

Sharing the Journey



November 2022

LIVING
RESOURCES

A Message from the Chief Executive Officer



Elizabeth Martin

I think each of us will agree that people with disabilities have a right to live with dignity, independence, and happiness and be fully integrated in the community – just like everyone else. However, to fully achieve that vision, you need two things: adequate funding and people. I'm going to be honest with you: we do not have enough of either of those right now.

Recently, I was invited to speak at a rally at the State Capitol to highlight that need and urge our Governor and lawmakers to invest in NY's care economy. It is vital for the Governor and everyone in New York to understand that we do not have enough funding or people to ensure individuals can fully live the lives they have a right to live.

Without enough funding or staff to support our individuals, they are often stuck isolated in their homes all day. This isolation may lead them to become physically and mentally unhealthier. Simply put, our staff are overworked, overstressed and unable to provide the quality support they want to provide because there are simply not enough of them, leading to decreased service quality and increased chances of something terrible happening.

DSPs act as teachers, coaches, mentors, healthcare workers, mental health workers, and more. The work they do is actually priceless and they deserve to earn a respectable wage. Sadly, we don't set our prices – the state does. We need the state to help us by investing in salary increases for our people.

While we continue to lobby for increased funding, YOU, our supporters have been the key to ensuring that we are able maintain the high quality supportive services individuals deserve. This year the need is greater than ever and we hope you will again support our Annual Appeal.

Our care can't wait, please donate today!
Your support is the KEY to our HEART

Living Resources' 2022 Annual Appeal is underway!

Your support is the key to our heart.

LIVING
RESOURCES

The significant inflation we have all experienced
makes our fundraising appeal this season more urgent.

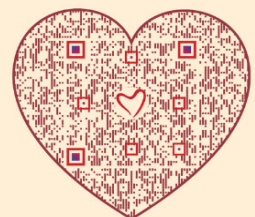


DID YOU KNOW?
NYS sets our reimbursement rates and for many years, the rates have not kept up with inflation. Since the start of the pandemic, this problem has only gotten more severe.



Click here to donate

Your Gift is a fully Tax-Deductible Donation



or Donate Online at <https://www.livingresources.org> or <https://bit.ly/3o8EI3q>



NEW YORK
**DISABILITY
ADVOCATES**
Life. Supported.

NYDA Capitol Rally

**LIVING
RESOURCES**

A Call to action to invest in the future of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and the Direct Support Professionals who support them.

On Wednesday, November 16, Living Resources staff and program participants were part of the 200+ self-advocates, family members, DSPs, and members of disability care organizations that came together to tell lawmakers that **NOW** is the time to invest in NY's care economy. **We NEED adequate funding.** High inflation hit non-profit providers hard. The non-personnel costs in our supervised residential programs have increased by more than 25% since last year, predominately in the areas of transportation costs, energy, food, and maintenance. Also, our health insurance premiums will be increasing by double-digits next year. **So, in addition to investing in the workforce, we need the Governor to include an 8.5% rate adjustment** so that we can keep up with the overall rising costs of operating homes and other programs.





NYSID Joslin Award Winner: Ashley Lawyer



Congratulations to Living Resources supported individual Ashley Lawyer who had the honor of being nominated by her employer, Image Data, Inc., for the 2022 NYSID Joslin Award! Nominees for this award are New Yorkers with disabilities working on New York State Industries for the Disabled (NYSID) contracts who exemplify exceptional job performance and personal growth.

A portion on the nomination essay states: "Why does Ashley merit the Joslin Award? Persistence. She has improved every day since joining the Image Data team four years ago. Ashley enjoys working on the fast-paced production floor because she wants to keep busy and work with her hands. Document preparation is the perfect

position for her to do this as she maintains speed and quality. Ashley is her own competition and she is up to the task every day."

Click here to view the full program book

Cultivating a Career with Kids

Abby is a 2022 graduate of Living Resources' College Experience with plans for her future career. During her internship placements, Abby had much success exploring opportunities in the field of child care. She started working for Capital Milestones day care center as a floater and support aid for the lead teachers where she was often praised for her professionalism and eagerness to learn and take on new tasks. This valuable experience helped her develop a goal to work with older children and become an assistant teacher.

Throughout the job development process with her Living Resources Employment Specialist, she advocated her desires to work in a before- and after- school program. She applied to three different programs in the Albany area and two of those programs offered her a job, giving her an opportunity to choose the setting she felt more aligned with. Ultimately, she chose the School's Out program in Delmar where she has been since early September. Abby has expressed how much she enjoys this new environment. She continues to thrive and grow as a professional in her field, receiving positive feedback from her coworkers and the team lead. Her plan for the fall and winter is to invest additional time into taking an online certificate course for Childhood Development to further build her knowledge and skills.



Living Resources' College Experience is a two-year, noncredit, post-secondary college program hosted on the campus of The College of Saint Rose. This program is designed to teach young adults with disabilities to live independently and maintain competitive employment while having the chance to be a college student.

Learn more by going to <https://thecollegeexperience.org>





We Are Thankful for our Annual Appeal Donors!



Your Support is the KEY to our Heart!

R. Maxwell and Jean Alley
Beth Ames
Pamela Archie
Robert and Bonita Bailey
Sigmund and Abby Balaban
Phillip and Maryann Barnum
Donna Barron
Allison Batty
Barbara Bender
Catherine and Peter Butryn
Miguel and Diane Cabral
Salvatore and Veronica Casano
Mark and Cindy Chalachan
Ellen Chapman
Chemung Canal Trust Company
John and Mary Lynn Cimon
Marjorie Coello
Paul and Phyllis Cooney
Jean Corlew
Ted and Dolores Correll
Loretta and Michael Darcy
Robert H. Day
Laura Dunathan
David Durand and Lorelei Bohle
Michael and Norine Durkin
Roland Eberhard
Rosemary Eberlein
Fredrick Erlich and Beth Vandecar
Arthur Ferguson
Susan Ferrara
Robin and Ed Fitzpatrick
Elaine Freedman
Seth Fruiterman
Philip Fusco
Bill and Torie Gable
Sandra Gersowitz
Mike and Deborah Gilligan
Elizabeth Goodman
Thomas and Sylvia Gray
Christopher Greagan and
Shirley Greagan, Esq.
Arthur Haberl
Peter and Mary Haessig
Megan Haessig
William Harris and Holly Katz
Matthew and Barbara Heineman
Robert and Betsy Higgins
Debra Johnson
E. Stewart and Kimberly Sanger Jones

William and Beth King
Darlana and Sally Kipper
Brent and Kara Kosoc
Joseph LaMalfa
Anne Lasalle
Christopher and Carleen Madden
Anthony and Vickie Maiello
Eileen Martel
Muriel McGowan
Peter and Patricia Ann Menditto
Catherine Merriman
Rachel Muller
Shirley Netoskie
John Nigro
John Nitsky
Thomas Pandick
Julie Panke and Karl Horstmann
Carl Paulsen
Dennis Perham
Theresa Pillittere
Carol Piotrowski
Elissa Prout
Robert and Laura Rapp
Dominick Rappazzo
Gayla Riccardi
Dan and Debbie Round
Helmut and Erika Samide
Lewis and Janis Saperstein
Jesse Saperstein
James and Robin Sevinsky
Ann Shapiro and Barry Pendergrass
Robert and Shelley Siegfried
Gary and Robin Siskin
Kenneth and Marggie Skinner
Sandra Smith
Barbara Soldani
Nancy and Mark Splonskowski
Tom and Johanna Stebbins
Sandra Stern
Denise Stewart
James Tynan
Anne Valliere
Rosemary and David Vara
Shawn and Maria Viana
Joan Vroman
Thomas and Mary Ellen Windish
Ye Ole Locksmith Shoppe Inc.
Robert and Mary Lou Young



In Celebration of our Long Term Staff

In gratitude and appreciation for our staff who have worked for the agency for 15 years or longer, we invited them to attend their option of an evening wine and cheese party or a morning breakfast celebration. They relaxed with friends, chatted with our CEO, and received the gift of a Living Resources zip- up fleece.



We are most grateful to each of our long term staff who have lovingly supported and empowered individuals with disabilities or other life challenging conditions to live with dignity, independence, and happiness!

Jeffrey Almonte-Hallenbeck*

Joseph Askew
Kevin Baker
Cynthia Ballard
Latchmi Bedisee
Laurie Bosco*
Brian Bouchey*
Yolanda Boyd
Kelly Brewington*
Michelle Bynoe
Sergio Camacho
Gerald Carpenter
Andrell Carr*
Carl Cephus Jr.
Jolene Cituk*
Christine Danzy Miller
Willie Davis
Wendy Decker
Kristine Demarco
Magdalena Diaz

Bianca Dilella*

Karen Doyle*
Cinthia Dudley
Michael English*
Maggie Erlich
Karif Farrell*
Lora Francis*
Erin Gapp*
Meredith Gilchrist
Julie Gilchrist*
Alan Gordon*
Carol Gore*
Joyce Grisby*
Jennifer Guay*
Rachelle Hicks*
Christine Hough*
Joy Hudspath
Antoine Johnson
Russell Kellogg
Cheryl Keosky
Jennifer Kirkpatrick*
Edwin Knuckles*

Karen Kulesa*

George Kurian
Joseph Lamalfa*
Patricia Laviana
Kamina Lawry*
Andrea Macgloin*
Omowunmi Majekodunmi
Neil Mansbridge
Robert Marcello
Paula Marsala
Vanessa Mckay*
Karen Medina*
Lisa Montgomery
Lovancie Moon*
Joseph Morelli*
John Newkirk
David Noonan
Lorna Nugent*
John Ojuro*
Karen Palmucci*
Fern Pivar
Frank Prevratil*

David Putman*

Lisa Razanousky
Iris Reeves*
Thomas Regan
Jennifer Richard*
Brian Roman
Daniel Rubino
Dorzier Ruffin*
Sarah Saunders*
Kathleen Scepkowski
Rebecca Shepard*
Gwendolyn Singleton*
Tina Stallworth*
Van Suggs*
Martin Trudell*
Corie Weaver*
Lorenzo White*
Herbert Whittam
Melissa Williams
Patricia Wolford*



Thanksgiving Traditions



Living Resources Brain Injury Program continued their 10+ year long tradition of holding a Thanksgiving celebration for their participants. Our staff went all out to make the day special for those in their program, some waking up at midnight to prepare a traditional feast. It was all worth it to see the participants enjoy the day.

