



A Message from the Chief Executive Officer

As I reflect on 2019 and all that we accomplished, I want to say **THANK YOU!**

THANK YOU to each of our **talented staff members** – because of your tireless and caring daily commitment, those we support continue to grow to their fullest potential.

THANK YOU to our **Board Members** – your wisdom and guidance ensures that we stay mission focused while delivering the best care and services.

THANK YOU to each of our **donors and supporters** – your vital contributions allow us to make improvements to our residences, enhance the programs we currently have, and create new programs to provide better support and care.

And finally, at the heart of our agency, we say **THANK YOU** to the **individuals we support** for allowing us to become part of your family. You make us better each day.

When Living Resources began in 1974, individuals were confined to institutional care and there were no opportunities to participate in the world around them. Our vision at that time was to help individuals live full, productive, and happy lives. That vision in 2020 is still crystal clear! **YOUR** commitment to the agency has allowed us to expand our reach, sharing our mission of helping individuals with disabilities to grow and thrive to almost 2,000 families from Warren to Westchester County!

**THANK YOU ALL for being part of the Living Resources family.
I am most grateful for you!**



Festival of Trees



Our Schenectady Day Community Opportunities Program had a blast decorating a tree for the Schenectady County Historical Society's Festival of Trees again this year.

A huge thank you to Ivy Spas and Kristen Sweet for facilitating the project, and all of our participants for their hard work making ornaments and decorating the tree!





Thank you to Everyone who
donated to our Annual Campagin.



John and Mary Ann Allen
Raymond Angelini
Rachelle and Phil Aron
William Artini
Robert and Bonita Bailey
James and Rose Barba
John and Laurel Berbach
Vladia Boniewski
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Sam's Italian American Restaurant
Lewis Saperstein
Greg and Michele Schwab
Elizabeth Searing
Kathe Sheehan
Harry and Donna Short
Kenneth and Marggie Skinner



You have helped fill our hearts with joy!



Peter Slattery
David and Dona Smingler
Harold and Valerie Solomon
Joel and Kira Spiro
Richard J. Steitzer
Teresa Stellar
Sandra Stern
Donna and Brian Stewart
Kimberly Strauchon Verner
Kathlene Thiel & J. Eric King
Cheryl Thomson and Vincent Reda
Laura Thumen
Russell Traunstein
Anne Valliere
Rosemary and David Vara
The W. J. Barney Foundation
Kevin A. Walsh
Chris Ward
Thomas and Mary Ellen Windish
Ye Ole Locksmith Shoppe Inc.

Giving Tuesday

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Marjorie Coello
Kathleen Kinstel
Ron Ladouceur
Deneen Palmateer
Brenda Szydlo and Peter White

Matching Gift

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David Capka
Mark and Cindy Chalachan
Joan and Stephen Coffey
Gary Cornwell
Kathy and Patrick Curran
Loretta and Michael Darcy
Arthur and Jane Ferguson
John and Lisa Fisher

Matching Gift Cont.

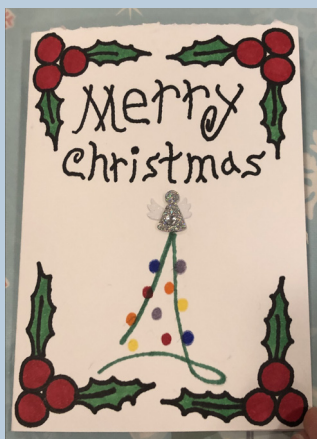
Tricia George
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Anne Kuppinger
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Lynne and Michael Long
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Gail and Robert Schwartz
Frederick and Sylvia Sievers
Barbara Soldani
Denise Stewart
Clifford and Charlynn Tryon
Margaret A. Tucker
Shawn Viana
Hon. & Mrs. Bruce J. Wagner
Sandra and James Young



Thank you Neil Golub
for providing us with a
Matching Gift of \$5,000 and
sharing in our vision!

It's never too late to support our programs!
Make a secure donation at <http://bit.ly/2pPQIKm>

The College Experience gets Festive



Students of our College Experience gathered at Saint Andrew's Church with art instructor Fern Pivar this month to create some wonderful holiday cards to share with friends and family when they return home from break.



Staff and students also gathered at one of the dorm houses to have their annual Holiday party. Everyone got to work in the kitchen creating ornaments for their loved ones. In typical college fashion, the students congregated in different parts of the house sampling the delicious food that was provided for the occasion, and watched the movie, "Deck the Halls" while playing board games.

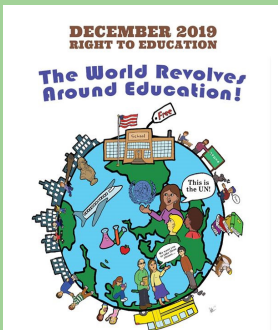
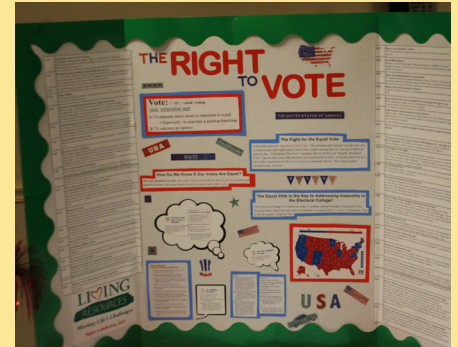


We wish all our College Experience students a fabulous vacation, and look forward to welcoming them back to the program for a spring semester filled with valuable learning experiences.



Rights and Reflection Fair

In honor of World Human Rights Day, we held a Rights Fair called "Rights in Reflection" which was spearheaded by Brittany Carmel, Senior Manager of Quality Initiatives at Living Resources along with Rights and Responsibility Co-Chairs Noelle King and Courtney Mason. A variety of rights were presented, including the Right to Vote, the Right to Privacy, the Right to Have Legal Help, the Right to your Money, the Right to Education and the Right to Relationships. During the event, participants were encouraged to help create a collaborative mural, which is proudly displayed in our Cafetorium.



December 2019 Right of the Month

Each month, members of the Rights and Responsibilities Committee work together to create curriculum and activity content that corresponds with the **Right of the Month**. The goal is to educate all members of the Living Resources family about how we can support the expression of these rights for individuals we serve – this is best achieved by thinking of the ways in which these rights are important to each of us as well. The featured right is then masterfully represented in art form by our graphic designer, Tyler Cronk. Keep an eye out at the office, program sites, and on social media for the "right of the month"

The people have spoken! The 2020 Rights of the Month as follows:

January: Right to Design Your Meetings
February: Right to be Represented
March: Right to Nationality and Culture
April: Right to Rest and Leisure

May: Right to Your Own Schedule
June: Right to Copyright
July: Right to Responsibility
August: Right to be Free from Abuse/ Neglect

September: Right to Vote
October: Right to Travel
November: Right to Sexuality and Expression
December: Right to Peaceful Assembly



Looking a lot like Christmas

Our more than 200 individuals who reside in Living Resources homes celebrated the holiday season with a lovely buffet dinner at Treviso in the Italian American Community Center. After dinner, the party moved to the next level with dancing to the sounds of Uforia Entertainment. Fun, laughter, and merriment were clearly part of the evening festivities. Everyone surely enjoyed the Cha Cha Slide, The Cupid Shuffle, and so much more.



Christmas Cookie Delivery

"Christmas cookies and happy hearts, this is how the holidays start." Although our residents come from a variety of cultural backgrounds, they all seemed to agree that cookies make everything a little bit better. When the cookies came in the door, the faces of our individuals sparkled more than the sprinkles!





Living Resources Holiday Open House

Our annual Holiday Open House was a joyous celebration for the whole Living Resources Family. We were treated to a light lunch and snacks while our Day Community Opportunity Program "All Star Chorus" serenaded us with Christmas Carols. CEO Fred Erlich was on hand to present award plaques to our wonderful staff members who are celebrating their 10th Anniversary and to personally thank our entire family of Superheroes, who work hard every day to enhance the lives of those we serve.



Faculty Spotlight: Advadella Gamble, R.N.



It's funny where life takes you when you are open to change. Advadella Gamble worked for IBM for 25 years, but when down-sizing started happening in 1994, she knew she needed to take action. She began studying nursing and earned her R.N. in 1997. Her interview experience with Chris Hough was so warm and inviting, she decided to take the position. "Nurse Abbey," as she is known, began working in a group of Living Resources residences, and then transitioned into the College Experience and Albany Supportive Living Programs. Of her supported individuals, she says, "I know the guys. I like them and they like me." The same goes for her Living Resources co-workers. She said "Mutual respect makes for a great atmosphere. I love my job. We are a great team."

Nurse Abbey just celebrated her 10- Year Anniversary with Living Resources, and still enjoys the ride. In the ever changing world of nursing, change is inevitable. "It's not always easy," she says, "but you learn to duck and weave. Patience is huge." Here's to Nurse Abbey and all who make a difference every day at Living Resources. You are a Super Hero to us!

SAVE THE DATE!

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

Thursday, January 16, 2019 2 pm. **Ribbon Cutting and Reception** to celebrate the naming of our Main Office at **300 Washington Ave Extension** in honor of retiring C.E.O, Fred Erlich.

Monday January 20 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Saturday January 25 - Chinese New Year

Wednesday, March 31 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm **Living Resources Art of Independence** at the **Fort Orange Club** 110 Washington Ave, Albany, NY 12210. More Information to follow!



www.LivingResources.org

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