities for open gatherings and chances to meet our network (see pages 3 and 4). Therefore, this has always been one of my favorite times of the year because I know more people will be engaging, learning, and coming away impressed with our scope of services and your abiding commitment to our important mission.

This month also marks two years since I assumed the role of President & CEO at this great Agency; it is an honor to work with all of you and accomplish all that we have done together. I hope you will read the letter on page 2 that builds on why the best is yet to come.

With Wishes for a Great Month Ahead,

Joseph M. Pancai

Joseph M. Pancari, President & CEO



A Letter from Joseph M. Pancari, President & CEO

At the close of a transformative fiscal year, and on the occasion of my two-year anniversary at the helm of this remarkable Agency, I wanted to share some of our most important accomplishments and lessons learned.

This has been a period of exciting expansion for CP Unlimited and it has taken the extraordinary abilities of our team to build on all the potential of our vision.

To empower their commitment and passion, CP Unlimited has grown our physical spaces while developing platforms and partnerships to bring real benefits to the people we support and the greater disability community.

From Brooklyn to Queens and Yonkers to the Hudson Valley, new residential and Day Habilitation settings establish best-in-class standards for purpose-built, design-centered spaces where people with disabilities can thrive. Weaving through the nearly 300 locations under the CP umbrella is a pipeline of resources, education, and engagement strategies informed by CP parents, Direct Support Professionals, and others in the field.

This was also a stage in CP history where collaboration across the political spectrum will bring to bear true change for nearly one million people throughout New York State. Inspired by the CP Family and advanced through a bi-partisan—and steadily growing—list of officials and stakeholders, *The Traveling with Dignity Act* (Bill # 7697 / A. 8373) mandates height-adjustable, adult changing tables in public venues across New York by 2030. We thank NYS Senators Peter Harckham and Rob Rolison and Assembly Member Chris Burdick who were the original sponsors of this transformative measure making its final way through the state legislature at time of writing.

The last two years also motivated more creative engagement with area institutions to make CP's impact more visible; I can point to our winter exhibition with The National Lighthouse Museum and upcoming summer show at Positive Exposure featuring contemporary images by CP Unlimited photographers from our Day Habilitation programs to name but two recent examples. I must also acknowledge the vital role of our self-advocates, whose powerful words and lived experiences enhance our outreach efforts and person-centered care. Visitors notice our central office now displays widespread press coverage reflecting our more prominent profile.

Simply: CP Unlimited is a place that means so much to so many because the work we do matters.

Thank you for helping the people we support achieve fulfilling lives these past two years, and throughout our close to eighty-year history. I am encouraged and amazed by all of you, without whom none of this would be possible.

With Gratitude, Joseph M. Pancari How We See It Opening July 27: Art and Workshop

POSITIVE EXPOSURE GALLERY HOW WE SEE IT

New Images from the Progressive Visions Photo Club and West Farms Photo Works



OPENING CELEBRATION Saturday, July 27, 5-8pm On view through August 31, 2024

Join members of the CP Family at the **Positive Exposure** Gallery on East 109 street in Manhattan for the opening reception for "How We See It" featuring recent images from the Agency's two photography clubs for persons with disabilities.

Can't make it? The exhibition runs through August 31 and will also feature a special photography workshop open to the public on **August 10!**

RSVP NOW TO ATTEND THIS SPECIAL OPENING EVENT >>

You're Invited: CP Summer Bronx BBQ



CP TEAM INVITE: Bring Your Family to Meet the CP Family

Email communications@cpofnys.org to RSVP





August 3: Staten Island

Cora Hoffman Center, 2324 Forest Ave. 12:00 - 5:00 PM

August 17: Brooklyn CLS

Carmen Aquilone Program, 842A Lefferts Ave. 12:00 - 5:00 PM



August 24: JOIN CP IN THE BRONX

ADAPT, 1826 Stillwell Ave. 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM



August 29: Brooklyn CPNS

Canarsie Park, Seaview Ave. 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

September 8: Queens CLS/CPNS

Hempstead Lake Park, Eagle Ave. 10:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Upcoming Wheelchair Clinics: July

FREE WHEELCHAIR CLEANING AND SERVICE SESSION on JULY 13



The next two wheelchair clinics (complimentary sanitizing, inspection, and repair) of 2024 will be in Hudson Valley at our friends the Brewster Elks Club, 1430 Rte. 22., on **July 13** and then a week later on **July 20** at CP's Cora Hoffman Center at 2324 Forest Avenue on Staten Island.

See more online and RSVP for the clinic right for you >>

FREE WHEELCHAIR CLEANING AND SERVICE SESSION on JULY 20

CP UNLIMITED WILL INSPECT, CLEAN, SANITIZE, REPAIR, AND FIX YOUR POWERED OR NON-POWERED WHEELCHAIR

TRANSPORT AVAILABLE

STATEN ISLAND



Bringing Hawaii to Brooklyn and Queens



CP brought the island vibes to Brooklyn and Queens where the residents and the staff donned their most floral, did the limbo, and enjoyed a day getting into the aloha spirit as part of our Hawaiian luau party series for residents.

Instead of volcanoes, the only eruptions were those of laughter and joy as everyone colorfully celebrated together.

Animals Aplenty at Cora Hoffman Center



The CP team on Staten Island at the Cora Hoffman Center have been getting wild and delighting in the experience of interacting and learning about different types of insects and animals.

For Day Hab participants, the last three weeks have been partially devoted to the raising of caterpillars and watching with anticipation as they cocooned and transformed into butterflies! The animal fun didn't stop there, as Day Hab members also enjoyed a trip to the Staten Island Zoo for aquatic and larger animal viewing and education. Later on, a special visit to Cora Hoffman Center by the SI Zoo outreach team brought some cuddly and not so cuddly animals for even more petting (and testing of bravery when it came to the big snake!).

Shaking Hands and Creating Connections



On National Handshake Day (June 27) folks from throughout the CP Family demonstrated what it means to offer trust, safety, and friendship through a simple gesture of partnership.

This mutual respect is at the heart of our person-centered work and the individual dedication from everyone throughout the CP network.

Welcoming new members of the CP Family to our team:

William Almanzar, Intern Nyiema Cain, Direct Care Counselor Kiesha Calliste, Direct Care Counselor Ana Coronado-Beriguete, Direct Care Counselor Hilan David, Habilitation Assistant Margaret Hutchinson, Direct Care Counselor **Richard Jimenez**, Director, Program Operations Barbara Jones, Direct Care Counselor Raheem Joseph, Direct Care Counselor Danielle Lyons, Executive Secretary Nakida Marryshow, Direct Care Counselor Joelle Meristal, Direct Care Counselor Lavette Miller, Evening Shift Supervisor Diane Morris, QA/QI Specialist Chijioke Obi, Direct Care Counselor Luby Planteau, Shift Supervisor Tiffany Pugh, Evening Shift Supervisor Charles Rodriguez, Residential Aide Marc Sablosky, Driver Franca Similus, Direct Care Counselor Brean Smith, Community Skills Assistant Atiya Walker, Direct Care Counselor Simone Wright, Direct Care Counselor Lasheeda Younger, Direct Care Counselor

Additional Notes for the CP Family



CP Hudson Valley is on the move! Our Day Hab and offices no longer reside at 15 Mt. Ebo Rd! Please see below for our new office address effective July 1!

300 Westage Business Center Dr., Suite 225 Fishkill, NY 12524



CP's borough brochures outlining the residential, Day Hab, and Article 16 supports available in every borough (and Hudson Valley) are available for download and sharing on our Day Hab Centers and Programs webpage!

See: cpunlimited.org/cp-day-habilitationcenters-and-programs/



August is Make a Will Month! If you have not already, making a will helps secure your family in the event of an emergency and can ensure your final wishes are met.

Charitable tip: You can put organizations like CP in your estate plans

Happy July 4 from CP Unlimited



Join the CP Community Online



Facebook.com/ConstructivePartnershipsUnlimited



Linkedin.com/company/constructive-partnershipsunlimited-cp-unlimited/



Find us here: <u>CP on YouTube</u>