

September 2023



What's Happening in Our World This Month?

Longevity Events, Yonkers Activities, DEI Programs, Summer Fun, & MORE!

Dear CP Family,

This is a newsletter unlike any other!

First and foremost, we are so proud to recognize the more than 400 CP team members celebrating work anniversaries in 2023 of at least 10 years. We honored this special cohort in a series of programs in late August (see page 2) and we hope you will join with all of us in recognizing their commitment.

And I want to take a moment to highlight the work of our 1,143 Direct Care staff who we will more formally thank during DSP Week, from September 11-15. Their efforts makes our mission means something: everyday the lives of people with I/DD are more fulfilling and achievable because our DSPs are on the front lines.

I also come to you not from where I want to be...as many of you already know, I had an accident that prevents me from being with you to celebrate at the Longevity programs, summer BBQs, upcoming baseball games, job fairs, and so many other innovative and successful programs we put on.

But, I remain in contact with many of you and trust in my team and the entire network to maintain the level of care, communication, and camaraderie that CP Unlimited has always been known for.

May you continue to unite under the banners of gratitude and appreciation as we do great things throughout New York City and the Hudson Valley- no matter where I may be, that comes through crystal clear.

With Hopes of Seeing You Soon,
-Joseph M. Pancari, President & CEO

Recognizing Employee Dedication: Longevity Celebration Events 2023



The CP Family includes many of the most caring and special in the field and this is indisputable to anyone who has spent time in our community.

As an organization with an average employee tenure of eleven years (wow!), there are so many who have advanced our mission for decades beyond that. In 2023, we were proud to reconstitute our annual Employee Longevity events, recognizing employees with 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40 years with the Agency. This year, we also honored those celebrating anniversaries who were unable to be celebrated in-person.

The Agency recently held three distinct celebrations to recognize the commitment of our team across the various decades. This population of over 400 of the CP Family truly deserve our admiration and gratitude.

or scan

See the Employee Longevity recap page with photos, summaries, and a special message from Joe Pancari:



Expanding Residential Settings to Yonkers, NY



CP Unlimited's Hudson Valley division held a soft opening for our team at the Agency's newest home for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Located in Yonkers, New York, the three-bedroom setting will offer a modern, comprehensive place of care and comfort for four people with I/DD.

With the goal of opening in early September, the gathering was a chance for the CP Family to enjoy a mimosa and be inspired by the potential of the space.

Extending our impact, and in an effort to recruit the best people to join the CP Family and work in our new residential setting, our Hudson Valley division will hold a job fair on September 27 in Yonkers from 4:00 - 7:00 PM.

Share the information with your network and help CP Unlimited bring the most qualified and committed folks to support people with I/DD.



YONKERS JOB FAIR

SEPTEMBER 27, 2023
4:00 - 7:00 PM

31 Wellesley Ave,
Yonkers, NY 10705

Join a Leading Agency Supporting
People with Disabilities in Hudson Valley



Recognizing CP's Employees of the Quarter: Q2 2023

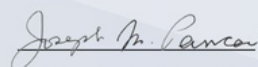
EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Presented for Q2 2023

CP Family

For Going Above and Beyond for the People We Support


Sebastian Chittillappilly
Chief Program Officer


Joseph M. Pancari
President & CEO



The Agency recognizes the following members of the CP Family who have gone above and beyond in providing opportunities for people with I/DD to achieve a fulfilling life. They have been awarded the Employee of the Quarter award for Q2 2023 and you are encouraged to share your congratulations on a job well done.

Melissa Cacciola, Habilitation Aide- HV

Viktor Cortese, Behavior Int. Specialist-II

Paul DiGiovanni, Assoc. Dir. of Rehab Services

Rene George, DCC

Shavon Merriweather, Residential Coord.

Herve Oxin, Program Coordinator

Angeline Totaram, RN

Jen Tetor, Director of Quality Management-HV

Robenson Vilsaint, DSP

Rachel Williams, Night Supervisor

Summer Experiences For People We Support

A SELECTION OF IMAGES FROM OUR ANNUAL BBQS, ELKS CLUB, PROGRESSIVE VISION PHOTO CLUB EXCURSION, & DAY TRIPS AROUND THE CITY



More CP News: Make Your Steps Count

JOIN OUR *STEPTEMBER* TEAM AND SUPPORT CP RESEARCH



CP Unlimited joins with providers and individuals in STEPtember- a global fundraising drive to support research into cerebral palsy. Funds raise during STEPtember support Cerebral Palsy Alliance Research Foundation (CPARF), the foremost nonprofit in the world focusing on research and disability innovation for cerebral palsy.

[Join the team, donate, and see more >>](#)

MARCH IN THE DISABILITY PRIDE PARADE IN OCTOBER

Join the CP Unlimited Team at The 2023 Disability Pride Parade



Sunday, October 22, 2023

10:00 AM Kickoff in Madison Square Park, Manhattan

Email Tamara Das (tdas@cpofnys.org) to march with us!

Upcoming DEI Programs for the CP Network

SEPTEMBER 15: WELCOME THE JEWISH NEW YEAR

Celebrate *Rosh Hashanah*
with the CP Family
on September 15
at 12:00 PM

Join us at Central Office or Live Online to
Learn About the Jewish New Year and
Taste a Traditional Treat!



Join the CP Family and Rabbi Judith Edelstein at Central Office for a live presentation and shofar blowing demonstration to ring in *Rosh Hashanah* (the Jewish New Year).

The event will be livestreamed, recorded, and made available post-program.
Email for honey to enjoy apples & honey, or to RSVP: deicommittee@cpofnys.org

OCTOBER 3: LEARNING WITH *EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO*



CELEBRATE HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH
WITH CP UNLIMITED OCTOBER 3 AT 11:30 AM!

Join the CP Family online and enjoy a virtual walking
tour of *el barrio* in New York City.

Learn about Hispanic heritage across the
communities we serve in the five boroughs.

**Save the
Date for
This Fun
Virtual
Event.**

***Invite
Coming
Soon!***

From the Field Communications

PRESERVE HEALTH: CHRONIC PAIN MANAGEMENT

From Ira L. Salom, MD MSc(Med) FACP CPE, Chief Medical Officer of CP Unlimited

Chronic Care Management (CCM) is a Medicare benefit for people with chronic medical conditions— virtually every person we serve—to develop a comprehensive, person-centered care plan and help patients follow it, get preventive care, and access resources, referrals, and aids to self-care.

A CCM session can be in person, online, or by telephone [but there must have been an in person visit within a year].

CCM services are available at several practices, including Metro Community Health Centers.

Ask about them.

CP ON THE FRONT PAGE ON STATEN ISLAND!

Next time you are at the Cora Hoffman Center or Central Office, you'll see a copy of our recent **front page** article in the *Staten Island Advance*, discussing Agency history, impact, and leadership in the I/DD provider community on Staten Island.

The comprehensive piece features quotes from CP's Joe Pancari and Marleen Whitman!

FREE EAST THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2023 BREAKING & LOCAL NEWS AT SILIVE.COM

Local Life STATEN ISLAND

STATEN ISLAND

Promoting fulfilling lives for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities is the mission of CP Unlimited



New York City-based Constructive Partnerships Unlimited was founded in 1986 to promote opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to achieve fulfilling lives. Clockwise from top left: CP Unlimited team members and the people they support rally for increased wages for direct support professionals. Borough President Vito Fossella Tours the CP's Cora Hoffman Center. State Sen. Benjie Nieves visits CP's South Farms greenhouse at the Cora Hoffman Center with a CP member. Assemblyman Sam Piroardo visits CP's Central Office with a CP member.

Photo courtesy of Constructive Partnerships Unlimited. Special to Local Life.

Through its compassionate and person-centered care, Constructive Partnerships Unlimited helps people with intellectual and developmental disabilities reach exciting new heights.

Special to Local Life

New York City-based Constructive Partnerships Unlimited (CPI) was founded in 1986 to promote opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to achieve fulfilling lives. Clockwise from top left: CP Unlimited team members and the people they support rally for increased wages for direct support professionals. Borough President Vito Fossella Tours the CP's Cora Hoffman Center. State Sen. Benjie Nieves visits CP's South Farms greenhouse at the Cora Hoffman Center with a CP member. Assemblyman Sam Piroardo visits CP's Central Office with a CP member.

HR: New Hires at CP

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

Tracy Ashe, Director of Residential Services

John Ball, Maintenance Supervisor

Janice Balansag, Rehabilitation Counselor

Ann Ciafone, Nurse Case Manager

Jacqueline Estrada, Habilitation Coordinator

Danielle Hayes, Residence Manager

Sophia Lewis, Registered Nurse

Jazmine Mabry, Residence Counselor

Simone Richards, Day Shift Supervisor

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



Timothy Buyund

Join us for a dedication event as we name our Grab N Go Cafe in honor of Tim's life and career with CP Unlimited

September 28, 2023, 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
West Farms Center, 1880 Bryant Avenue, The Bronx

Sept. 28: 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Join us for a memorial and dedication event as we name our Grab N Go Cafe at West Farms Center in honor of Tim's life and 41-year career with CP Unlimited.

Please RSVP to Tamara Das (tdas@cpofnys.org) to join and add your voice to the list of speakers recognizing Tim's extraordinary impact.

Celebrating Direct Support Professional Week



**Honoring the Work of
CP Unlimited's 1,144
Direct Care Staff**

September 11-17, 2023



CP Unlimited's DSP staff reflect the Agency mission—and carry it forward—like no other. They are both our frontline workers and the backbone of CP Unlimited.

This is their week to be honored and we are proud to direct the spotlight on their efforts. We hope all of you will take the time to acknowledge the vital contributions by DSPs to our mission.

To Each of Our 1,144 DSPs: This has been a year unlike any other, where you met every challenge with patience, care, and dedication. None of our success, or that of the people we support, would be possible without you. Thank you for all that you help us accomplish together.

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](#)
