

July 2023



## What's Happening in Our World This Month?

An Update from Joe, Wheelchair Clinic Expansion, Car Show Recap, Big Visits & More!

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Dear CP Family,

Happy July! With Summer now in full-swing, the CP team is working to make it a memorable season for the people we support as we take meaningful steps to advance our mission in new and exciting ways.

Tomorrow, I will be sharing a letter outlining recent developments that put CP Unlimited on new paths while expanding the communities in which we make an impact. Please take a moment to read my thoughts on this remarkable organization after one year as President & CEO. It is a role I feel immensely honored to hold because I get to work with the best team in the industry.

This issue of our newsletter is truly one to feel proud of because it highlights so many examples of the CP Family going above and beyond. Whether it is helping convene hundreds of cars on Staten Island to open CP up to different audiences and generate needed dollars, or finding one person in need the right equipment to make them more independent, we are making a difference at every level and at every opportunity.

I also want to welcome **Blanca J. Ramirez** to the CP Unlimited Board of Directors, after serving on our Housing Committee. Her passion and expertise are assets to the Agency. [See more about Blanca online.](#)

Thank you to everyone here for all you do. More tomorrow in my letter, please check your email and our website for additional news.

-Joseph M. Pancari

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# Employees of the Quarter: Q1 2023



The CP Family is comprised of extraordinary people working to create opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to achieve a fulfilling life.

Each quarter during the calendar year, we highlight specific employees who have gone above and beyond for the people we support. For Q1 2023, we recognize the following employees:

**Yvette Brooks**, Direct Care Counselor *(pictured)*

**Aneita Daley**, Direct Care Counselor

**Robin Dubose**, Community Skills Specialist

**Sheila Floyd**, Direct Care Counselor

**Paula Harris-Forbes**, Rehabilitation Specialist

**Raquel Judge-Mays**, Residential Placement Coordinator

**Mary Lemor**, Direct Care Counselor

**Donna Matar**, Direct Care Counselor

**Ciciley Paternella**, Habilitation Aide

**Melinda Rivera**, Day Shift Supervisor

**Jennie Romero**, Housekeeper-Union8 *(pictured)*

**Jean Seide**, Direct Care Counselor

**Kristina Sellers**, Secretary/Special Projects

**Jeremiah Shaw**, Direct Care Counselor

**Jacob Vosper**, RESSUP

**Christopher Walker**, Habilitation Aide *(pictured)*

**Sandra Willis**, Medical Case Manager



[See more, including various quotes from the EOTQ celebration from both award recipients and their nominating team members >>](#)



# Cars Care Show a High-Revving Good Time



The smell of gasoline mixed with morning dew as the first collectibles rumbled into the parking lot just before dawn at the College of Staten Island for the first Cars Care Show put on by the Verrazano Kiwanis Club on June 25, benefitting CP Unlimited and our work with people with I/DD on Staten Island. By mid-morning, more than 150 additional cars would join as the local Chevy Club, Cadillac Club, Mopar devotees, auto modification groups, and enthusiasts of all types showed up.

When it came time for judging, a diverse list of categories including “Dirtiest Vehicle” “Best Luxury Car” “Best Resto-Mod” and “CP Unlimited Choice” awaited vehicles on display. After several hours, the winners emerged and were given trophies in a fun ceremony. Congrats to the owner of the white 1972 Mercedes 480SL convertible, selected the “CP Unlimited Choice”! **[See more photos and details online >>](#)**

# Expanding Wheelchair Clinics to Hudson Valley

## July 15 in Carmel: Complimentary Wheelchair Cleanings For People with I/DD and Veterans

CP Unlimited invites people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, veterans, and others who use wheelchairs to book a free evaluation, cleaning, and \*sanitizing session to help maintain chair hygiene and personal mobility.

*\*Sanitizing for non-powered chairs only*

**CARMEL VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS**

**9:00AM - 4:00PM**

**6 Garrett Place (upper parking lot)  
Carmel, NY 10512**

CP Unlimited will be transforming the lives of people who use wheelchairs in the Hudson Valley come this month, as we launch the first of what will be a series of ongoing Wheelchair Maintenance and Sanitizing Clinics outside of NYC. In addition, the Agency will celebrate the addition of a HubScrub machine at one of our settings, allowing regular and reliable sanitizing and cleaning services for the people we support, veterans, seniors, and many more! [Share to Help People Using Wheelchairs >>](#)





# Inspiring Stories From the CP Team

## ANOTHER WHEELCHAIR CLINIC CONNECTION

At CP's recent wheelchair clinic in Jamaica, Queens, we met a young man named Justin and his mother Laura. She informed us that he was in need of an activity chair and a walker but as a 21-year-old, the DOE was unable to help. BUT, **CP Unlimited was able to spring into action!**

Thanks to our Cabrini Health grant Justin was able to meet with the Rehabilitation and M.O.V.E. team on Staten Island and try out the mobility equipment on hand. **It was exactly what was needed.** Justin is now building his strength, confidence, and mobility thanks to our efforts.



## SEE CP IN *THE DAILY VOICE: PUTNAM COUNTY*

### CP Unlimited Uses Innovative Ideas To Maintain Staff From Near And Far

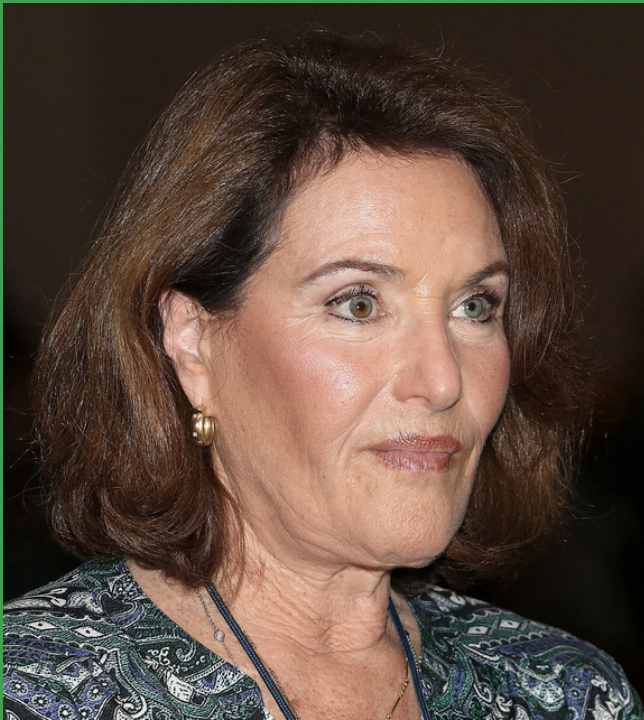
In recent years, staffing shortages across the Hudson Valley—and specifically amongst the wide field of service providers to vulnerable populations—have created an environment where there simply aren't enough people to fill all of the necessary positions.

**DAILY  
VOICE**

A person who requires 24-hour care, for instance, will need three people working in eight-hour shifts to cover their day. If one of those three caretakers does not show, the ripple extends outwards to many others. That's why for an agency like Constructive Partnerships (CP) Unlimited that cares for many dozens of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout Putnam and Dutchess counties, innovative thinking is needed to maintain top-level care. [Continue Reading Online >>](#)

# More CP News: Transitions and Visits

## THANKING BARBARA N. SCHERR FOR HER SUPPORT



[Read More >>](#)

Barbara N. Scherr officially retired from the CP Board of Directors on Friday. Most recently she served as Board Secretary, having joined in 1996—a remarkable twenty-seven years of service and guidance. She also sits on the Executive Committee.

Ms. Scherr has also served as CP Unlimited's representation on the Jawonio Board of Directors, helping elevate the level of care and commitment to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in communities throughout the region.

## WELCOMING ASSEMBLYWOMAN DANA LEVENBERG

Visiting our residence and meeting our  
persons supported in Garrison, NY

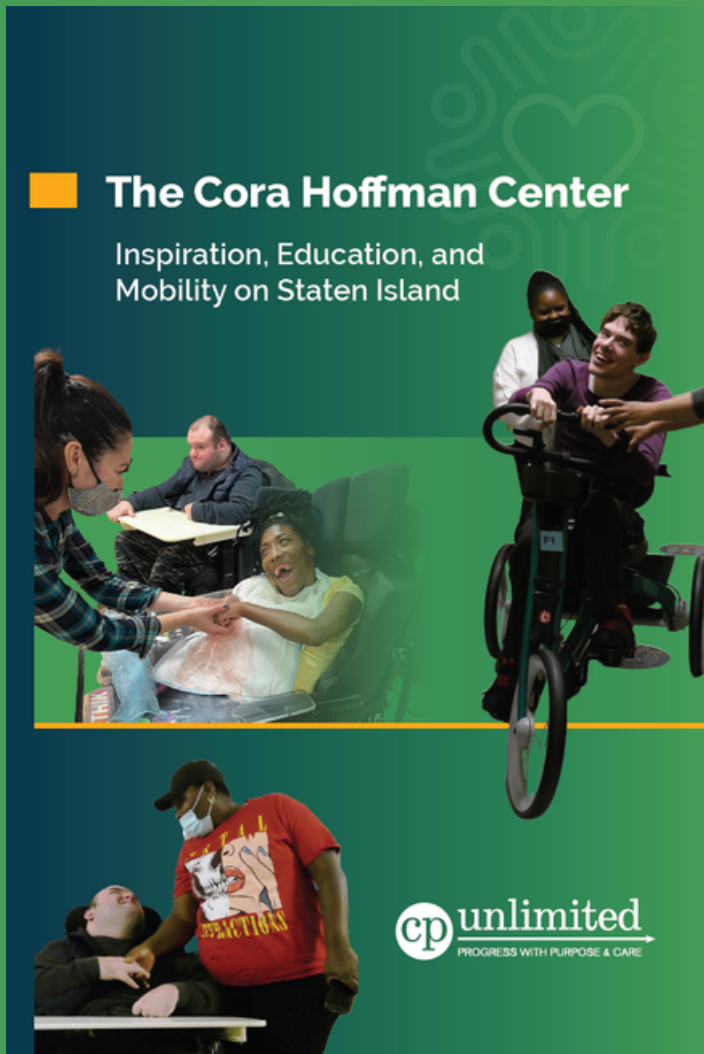


While there, she saw the gorgeous bedrooms customized with artwork, decorations, and colors chosen by each resident, the specialized bathing and bathroom facilities, and the warm and welcome living room where they gather!

She also heard about the needs of our team in the Hudson Valley and their efforts to create opportunities for people with I/DD to achieve a fulfilling life . [See more from her visit online >>](#)



# New Day Hab Resources Online and In Print



CP's Day Habilitation programs are getting more (well-deserved) time in the spotlight as new resources are rolling out to showcase what makes each setting unique and important.

First up is a series of printed brochures (Cora Hoffman Center is out now, Brooklyn, LIC, Hudson Valley, and West Farms are forthcoming) that features exclusive photos, descriptions, and highlights from each program.

Concurrently, CP has just launched a new webpage for our Day Hab Centers and Programs incorporating text from the brochures, a virtual tour of each setting, a link to the Amazon Wishlist, and soon the brochures themselves.

Combined, these two deliverables now allow for potential participants to learn more about how special our supports and team members truly are. Videos will soon be added so stay tuned!

# HR: New Hires at CP

## Welcoming New Members to the CP Family and Recognizing New Promotions!

**Sulemana Abdul**, Direct Care Counselor  
**YetundeAdelusi**, Community Habilitation Specialist  
**Xarviar Cooper**, Support Broker  
**Amira Gordon** (is now) Residential Coordinator  
**Ny-Asia Humbert**, Direct Care Counselor  
**Lork Whydzart Hyland**, Direct Care Counselor  
**Sharon Isaac**, Direct Care Counselor  
**La-Belle Kiazolu**, Independent Living Skills Trainer  
**Marie Lamisere**, Direct Care Counselor  
**Maria Liccini**, Direct Care Counselor  
**Antoinette Millard**, Residential Coordinator  
**Uzoamaka OgbuEnwenonuh**, Direct Care Counselor  
**John Owens** (is now) AVP, Facilities Planning, Dev. & Const.  
**Lesley Pickersgill** (is now) AVP, Residential Services  
**Raziyah Rodriguez** (is now) Day Shift Supervisor  
**Christina Schenkewitz**, Director of Day Services  
**Kristina Sellers** (is now) Special Projects Coordinator  
**Latoya Stepney-Phillips**, Direct Care Counselor  
**Tyree Singleton**, Marketing Specialist



**Honoring the Amazing Life and Career of  
Timothy Buyund.**

**May his memory be a blessing.**



# We Hope It Was a Happy and Safe July 4!



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## Join the CP Community Online



[Facebook.com/ConstructivePartnershipsUnlimited](https://www.facebook.com/ConstructivePartnershipsUnlimited)



[Linkedin.com/company/constructive-partnerships-unlimited-cp-unlimited/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/constructive-partnerships-unlimited-cp-unlimited/)



Find us here: [CP on YouTube](#)

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