



SHARING THE JOURNEY



ELIZABETH MARTIN, CEO

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

This month's newsletter is a beautiful testament to the vibrant spirit of our community. From regional celebrations and community fundraisers to marching proudly in the Capital Pride Parade, the stories shared this June highlight our core agency values in active practice: Inclusivity, Empowerment, Collaboration, and Kindness.

At Living Resources, we remain deeply committed to protecting the rights, dignity, and inclusion of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We share OPWDD Commissioner Willow Baer's concerns regarding the recent U.S. Department of Justice opinion and strongly support New York State's continued commitment to the principles established by Olmstead v. L.C.

True community integration transforms lives. Whether our individuals are mastering vocational skills, expressing creative talents, or building local relationships, they remind us that meaningful opportunities foster true self-determination.

We stand firmly with our state leaders and advocacy networks to ensure that the progress we have fought so hard to achieve is never compromised. Thank you to our exceptional staff, volunteers, and families who live out our mission with integrity every single day.

A Tribute to Transforming Lives

A Day at the 1863 Club • Saratoga Race Course

Presented by Saratoga Trunk LADY'S FINERY

Sunday, August 23, 2026

Benefitting LIVING RESOURCES



Scan the QR Code to Reserve Your Spot Now!

Thank You to Our Sponsors!



Barbara J. Bouchey ASSET MANAGEMENT INCORPORATED



Community Bank

BOND SCHOENECK & KING ATTORNEYS Dr. Roy and Mrs. Judy Fruiterman

USI NFP An Aon Company

TBC Teal, Becker & Chiramonte CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

AIM SERVICES, INC. The power of potential



CAPITAL REGIONAL PHARMACY SERVICES

BBL

Kathleen Kinstel and Mark Devito

enterprise FLEET MANAGEMENT

CELEBRATING PRIDE, BELONGING, AND COMMUNITY AT THE CAPITAL PRIDE PARADE



June in the Capital Region brings an unmistakable energy. One filled with bright colors, joyful music, and a shared sense of community. This year, Living Resources staff, community members, and the individuals we support proudly stepped out into the sunshine to march in the annual Capital Pride Parade right here in Albany.

Carrying our vibrant banner adorned with a multi-colored heart, our group joined thousands of neighbors to celebrate Pride Month. The energy was

unmatched. One of our supported individuals even wore a magnificent progressive pride flag as a cape, perfectly encapsulating the triumphant, joyful spirit of the day.

More than just a wonderful afternoon of celebration, marching in the Capital Pride Parade is a direct reflection of who we are. Events like these give us a beautiful opportunity to put our core agency values into active practice.

Central to our participation is our deep commitment to inclusivity. To us, inclusivity means cultivating a welcoming environment where every person feels respected, valued, and safe to express exactly who they are. We consciously embrace equity to ensure a true sense of belonging for everyone, recognizing that our community is at its strongest when our differences are not just accepted, but actively celebrated. Standing together on Washington Avenue, the spirit of genuine belonging was palpable.



The parade also allowed us to highlight several other agency values that guide our daily work including Advocacy, Empowerment, Kindness, and Collaboration.

As we look back on the smiling faces, the beautiful sea of rainbow colors, and the sound of the crowds cheering along the streets of Albany, we are reminded of why this work matters so deeply. We want to extend a massive thank you to all the staff members, individuals, and community allies who marched alongside us or cheered us on from the sidewalks. Together, we are building a more compassionate, collaborative, and genuinely inclusive future for all.

Happy Pride Month from all of us at Living Resources!

LIVING RESOURCES ATHLETES STRIKE GOLD AT THE 2026 SPECIAL OLYMPICS USA GAMES



Living Resources is proud to celebrate an incredible achievement by three of the individuals we support, Bobby, Catherine, and Tor, who recently brought home a gold medal in softball while representing Team New York at the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games in Minnesota.

Competing alongside athletes from across the country, Bobby, Catherine, and Tor demonstrated outstanding teamwork, perseverance, and sportsmanship throughout the tournament. Their dedication and hard work culminated in an unforgettable championship victory, earning Team New York the gold medal.

This accomplishment is about far more than winning a game. It reflects months of commitment, countless hours of practice, and the confidence to compete on a national stage. Their success showcases the power of inclusion, determination, and the extraordinary abilities of athletes with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Please join us in congratulating Bobby, Catherine, and Tor on this remarkable achievement. We are incredibly proud of the way they represented Team New York, their communities, and the Living Resources family.

Congratulations, champions!

COMMUNITY IN LIVING COLOR: KEYBANK BRIGHTENS OUR HOMES

There is nothing quite like the energy of a community coming together to lift one another up. Recently, we were thrilled to welcome a fantastic team of volunteers from KeyBank to one of our Living Resources residences for an incredible day of giving back. With the sun shining brightly and paintbrushes in hand, the KeyBank crew rolled up their sleeves to refresh and revitalize our outdoor spaces, giving our decks and wheelchair ramps a beautiful, fresh coat of paint.

This day of service was a perfect reflection of the core values we hold dear at Living Resources. Through Collaboration, our partnership turned a big project into a fun, collective achievement. The team displayed Excellence in their meticulous care to ensure the vital ramps and decks were beautifully finished, and their genuine Kindness and spirit of generosity shone brighter than the afternoon sun.

We want to extend our deepest gratitude to KeyBank and every employee who dedicated their time and hard work to this project. Your support helps us ensure that our residences remain beautiful, welcoming, and safe places to call home. Thank you for being such an extraordinary community partner and for helping us bring our values to life!



DAY COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM COMES TOGETHER FOR A BBQ



There is nothing quite like a summer barbecue to bring people together, and recently, a few of our Day Community Opportunities Program (DCOP) groups did just that on a grand scale. While a typical cookout might bring one county or program together, this special event was a true regional celebration. Individuals and staff traveled from Orange, Columbia, Ulster, Rockland, Westchester, and Dutchess counties to share a day of community, connection, and pure fun.

The beautiful Cluett Schantz Memorial Park in Milton, New York, served as the perfect backdrop for the festivities. With plenty of green space and sunshine, the park quickly filled with the sounds of laughter, lively music, and the unmistakable aroma of a classic summer grill. The spread was a true crowd-pleaser, featuring classic hamburgers and hot dogs, crunchy chips, refreshing beverages, and a wonderful variety of potluck-style side dishes and desserts brought in by individuals in the attending counties.

Beyond the fantastic food, the day was packed with energy and activities. The park pavilion transformed into a dance floor as music played, while others took to the lawns for outdoor games or simply strolled through the park grounds. However, the true highlight of the day wasn't just the food or the games. It was the people. Because this event brought together so many different counties, it provided a rare and beautiful opportunity for individuals and staff alike to step outside their usual routines, meet new peers, and strengthen cross-county friendships that don't always get to happen face-to-face.

Looking around the park, the smiles on everyone's faces said it all. Events like this remind us of the vibrant, supportive community we are building together at Living Resources. A huge thank you goes out to all the dedicated staff members who truly embodied our agency value of Collaboration, helping coordinate transportation, grilling, and activities. It was a beautiful reminder of how much closer we become when we celebrate as one.

CELEBRATING THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR AT KINGPINS ALLEY!



There is no better way to wrap up a fantastic year of growth, friendship, and fun than with a celebration that gets everyone moving. Recently, the Living Resources After School Program hosted our annual End of the School Year party at Kingpins Alley in Latham. It was a major milestone for our community, as almost every single student enrolled in the program was able to join us on the lanes for an incredibly vibrant, high-energy evening.

The students hit the lanes right away, bowling a spirited first game full of cheers, high-fives, and plenty of pins

flying. After working up an appetite, everyone took an intermission to gather together, laugh, and fuel up on delicious pizza. With batteries fully recharged, the students laced back up and finished off the night strong with a second game, cheering each other on until the very last frame. Seeing the pure joy and natural camaraderie between peers was the perfect testament to what this program is truly about.

For our families and supporters, the Living Resources After School Program provides vital supervised recreational activities to children and adolescents with intellectual and developmental disabilities across six sites throughout the Capital and



Saratoga Regions. Our mission is to help these incredible students develop lasting social and life skills in a safe, supportive, and engaging environment. Community outings like this give our participants the wonderful freedom to socialize, build confidence, and just enjoy being kids.



We are incredibly proud of all our students and the progress they've made, and we extend a huge thank you to Kingpins Alley, our dedicated staff, and our wonderful families for making this year-end celebration so unforgettable!

COOKING UP COMMUNITY: CEP STUDENTS HOST SUCCESSFUL SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER

There is nothing quite like a warm, home-cooked meal to bring people together, and recently, the main office of Living Resources was filled with the delicious aroma of fresh pasta, savory sauces, and sweet treats. Students from the Living Resources College Experience Program took over the kitchen to host a spectacular spaghetti fundraiser, showcasing their talents, teamwork, and hard work.

The students prepared an incredible spread from scratch, serving up a mouthwatering menu of spaghetti, classic meatballs, rich meat sauce, crisp salad, and fresh-baked cookies for dessert. More than just a culinary success, the event was a brilliant display of Collaboration and Empowerment—core values that guide everything we do at Living Resources.



To pull off the bustling event, students broke out into distinct stations, taking full ownership of the operations:

- The Finance Team: Managed the front of the house, confidently collecting cash, calculating change, and greeting hungry guests.
- The Main Entrée Station: Mastered the art of portioning and serving hot, delicious helpings of spaghetti and meatballs.
- The Sides & Dessert Crew: Handled the assembly of fresh salads and ensured everyone left with a perfectly baked cookie.

By working together, supporting one another, and taking charge of their respective roles, the students demonstrated incredible independence. Watching them confidently manage a fast-paced food service environment was a powerful reminder of how meaningful opportunities foster true self-determination.

Every plate served was a step toward greater independence, as all proceeds from the fundraiser directly benefit future activities for the College Experience Program.

Thank you to everyone who stopped by to support our students, enjoy a fantastic meal, and celebrate the incredible capabilities of the College Experience Program community. We are already looking forward to seeing what these talented individuals cook up next!



A SUPERHERO IN THE MAKING: CONGRATS TO CEP GRADUATE NICK WILLIAMS!



The entire Living Resources community is bursting with pride as we extend our heartfelt congratulations to Nick Williams, a phenomenal 2018 graduate of the College Experience program! Nick has just officially wrapped filming on a brand-new movie where he takes center stage as the lead actor.

Based on Nick's own original screenplay and directed by the talented Lora Lee Ecobelli in collaboration with the Blue Horse Repertory Company, this project is a massive milestone.

We don't want to give away too many spoilers just yet, but the film offers a brilliant, modern take on the classic Faustian tale: What happens when the extreme odds kick in and we get exactly what we want? As it turns out, what we want isn't always what we expect.

Nick plays "Mark Austin," a man who is suddenly catapulted into overnight fame and global acclaim as a movie superhero. Reaching the iconic success of Christopher Reeve, Mark finds himself chased by adoring fans and staring at his name in bright lights. But the core of the story lies in a powerful

juxtaposition: While the world sees a flawless superhero, they often overlook the real man navigating the challenges of living with cerebral palsy. The film beautifully captures Mark's internal and external struggles as he learns to handle sudden, unrelenting attention and unmask the true hero within.

Nick's dedication to his craft is an inspiration to us all, perfectly embodying the spirit of creativity, independence, and empowerment that we cherish in our community.

We cannot wait to see Nick shine on the silver screen. Stay tuned for more updates as we get closer to the official premiere this September!



SWEET SUCCESS: SUMMER CHEER AT WARREN DCOP



This month at our Warren Day Community Opportunities Program (DCOP), it was all about sunshine, smiles, and social connections. We had a wonderful time participating in a variety of fun and engaging activities, but the absolute highlight of the week was our community lemonade stand! To spread some pure summer cheer, the individuals at Warren hosted the stand, giving away free, ice-cold lemonade and delicious treats to members of our local community.

The excitement began well before the first guest arrived, as everyone teamed up in the kitchen to prepare the fresh lemonade. It was a wonderful exercise in collaboration and mathematical skill as individuals carefully measured out ingredients, mixed the perfect batches, and calculated the

the total number of cups they would need for the day. Once the refreshments were ready, the team headed outside to enthusiastically set up the stand, arranging the signage and decorations to ensure a welcoming environment for all.

When the neighbors started arriving, our individuals truly stepped into their element, beautifully demonstrating inclusivity and kindness. They took the lead on greeting guests with warm smiles, striking up friendly conversations, and serving the refreshments. This provided a fantastic opportunity for empowerment. The individuals in the program solicited customers, engaged with the community, and were empowered to step out of their comfort zones.

Beyond the logistics, the true magic of the event was the quality time spent together. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed interacting with new faces, building local relationships, sharing big laughs, and creating positive memories with friends. It was a beautiful reminder that a simple act of sweetness, combined with hard work and independence, can build the strongest community bonds. Cheers to our Warren team for filling the week with so much heart!

CATCHING UP WITH LOLIK

We wanted to share some of the wonderful moments we've had at our Lolik residential house over the past couple of weeks. The individuals we support have been truly enjoying a variety of meaningful, exciting activities that perfectly reflect Living Resources' core values of inclusivity, empowerment, and collaboration.

Empowerment comes alive when our residents get to choose and lead activities that bring them joy and independence. Lately, that has looked like taking in the beautiful scenery during peaceful nature walks along the Hudson River, spending afternoons fishing with staff, and hitting the mall for a bit of shopping and exploring. Even simple van rides have turned into small adventures of their own, often leading to warm, wholesome dinners out in the community where everyone can relax and enjoy time together.



Collaboration and inclusivity are also at the heart of everything we do, and the past few weeks have been full of opportunities to foster deep connections. The individuals had the wonderful experience of engaging socially with members of the public during their community outings, making each trip both fun and enriching. Plus, our strong bond as an agency shines brightest when our houses team up! Lolik received a special birthday invitation from our sister house, Longmeadow, which was an event filled with laughter, shared stories, and plenty of reasons to celebrate.

Overall, it's been a fantastic few weeks full of positive experiences, active community engagement, and memorable moments. We are so proud of the staff and residents at Lolik for building such an inclusive, supportive, and vibrant environment!



A DAY AT PLOTTER KILL PRESERVE

This month, individuals from our Community Living and C2L Community Habilitation programs embraced our core values of inclusivity and empowerment during a beautiful day of outdoor exploration.

The group hit the trails at Plotter Kill Preserve, working in collaboration with our dedicated staff to navigate the wooded paths. A highlight of the hike was gathering by the waterfall, a perfect setting for fostering a culture of kindness and connection as everyone shared stories and celebrated each other's achievements. Michael, Joseph, Jose, and Jerrod all demonstrated wonderful independence and confidence on the trail, truly embodying self-determination.



Upholding our commitment to excellence in creating well-rounded, meaningful outcomes, the adventure didn't end there! The team wrapped up the day by heading to Wagon Train BBQ for a delicious late lunch. Over great food and plenty of laughs, everyone felt heard, valued, and deeply included.

By encouraging autonomy and building a supportive environment where everyone belongs, our staff and individuals continue to live out our agency mission with integrity every single day.





THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DONATION IN HONOR OF OR IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE

In Memory of Maureen Conboy

Margaret-Ann Bolton
Susan Casey
Vivian and Martin Conboy
Virginia Coulon
Christopher and Suzanne DeSorbo
Rosemary Eberlein
The Friel Family
Kathleen Glover
Paul and Donna Grogan
Noreen and Martin Millaine
Gerald Morrow
Eileen O'Connor
Estelle O'Haire
Ted Roach
Tom Roach
Peter Schreck
Julie and Bruce Weeden

In Memory of Margaret Curley

Helen Betke
Marianna Dunn
Jeffrey Haff
Brian Kearney

In Honor of Karen O'Neil Curren

Time and Cathy Curren

In Memory of Marybeth Hanner

Dennis and Mary Delorenzo

In Memory of Debbie Ann Kirsch

Catherine and Peter Butryn

In Memory of Eileen Lucey, MD

Mary and Scott McIlvennie

In Memory of Joan Meyer

R.A. Fuerst Law Group, P.C.

In Memory of Joseph Morelli

Carrie and Jeffrey Boyer
Catherine and Peter Butryn
Anthony DelBalso
Roxanne Delfavero
Dr. Roy and Mrs. Judy Fruiterman
Paul and Rita Galchus
Meredith Gilchrist
Kimerbly Gillick
Mike Keane
Margaret, Amy, and Robin Kehn
Dr. Maggie Kirwin, Ed. D.
Joe LaMalfa
Elizabeth Martin
Sandra McBride
Michael McGuirk
Brendan Mooney
Christine Morelli
Meghan O'Sullivan
Lisa Ondra
Deneen Palmateer
Carol Piotrowski
John and Lisa Razanousky
Darlene Sears
Kevin and Mary Tully

In Memory of Roy Palmateer

Congressman Paul D. Tonko

In Memory of Angela Sheehan

Dr. Roy and Mrs. Judy Fruiterman

In Memory of John Vogel

Richard and Elisabeth Vogel