CP UNLIMITED TEAM NEWSLETTER





What's Happening in Our World This Month?

How We See It Opening, First Summer BBQs, Last Summer Wheelchair Clinics, EOTQ & More!

Dear CP Unlimited:

The middle of the summer is usually a time for relaxation and vacation, however all throughout the CP network, it is still a busy season for programs, outings, and events that showcase the talent of the people we support and the work of our team to make opportunities to achieve a fulfilling life happen no matter what month it is!

Last week, I attended the opening of "How We See It"- a new exhibition of photography captured by members of CP's Residential and Day Hab photo clubs and presented at the *Positive Exposure Gallery* in East Harlem. I urge everyone to schedule a visit to see this meaningful presentation (and learn more on page 2).

In addition, this recent period has seen a number of inspirational wheelchair clinics in both the five boroughs and Hudson Valley, and we will continue this work for as long as we can. Plus, CP is making waves throughout the disability community as a member of the Speech Accessibility Project- an initiative that will have impact beyond just the areas in which CP operates (page 3 has more details).

Finally this August, we look forward to seeing our CP Family on the 24th at our Bronx BBQ (please bring *your* family) and sharing / celebrating together.

With Gratitude for Your Work,

Joseph M. Pancai

Joseph M. Pancari, President & CEO

How We See It Opening Event & Workshop Update



On Saturday, July 27, friends, guests, and art lovers assembled to see the latest exhibition of creative talent at Positive Exposure Gallery in East Harlem for the premiere of "How We See It: New Images from West Farms Photo Works and the Progressive Visions Photo Club".

The show is a collection of recent abstract, architectural, portrait, and street photography created by Andrea Tier, Charles Scaturro, Frank Ferebee, Kimberly Bland, Lee Jarvis, Lemar Jackson, Loretta Mason, Maria Jimenez, Rousmaniere Brathwaite, and Scott Hooks.

"I am glad you are here. My picture there, I used a telephoto lens, edited it on the computer, and I am proud of it!" -Lee Jarvis, member, West Farms Photo Works

"This is a wonderful exhibition by a group of very talented photographers. I am thrilled it is here for the community to enjoy!" Rick Guidotti, Founder and Director, Positive Exposure

See the exhibition at Positive Exposure Gallery at 14 East 109 Street in Manhattan through August 31, 2024!

CP Joins the Speech Accessibility Project

The Speech Accessibility Project at the Beckmann Institute for Advanced Science and Technology at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign collects speech samples to create a dataset for training machine learning models to better understand a variety of speech patterns, thereby improving voice recognition technologies to understand people with diverse speech patterns and disabilities.



Funded by Big Tech companies Amazon, Apple, Google, Meta and Microsoft, organizers partnered with CP Unlimited- alongside ADAPT Community Network and the Cerebral Palsy Foundation- to contribute recordings and recommendations.

"The Speech Accessibility Project is an important step forward for the field as well as CP Unlimited," said Sebastian Chittilappilly, chief of programs at CP Unlimited. "By informing the programs and devices that help people with cerebral palsy communicate with caregivers and other loved ones, these technologies can be refined to help the greatest number of persons with disabilities."

Marilyn Ladewig, CP Unlimited's speech language pathology supervisor, said the project will make a huge difference for those with cerebral palsy.

"Being understood by technology can mean the difference between paying a bill easily or calling 911 with your voice," she said. "...having automatic speech recognition work for the developmentally different population would mean more and better communication for my patients."

Upcoming Wheelchair Clinics: August



The final two wheelchair clinics (complimentary sanitizing, inspection, and repair) of Summer 2024 will be in Brooklyn at CP's Linda Buch Gherardi Center at 921 East New York Avenue and in The Bronx at the Agency's West Farms Center at 1880 Bryant Avenue.

See more online and RSVP for the clinic right for you >>



The Impact of Recent Wheelchair Clinics





Recent wheelchair clinics demonstrate the far-reaching, spirit-boosting, mobility-enhancing, and life-changing work of the CP rehabilitation services department.

Last month, the CP team ventured to Hudson Valley where we partnered with the Brewster Elks Lodge to host the first of two July clinics (the second on Staten Island) and be of assistance to **twenty** local residents.

Services included cleaning and inspection, alongside many small and notso-small repairs, all performed in the shadow of the club building, constructed more than 200 years ago during the presidency of Thomas Jefferson.

Just a couple weeks later, we were back at it again at the Agency's Cora Hoffman Center to work on **fourteen** wheelchairs for community members. At this session, all wheelchairs were cleaned and sanitized while five required major repairs that were completed despite the blistering temperatures!

Helping deepen independence is at the heart of the CP mission as well as a passion that runs through the heart of everyone in the organization who do all they can for people with disabilities.

You Are Invited: CP Summer BBQ August 24





CP TEAM INVITE: Bring Your Family to Meet the CP Family

Email communications@cpofnys.org to RSVP



August 3: Staten Island

Cora Hoffman Center, 2324 Forest Ave. 12:00 - 5:00 PM



August 17: Brooklyn CLS

Carmen Aquilone Program, 842A Lefferts Ave. 12:00 - 5:00 PM



August 24: JOIN CP IN THE BRONX

ADAPT, 1826 Stillwell Ave. 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM



August 29: Brooklyn CPNS

Canarsie Park, Seaview Ave. 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM



September 8: Queens CLS/CPNS

Hempstead Lake Park, Eagle Ave. 10:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Employees of the Quarter: Q2 2024

Thanking the Following Team Members for Going Above and Beyond for the People We Support and the CP Family



Sophia Bartholomew, DSS- Geneva Loop
Taren Blake, Habilitation Aide- Cora Hoffman Center
Euclyn Ellis, Direct Care Counselor- Jamaica IRA
Carlene Harry, Direct Care Counselor- Jamaica Group Home
Margaret Hutchinson, Direct Care Counselor- Manhattan- Cherry Street
Nyenime Ikpeme, Rehabilitation Counselor- Garrison ICF
Venezia Squash, Direct Support Professional- Program 4
Reanina Wallace, Senior Residential Coordinator
Cheryl Cupid-Wharton, Direct Care Counselor- Springfield Gardens
Irina Yulis, Speech-Language Pathologist- MN/SI

Save The Date: Employee Town Hall, Sept 4

The next opportunity to share your thoughts about CP Unlimited and learn about future plans and projects is scheduled for September 4, 2024 at 12:00 PM

Open To All Employees!

Employee Town Hall Wednesday, September 4 12:00 - 1:30 PM

West Farms Center and on TEAMS

*Share Your Thoughts and Inform the Future of CP Unlimited

RSVP: Tamara Das (tdas@cpofnys.org)



Click Here to sign up and let us know if you will attend in person or online >>

CP Unlimited: New Hires and Promotions

Congratulating people with career advancement at CP Unlimited:

Ryan Lynch is now Associate Director of Job Development Dexter Bobb is now Residential Coordinator

Welcoming new members of the CP Family to our team:

Keisha Astwood, Cook

Olayinka Awolu, Direct Care Counselor

Jeremie Barthley, Compliance Audit Specialist

Deavion Bey, Direct Care Counselor

Freddie Bratcher, Direct Care Counselor

Consuelo Brathwaite, Residential Coordinator-NE

Kiesha Calliste, Direct Care Counselor

Camelia Ciorleanu, Director of Accounting

Timothy Collins, Direct Care Counselor

Sabrina Dabydeen, Registered Nurse

Lance Dodd, Residence Counselor (RBT)

Martha Edetanlen-Fonseca, Evening Shift Supervisor

Sincere Edwards, Direct Care Counselor

Jahkia Evans, Case Manager

Rodney Faure, Residence Counselor

Chyann Fearon, Direct Care Counselor

Jonelle Footman, Driver and Safety Supervisor

Billy Frantz Dossous, Residence Counselor (RBT))

Shania Fyffe, Direct Care Counselor

Foluke Gore, Direct Care Counselor

Devante Hall, Direct Care Counselor

Breanna Henderson, Direct Care Counselor

Linnette Hibbert, Direct Care Counselor

Paulette Johnson, Residence Counselor

Shanovia Johnson, Direct Care Counselor

Hamide Laucer, Nurse Case Manager

Glen McDonald, Driver's Aide

Michael Morant, Direct Care Counselor

Raneika Myers, Receptionist

Christina Pagano, Speech Accessibility Project Mgr

Rishi Ramsamooj, Residence Counselor (RBT)

Janet Ray, Community Skills Assistant

Maurissa Roberts Cook, Direct Care Counselor

Edianne Sablon, Direct Care Counselor

Christina Saintil, Direct Care Counselor

Maenuna Sedibeh, Evening Shift Supervisor

Bleuvens Sejour, Direct Care Counselor

Beverley Tate, Residence Counselor

Estate Planning For You and Your Family



August is Make a Will Month! If you have not already, making a will helps secure your family in the event of an emergency and can ensure your final wishes are met.

Tip: You can put organizations like CP in your estate plans

Join the CP Community Online



<u>Facebook.com/ConstructivePartnershipsUnlimited</u>



<u>Linkedin.com/company/constructive-partnerships-unlimited-cp-unlimited/</u>



Find us here: CP on YouTube