

Sharing the Journey

June 2019



A Message from the Chief Executive Officer



As I was thinking about what to write this month, this quote came to mind: "Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life."

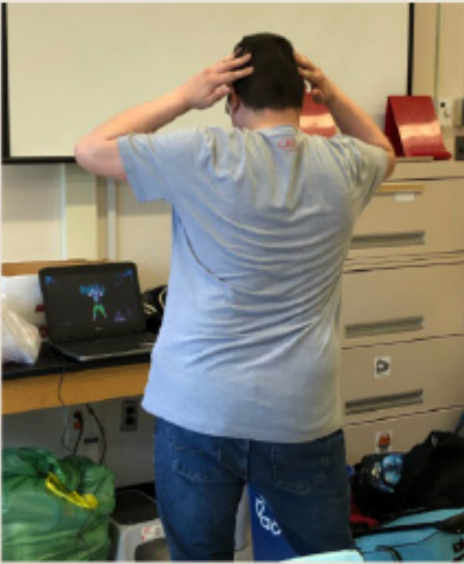
As CEO for more than 45 years, I can without a doubt say that this statement is absolutely TRUE! When I wake up in the morning, I look forward to the day ahead because I know that I will be doing something I love and when I lay down in the evening, I am grateful for all that has been accomplished; educational programs created, improving the quality of care and services; and using innovative technology to enhance the lives of those we serve. Certainly, there are struggles and conflicts that must be addressed and policies rewritten but knowing that together we have the ability to help others live life to their fullest potential, well that is what I love. When your career is also your passion, there are so many rewards, smiles, laughter, happy tears, making a difference, and the satisfaction of a job well done.

Thank you for allowing me to do this job that I love!

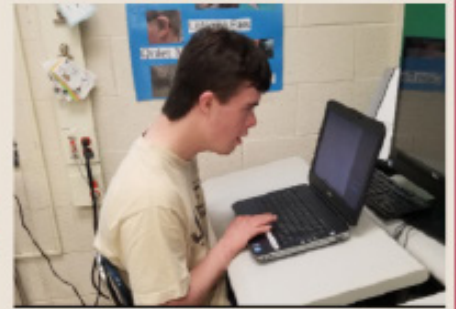
A promotional image for the 11th Annual Golf Tournament. It features a group of six people (four men and two women) standing on a golf course. The men are wearing golf attire, including caps and polo shirts. The women are wearing red t-shirts with a logo and dark jackets. In the top left corner is the LIVING RESOURCES logo. In the top right corner, the text "11th Annual Golf Tournament" is written in a large, bold, red font with a white outline. In the bottom left corner, a red starburst graphic contains the text "Register Today!". In the bottom right corner, a semi-transparent dark box contains the text "Friday, September 20, 2019 at Colonie Golf & Country Club, Voorheesville, NY 8:00 am" in white.



With the help of a donation from Stewart's Holiday Match we were able to purchase laptop computers and other supplies for our After School Program. As you can see, the children are greatly enjoying these computers for education, entertainment and exercise!

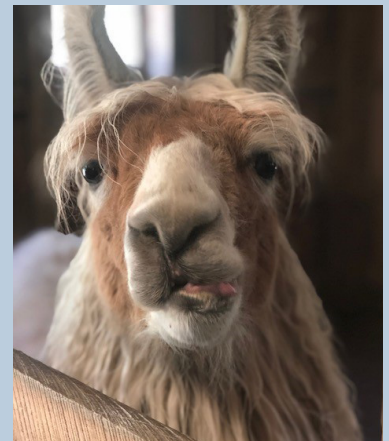


Thanks again



Llots of Llama Llove with Living Resources

The gang from Albany North Day Community Opportunities Program is so excited to be back volunteering at their favorite place - The Wunsapana Farm - Llamas in Altamont! Looking at those amazing llama faces, who wouldn't be happy there?





Meet Mike Majors



Mike Majors was a petty officer third class in the Navy on an Air Craft Carrier in the Middle East from 2008 to 2012. His service took him around the world, most notably to Iraq, Iran, Kuwait, Dubai, and Afghanistan. His carrier was responsible for bringing Marines and Air Force Members to and from combat hot zones, and giving transport to soldiers who fell in the line of duty. Mike was a "C.S." - a Culinary Specialist, having the responsibility of feeding the bodies and spirits of all the military personnel on the ship. Mike saw it all, from the anxiety of those preparing to enter into a combat zone, to the battle-scarred weariness of those returning from active duty. As the ship's cook he was "in the middle of everything because you have to take care of everyone on that ship."

Mike's injury was caused, not by his service, but the re-entry from the service into the civilian world. He had plans for his life after the service. Settling down with his girlfriend, getting married, buying a house and opening a restaurant were foremost on his mind. Instead, he returned to find his girlfriend pregnant and engaged to another guy. Distraught, he found himself in a downward spiral of drinking and smoking heavily, which led to a stroke. He sees irony in this, saying "After all the hardship I went through in the military, getting my heart broke was the thing that broke me."

Mike came to Living Resources shortly after his stroke three years ago, participating in many of the programs designed to assist people recover from their traumatic brain injury. He now considers himself a "graduate" of the program, but still enjoys coming to the office on Fridays to catch up with his friends over an informal brunch. He volunteers at an after school program run through the Salvation Army, doing what he knows best- preparing meals for children so that they can return to their homes well-nourished in body and spirit. His newest goal is to get his driver's license. We applaud you, Mike! Thank you for your service and sacrifice.

Quality Assurance is Quite Amazing!



In January 2018 Living Resources was proud to have been awarded accreditation through the Council of Quality Leadership (CQL) at the Quality Assurances level. CQL is an organization of distinction which recognizes agencies that demonstrate a commitment to providing excellent services and supports for people with developmental disabilities by providing official accreditation status.

We were proud to welcome them back to our office for an assessment of the progress we have made in the past 18 months. The visit involved focus groups of Direct Service Providers and individuals we serve, as well as house visits and other touchpoints. We are proud to report that they have found Living Resources to have showed 18 months of hard work and continued commitment to those ideals, and that the spirit of "people first" and prioritizing individual health and happiness is present at the agency.

We wish to thank Brittany Carmel, as well as the entire Quality Assurance team for all their hard work at fostering this culture at Living Resources! CQL is a continuous growth journey and new goals will be forthcoming, so stay tuned!



Beekman Street Art Fair

Living Resources 70 Beekman Street Gallery was part of the 7th Annual Beekman Street Art Fair on Sunday, June 9th. Artists and vendors lined the street and the gallery was filled with people.



Guest artists Miriam Romais and Jen Wojtowicz interacted with the public and Bianca Dilella led watercolor painting activities.

The sun was shining and it was a glorious day!



Over the Moon for Rainbow Moon

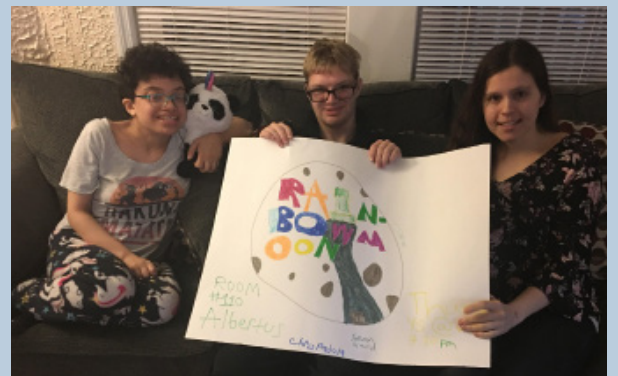


This past semester at The College of Saint Rose, our College Experience students formed an LGBTQA+ club that they named Rainbow Moon. This open group, is a safe place for students to speak about gender issues that affect them and their peers. It is organized by College Experience tutor Gillian Friedlander.

Last semester Rainbow Moon made signs to hang up in dorms, hosted a movie night where they watched

"The Danish Girl," brainstormed ideas for the summer, did lots of arts and crafts, and got to know one another! So far this summer, students have marched in the **Capital Pride Parade in Albany** and will be hosting a picnic.

Thus far, they've covered topics on LGBTQA+ terminology, common slang and history, recently discussing Stonewall. They have also explored LGBTQA+ resources in the Albany area. We stand with you as you live a life of fulfillment!





June Birthdays



Niyree Adams
Permetris Arrington
Armani Bannerble
Clare Beretvas
Breanna Bielecki
Kyria Blowers
Vivian Bonilla
Brian Bouchey
Katherine Boynten
Donna Brooks
Amara Caimitte
Brittany Carmel
Jovan Carpino
Lukas Carter
Shatasha Carter
Ousman Cessay
Nancy Chamberlain
Cole Chaskey
Tonya Chervin
Jolene Cituk
Tyler Cronk

Armani Currie
Roxanne Delfavero
Anthony Dipace
Kimberly Edmonds
Jasmine Edwards
Cherri Ellis
Trichelle Fraser
Noa Ganser
Jennifer Gates
Letaisha Gibson
Delina Graham
Matthew Grandy
Amanda Guzman
Ahyonnah Harris
Niasia Jackson
Richard Jackson
Sequawa Johnson
Joey Jaquez
Abraham Kamara
Jennifer Kennston
Edwin Knuckles

Octavia Lowe-Dudley
Kelly Lynch
William Lynch
Michele Mickel
Marcolena Miller
Alexander Mohr
Munerra Morrison
Jean Mowrey
Mohinie Narine
Bianca Nunez
Deneen Palmateer
Karen Palmucci
Johnathan Parsons
Frank Prevratil
Galen Pryzbek
Kathleen Quinn
Theresa Richards
Linda Rickus
Daniel Rubino
Robert Scaccia

Janice Schwartz
Philip Serviss
Malcolm Sidbury
Ivy Spas
Chantel Sprauve
Erica Smith
Darlene Sylvester
Bethany Terrell
Nashalon Thomas
Alfred Thompson
Duanasia Tillery
Dewayna Townsend
Martin Trudell
Martha Villacis
Phyllis Webster
Morganne Wheeler
AnneMarie White

Anniversaries

Hassaballah Adam
Marcus Anderson ***
Kevin Baker **
Clare Beretvas
Marissa Booth
Kelly Brewington ****
Emily Burns
Andrell Carr ***
Chance Cooperwood
Shannon Crosby *
Jeremy Davis
Willie Davis **
Raymond Edwards
Maggie Erlich ***
Carol Gore ****
Rikki Gough
Jenifer Guay ***
Brenda Hill
Amy Beth Lis
Niasia Jackson
Taylor James
Joi Jennings-Botts *

Philomina Joseph
Joseph Lamalfa ****
Kelsie Lenney
Kelly Lynch
Linda Marcello ***
Alexandra Mohr *
Sam Miller
Lovanice Moon ****
Henrietta Moore
Joseph Morelli ****
Amanda Muscarello
Markyrie Mykins
Salamata Narco
Kiyabo Nghomange
Rochaun Ninstant *
Shanette Oliver
Khahlee Perry
Yahaira Ponce
Lisa Reinhardt
Joelle Ruede **
Jesse Saperstein
Sarah Saunders ****

Michelle Scepkowski *
Gwyneth Schultz *
Emily Seetadt
Nana Sekyere – Boamah
Kate Shave *
Gwendolyn Singleton ****
Deborah Standfield **
Van Suggs ****
Shaylia Thomas
Taice Thomas
Alfred Thompson ****
Stephanie Vanwie
Martha Villacis
Tyler Vollor
Kiera Whitehurst
Andre Williams *
Hollie Willsey
Makeem Winter
Clovine Young-Shue



Faculty Spotlight: Jeffrey Hallenbeck



Jeff Hallenbeck is an absolute delight to talk with, brightening the room with his smile despite the rain outside. He speaks passionately about his love for everything about the field of Clinical Services. Jeff has been a Behavioral Health Consultant since 1994 and came to Living Resources 2002. He swiftly progressed to Assistant Director of Clinical Services, later becoming Director of Clinical Services in 2014. Has a Masters in Counseling Psychology, and is a licensed Mental Health Counselor in NYS.

He derives joy from reading and learning new things and applying that knowledge to our population. He credits his department staff and interns for inspiring him daily with their intellect and zest for new challenges. He is excited about a new venture called "Impact All." This training institute through Living Resources will offer Continuing Education Units to Licensed Mental Health Counselors and Social Workers to learn to specifically work with the intellectually disabled population.

On Wednesday, May 29 Jeff was honored by Mayor Kathy Sheehan who officially declared it to be "Jeffrey Hallenbeck Day!" The Director of Living Resources' Clinical Services is also a longtime volunteer of the Albany Damien Center, serving on their Board of Directors since 2007 and as their Board President for five years. He stepped down from their board in May, but looks forward to continuing his volunteer work there for many years to come.

SAVE THE DATE!

Here's a list of Upcoming Events you don't want to miss

Thursday, July 4 - Independence Day

Thursday, July 11 - Living Resources Night with the ValleyCats starting at **7:00 p.m.** Support Living Resources by joining in a fundraiser with the ValleyCats! **\$10 Premium Box Tickets.** Field of Dreams Night - Be sure to wear your favorite baseball jersey. PostGame Fireworks! **Buy tickets online at tcvalleycats.com/livingresources (Group Password livingresources) or call our main office for details (518) 218-0000.**



www.LivingResources.org

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