



A Message from the Chief Executive Officer



Elizabeth Martin

Did you know that Living Resources:

- * provides supportive services to over 1,500 individuals and families?
- * operates as far North as Warren County and as far South as Westchester County?
- * supports 236 individuals who reside in our residential homes with 24/7 supportive services care?
- * has an overall economic impact in the Capital Region and beyond of over \$140 million?

If you hadn't known these statistics, you are not alone. Recently, while attending a meeting, I heard that Living Resources is the best kept secret in the region, that we quietly work to support and empower individuals with disabilities and other life challenging conditions to live with dignity, independence, and happiness. That may be true, however, we no longer wish to be the best kept secret, we want to shout it from the rooftops that what happens at Living Resources enhances lives. We are so very proud to be a part of someone's journey toward their personal goals and achievements to obtain their maximum independence.

To help share our story and the amazing work that goes on behind our quiet walls, we have finalized our 2021 Annual Report which provides a bit of background about each of our wonderful programs and how the program impacts the individuals they support and our community. It also provides a brief overview of our financial structure and a comprehensive list of businesses and individuals that continue to support us through generous donations that allow us to continue to grow, innovate, and find new ways of providing high-quality supportive services.

We hope that you will take a moment to view our narrated annual report below.
If you would like a hard copy, please reach out to info@livingresources.org and a copy will be forwarded to you.

Click here to watch the 2021 Annual Report: <https://youtu.be/p5jcMEpfDB4>





Saratoga Trunk LADY'S TREND presents World Class Racing, World Class Fashion, World Class Causes



A Tribute to Transforming Lives



A Day at the 1863 Club



August 21, 2022



1863 Club
Saratoga Race Course

A special thank you to our sponsors for our Tribute to Transforming Lives! You can still join them in our mission to support and empower individuals with disabilities or other life challenging conditions to live with dignity, independence, and happiness.



HEALTH.
WEALTH.
FOR LIFE.



[Click here to join them!](#)

Thank You for Being a Friend

We are so very grateful to our community partners for helping us with some much needed painting. Our community partner **KeyBank** got things rolling with their "*Neighbors Make a Difference Day*." Teams from both the Malta and Glenmont branches joined together at two of our residential homes to paint wheelchair ramps that many of our supported individuals use each day. Working together these teams provided over 40 volunteer hours, allowing our teams to focus their limited resources elsewhere. KeyBank volunteers truly made a difference throughout our entire organization.

Thank you, KeyBank for being such good neighbors and continuing to support Living Resources in so many ways!



Our community partner **Berkshire Bank** kept the momentum going with their "*Xtraordinary Day of Volunteerism!*" Two teams of Berkshire Bank employees shared the love when they harnessed their collective super powers to do some painting projects for us at two residences in Albany. Many hands made for light work accomplishing so much in one afternoon.

A special thank you to our friends at Berkshire Bank, we are most grateful!



Big Shoes to Fill



All cheered when his name blared through the gymnasium speakers, "The Man in the Middle, Number 44, Matthew Tall Small!" Matthew Small, who is part of Living Resources' After School Program, has shown a passion for basketball for many years. Throughout his High School years, Matthew's 6'6 ½" frame could be seen running down the court and dunking baskets as part of the Mohonasen Warriors Unified Basketball team.

His raw ability and amazing sportsmanship both on and off the court earned him a spot as a co-captain during his senior year. Matthew helped his team win their playoff game against Schenectady High School with a score of 61-45, earning the title of division champs for the third time in a row.



We thank our After School Program staff members Kathleen DeMarco and Princetta Jordan, as well as Community Living Coordinator Jacqueline Calder for their support of Matthew's Hoop Dreams throughout the years.

Congratulations Matthew! We know you will continue to impact this world in a positive way as you begin your new adventures post-High School.

Living Resources After School Program provides supervised recreational activities for students with developmental disabilities to help them develop social and recreational skills through hands-on activities. Learn more [HERE](#).

Saratoga Fun



Our Saratoga County Day Community Opportunities Program (DCOP) has been utilizing many of the great opportunities the Saratoga Spa State Park has to offer! The group took advantage of a free guided tour, experiencing the amazing sites and natural wonders of the park.

Saratoga State Park staff member Ken led a water tasting tour of the different mineral water spouts, sharing the history of the Park's geyser along the way. The group was

shown what poison ivy looks like and how to spot it, saying, "if it has three leaves, stay away!" They also learned that the water at the Karista Spring is good for your skin, but, as one participant put it, "it tastes pretty awful."

The park is not just awesome on sunny days. Even when the skies turn cloudy and threaten to rain, this DCOP family states, "Do it the Saratoga DCOP way! The group created their own silver lining by making s'mores."





DCOP Award Ceremony



Joe Morelli, Associate Executive Director of Operations shared his thoughts on our yearly Day Services Awards Celebration saying, "most of us look forward to special events such as birthdays, anniversaries, vacations. One such highly anticipated event is Living Resources' Day Opportunities Awards. After a nearly three-year hiatus, the event finally arrived this month. The excitement, achievement, celebration of accomplishment, and the love that flows from all those gathered is felt on a deep level. The community we have created and the ongoing commitment we make to be in service to one another are the reasons I work for Living Resources and is what has kept me here for 29 years."

The uplifting mood for the ceremony was set by Aila Moses who kicked off the event with a rousing version of Journey's "Don't Stop Believin'" and everyone joined along. This was followed by the DCOP All Star Chorus singing the song Bones. Once the house was rocking, we moved to the main event of presenting awards.



Participants celebrated achievements and improvements in important skills such as communication, art, community involvement, and helpfulness. Some received special kudos for having been successfully employed for over ten years. Living Resources Day Program staff who have been with us for greater than 20 years were honored and one staff and one individual from each county was called out to receive the coveted Starlight Awards for outstanding merit.

Jill McLean, Recreation Director of the Marbletown Community Center accepted the

Mayor Frank Leak Community Enrichment Award for the center's commitment to supporting our individuals. Staff member Sam Thalluri was bestowed with the prestigious Amanda Rivenburg Phoenix Award for being a rising star here at Living Resources. (See back page for more about Sam's award.)



Joe summarized his thoughts of the event stating: "In the excitement and accolades of the awards ceremony, it is easy to forget that this day was a long time in the making. The day's successes were not possible without tremendous effort, hard work, and sometimes failures and tears. However, there is great joy and a personal sense of accomplishment when we see the results of our efforts. **It is deeply apparent that the finest form of human nature is in the expression of compassion for one another. This core ingredient is the foundation of every success story here at Living Resources.**"

A very special congratulations to each and every one of the awardees and the staff members that support them in reaching their goals and achievements!



Stockade Garden Redux

The Living Resources Arts Program was pleased to host an art show at the Miller Sanders Gallery at our Main Office in Albany. Many of the featured works created by students of our Art Program were showcased at The Stockade Garden Art Show in Schenectady in 2021.



Living Resources Art Program provides high-quality, person-centered art instruction in a variety of media in an effort to promote independence and growth among the individuals we support. Art instruction is provided six days a week at our three certified sites in Albany, Malta, and Schenectady.

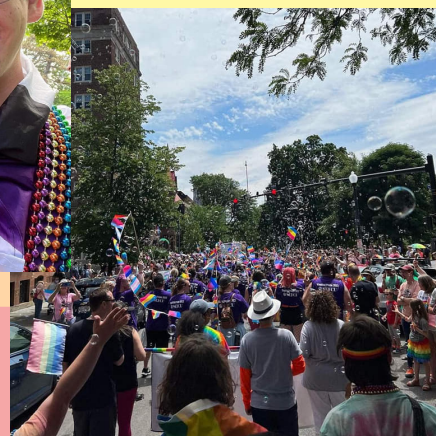
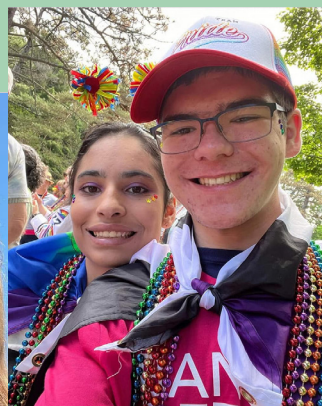
This wonderful art exhibit will remain on display for the rest of the summer and is open to all.

Gallery hours are Monday through Friday at 300 Washington Avenue Extension in Albany, NY from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Please stop by and enjoy!

Living Resources Pride

We are proud of our caring and supportive environment that celebrates the diverse lives and work of our staff and residents every day. At our very core, we support each individual's journey toward self-realization, happiness, and personal fulfillment.

This month many of our Living Resources staff and supported individuals were excited to participated in at a variety of Pride celebrations through our region.





2022 Amanda Rivenburg Phoenix Award Winner: Sam Thalluri

On October 6, 2018, Living Resources lost a friend and colleague, Amanda Rivenburg in a tragic accident. At the time, Amanda was a true rising star, working as the Assistant Director for Day Community Opportunities Program. Although her time with us was cut much too short, the results of Amanda's work continues to benefit the individuals we serve to this very day.

In her memory, we created the Amanda Rivenburg Phoenix Award to recognize and celebrate other rising stars at Living Resources. We are pleased to announce that **Sam Thalluri** is the 2022 recipient of this award. Sam has demonstrated all the characteristics that best represents the dedication and commitment that Amanda possessed. He began his employment with Living Resources in 2018 as a Computer Support Specialist and was promoted to the Assistant Director of Information Technology in 2020. In addition, he is a Volunteer Fire Fighter with the Town of Niskayuna; further showing his character and commitment to helping others.



Congratulations Sam for your well-deserved 2022 Amanda Rivenburg Phoenix Award. Please help keep this award going by donating in Amanda's memory or Sam's honor:

<http://bit.ly/2CjhdPP>



13th Annual Golf Tournament



Click here to join us

Friday, September 23, 2022
Colonie Golf & Country Club • Voorheesville, NY



Title Sponsor

www.LivingResources.org



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