

# Happenings

Newsletter

Fall 2016

## Happiness House Honors NYS Senator Michael Nozzolio

Happiness House, which has held a special place in the heart of New York State Senator Michael Nozzolio (54 - R, C, IP) for many years, hosted a very special tribute event for the outgoing senator. The celebration honored Senator Nozzolio's generosity and years of unwavering work and dedication on behalf of adults and children with disabilities.

Senator Nozzolio has been instrumental in countless initiatives in support of individuals with disabilities and their families - not just for our organization, but for all agencies who serve this special population. His commitment to our mission of service has been critical to the success and growth of programs offered by human service organizations throughout the Finger Lakes region.

In 2009, Senator Nozzolio was the recipient of the *Happiness is Helping* Humanitarian Award - presented to him at the agency's annual Gala Dinner and Auction Event. The senator received this award in part for his continual support of individuals with disabilities, and helping Happiness House secure funding to enhance services throughout his long and distinguished career.



Senator Nozzolio is joined by Amy Cram (l), Ability Partners Foundation Board Chair, and Mary Walsh Boatfield, President and CEO of Happiness House.

## Spotlight: Preschooler Caulder Jencik Thriving at Augustin Children's Center



Caulder Jencik, a four-year old preschooler at CP Rochester's Augustin Children's Center, is diagnosed with cerebral palsy, a visual impairment, epilepsy, reflux, and asthma. Despite these odds, Caulder has made incredible strides at CP Rochester. He receives physical, occupational, speech, swim, and music therapies, as well as vision services.

Caulder's parents, who adopted Caulder as a premature newborn, credit CP Rochester for providing him with an incredibly rich experience that supports their son while still challenging him. "The staff are incredible! They've become extended members of our family with the love, patience, and care they've given all of us." His parents have seen tremendous growth in Caulder, including walking independently.

When asked about Caulder's future, his parents said, "His future is unpredictable, but the uncertainty only lies in all the great things he's going to accomplish!" Caulder truly is a shining star.



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**A Message from...**

*Mary Walsh Boatfield*

**Partnership is the Key to Success for the Individuals we Serve**



Throughout this issue of *Happenings*, you'll read about several initiatives being undertaken by CP Rochester, Happiness House, and Rochester Rehabilitation alongside other organizations in the Rochester and Finger Lakes regions. While partnerships are certainly not new to us, we have worked diligently to enhance their scope with a single goal in mind: to best support the adults, children, and families who seek services from our organizations.

By partnering with a variety of like-minded agencies who share a belief in a common mission, we increase the availability and quality of service of programs that are relied on by thousands of individuals. This proactive approach to service delivery is made possible by the hundreds of dedicated therapists, nurses, teachers, habilitators, support staff, volunteers, and Board members at our three agencies.

As we wrap up a very successful 2016... and set our sights on 2017, we remind ourselves that no matter how things evolve among our organizations, one thing remains clear... a steadfast commitment to our mission to *change lives forever* in a community that *opens doors and enriches lives*.

*Mary Walsh Boatfield*

Mary Walsh Boatfield, President and CEO  
CP Rochester, Happiness House, Rochester Rehabilitation

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# New Autism Center Underway

## Partnership among Autism Services of the Finger Lakes at Happiness House, CP Rochester, and Al Sigl Community of Agencies

A new proposed center for autism services is closer to becoming a reality. With the creation of Autism Services of Monroe County and the expansion of services that it will generate, it is expected that the needs of families dealing with autism will be more effectively addressed. The new center is a partnership among Autism Services of the Finger Lakes at Happiness House, CP Rochester, and Al Sigl Community of Agencies. It will provide an array of services for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), their families, schools, agency staff, and additional service providers. The primary purpose of the center is to have a central location that provides families access to services and evidence-based practices.

Autism Services of Monroe County will seek to expand and support existing programs in a more cohesive manner in the community. The center will begin in a structure that is up to 26,000 square feet and will have the potential to expand and grow as new needs and opportunities for collaboration present themselves. CP Rochester and the Al Sigl Community of

Agencies will act as the "lead agencies" in developing autism services providing preschool – kindergarten opportunities, respite, community habilitation, an employment connection as well as an Article 28 clinic that will include: occupational, physical and speech therapies, behavioral and and primary care supports. To promote interagency collaboration, different providers will be included in the center through leasable space and shared provision of other services. This interagency collaboration will create a model that addresses lifespan services and minimizes gaps in care.

"CP Rochester and the Al Sigl Community of Agencies are seeking to create an innovative approach to autism services in many ways similar to our partnership founded over 54 years ago. Autism Services of Monroe County will be staffed by professionals from a variety of disciplines with an expertise in serving individuals with ASD," said Mary Walsh Boatfield and Tom O'Connor, President of the Al Sigl Community of Agencies.

## CP Rochester and Happiness House Partnering with CDS Monarch

In collaboration with CP Rochester and Happiness House, CDS Monarch opened four satellite Article 16 clinics throughout the Webster and Rochester areas. These clinics offer physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who receive services from CDS Monarch.

Changes in funding from the Center for Medicaid Services and the Office for People

With Developmental Disabilities has given the agencies the opportunity to form this partnership and streamline clinical services at these four centralized locations. By opening these locations, individuals receive enhanced coordination of clinical services.

By partnering with CDS Monarch, our agencies will deliver an enhanced level of therapeutic services to people of all abilities throughout Monroe County.

The four satellite clinics are located at the Wolf Life Transitions Center and Webster Creative Opportunities locations in Webster, as well as the Linden Creative Opportunities and Penbrooke Creative Opportunities locations in Penfield.



*Tara Rago, Assistant Vice President at Lyons National Bank, visited Happiness House's Blue Room in Geneva to teach the preschoolers about banking for their unit on money. Her son, Chase, attends the program.*



CP Rochester's Augustin Children's Center is proud to be an official part of the Little Free Library project! This worldwide initiative promotes literacy and the love of reading by building free book exchanges. There are nearly 40,000 Little Free Library book exchanges around the world, bringing curbside literacy home and sharing millions of books annually.

We encourage everyone to participate in CP Rochester's Little Free Library. Please consider donating children's books – and taking a book to read to your child! Thanks to the Unrath Family for their efforts and funding the project, Jeannie Nutting and David Schafer (left) who designed and fabricated the library, and the Day of Caring team from Paychex who installed it. Happy reading!



Happiness House's Chicken Bar-b-que sold 533 dinners this past summer and raised over \$2,000 which was applied to the purchase of educational and therapeutic equipment as part of Happiness House's Changing Lives Forever Capital Campaign. Special thanks to all the employees who worked so hard coordinating the event, selling tickets, and packaging the delicious food!



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# Rochester Rehabilitation Receives \$4 Million Grant

## Department of Labor grant will improve access to career training and placement while supporting working parents with child care during job training

Rochester Rehabilitation was recently awarded a \$4 million grant from the Federal Department of Labor enabling the agency to partner with other organizations and area employers to create access to living-wage jobs, and support career advancement in in-demand industries for parents with dependent children at home. Job training, job placement, career advancement, benefits management, and child support is available.

Rochester Rehabilitation's award is part of a larger \$54 million nationwide grant awarded by the Department of Labor through its Strengthening Working Families Initiative. It is one of 14 in the nation and the only one awarded in New York State. U.S. Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand were instrumental in securing the funding for Rochester Rehabilitation.

The Employment Connection programs at Rochester Rehabilitation help adults with

disadvantages successfully find and keep jobs through initiatives such as Learning to Achieve by Self-Reliance, Supported Employment, Refugee Employment Services, and others.

Rochester Rehabilitation is the lead agency partnering with the Child Care Council, Action for A Better Community, the United Way of Greater Rochester, and the Workforce Development Institute on this initiative.

As an experienced provider of employment services, Rochester Rehabilitation's Employment Connection has served thousands of people with disabilities and populations with a disadvantage. Their team of employment specialists networks with dozens of local hiring managers in a broad range of businesses to fill vital roles and maximize employer and employee success.

Rochester Rehabilitation, a partner agency of the Al Sigl Community of Agencies, recently

aligned with another Sigl agency, CP Rochester, as part of that agency's passive parent corporation, Ability Partners, Inc. which also includes Happiness House in Ontario County. The addition of Rochester Rehabilitation to Ability Partners Inc. has enhanced the scope of high quality services for all three organizations, provided a larger operational platform, leveraged resources, and enhanced cost-effectiveness.

*By working together with other organizations, parents will be able to access affordable, quality child care and participate in job training programs offered by Rochester Rehabilitation and compete for better paying jobs.*

## Mary Walsh Boatfield: Executive of the Year



Mary Walsh Boatfield was recently named 2016 Executive of the Year by the Rochester Business Journal and the United Way of Greater Rochester, Inc. at a ceremony held at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center. The awards program recognizes contributions in the non-profit sector. Mary was recognized for her outstanding record of innovative leadership in providing services. Rochester-area individuals and organizations were honored in seven categories: Board Leadership, Career Achievement, Community Champion, Executive of the Year, Rising Star, Outstanding Corporate Volunteer Group, and Bank of America Impact Award. Congratulations, Mary!

*"For her outstanding record of innovative leadership in providing services."*



*Mary Walsh Boatfield receives her award from Fran Weisberg, President and CEO of the United Way of Greater Rochester.*



# One Mother's Story: Walk for Autism Awareness

*A letter from Judy Goodman,  
mother of Robert Quinn, Jr.*

"Here we go, the 2016 Walk for Autism Awareness. I cannot believe a whole year has passed since the last Walk, so many wonderful things have happened in our lives. Robert was asked to be an Honorary Chair for the Walk this year. WOW! Autism is close to our hearts and is very much a huge part of our lives. We have a passion to educate and bring an awareness to as many people as we can about autism. Autism, in Robert's case, started out pretty difficult. But as I look back over the years and I see where we were and where we are, it humbles my heart.

Robert's story started at the age of one; he spent his first birthday in the hospital with what I thought was just the flu. I assumed all would be well after he was treated and life would go on as normal; however, that was not to be. Our sweet, beautiful, baby boy changed after that hospital stay. He was still beautiful and sweet but he had lost all language and recognition of people who were very familiar to him. Thank God he remembered me. We were guided to Happiness House where Robert received an evaluation and began programming. Without Happiness House, I believe from the bottom of my heart, Robert would not be where he is today. Happiness House worked with Robert starting at 18 months old, and I began educating myself alongside him. I learned as he learned; I

began to understand I was his voice; I needed to become the advocate for him. This seed was planted during our early years at Happiness House.

Over the years, Robert has continued his involvement with Happiness House. The programs they offer allow him to grow in his knowledge of himself, his self worth, his abilities. They also teach him that as a person, his opinions, desires, and wants in life have value and that he can achieve his goals just like you and me. Robert is now 29 and forever will have autism. But his life now has a direction, a path that is becoming clearer. Robert's path with autism had a beginning, a middle, and now a future. This all comes from agencies like Happiness House providing programs for children with autism and opportunities to educate and empower the family.

One way to do this is to conduct fundraisers like the Walk for Autism Awareness that takes the donations of wonderful loving and caring people like you to help fund these programs and services. Robert's future is so bright."

*Judy Goodman*



*Happiness House's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Autism Awareness Walk hit Eastview Mall in the Spring. The thunderous sound of over 600 pairs of feet filled the mall as people walked to raise money and awareness of autism. Robert Quinn, Jr. (far left) and Hayden Orr shared the spotlight as honorary co-chairs. Thank you to all the staff, volunteers, Board members, sponsors (including our generous Presenting Sponsor, The Lilliputian Foundation), Eastview Mall, and the walkers!*



**600 people helped raise nearly \$32,000**

# Over \$70,000 Raised from the Gala

## Evening of Stars Fundraiser Honored Champions of Disability Services

Ability Partners Foundation's third annual Evening of Stars Gala fundraiser exceeded its goal by raising over \$70,000! The Gala, presented by The Lilliputian Foundation, was held at the beautiful Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester. It recognized companies and individuals who help CP Rochester and Rochester Rehabilitation thrive.

"The support we've received for this event from so many individuals and companies is overwhelming," said Mary Walsh Boatfield. "Their dedication to our mission helped ensure this Gala was tremendously successful."

All proceeds raised by the Evening of Stars Gala benefit Ability Partners Foundation in support of the programs and services offered through CP Rochester, Happiness House, and Rochester Rehabilitation.

Champions who were honored at the Evening of Stars Gala include the Kurz Family who received The Harold C. Augustin Founders Award; Mr. John Horvath who received the Humanitarian of the Year Award; Mr. William Weir who received the Volunteer of the Year Award; Professor Joanna Scott who received the Community Partner of the Year Award; and Mr. Jeffrey Baker and Mrs. Mary Herlihy Gearan who received the Outstanding Board Members of the Year Award.

Special thanks go to Keynote Speaker Mrs. Catherine Manelis. Catherine's daughter, Scarlett, attended CP Rochester's Augustin Children's Center. Both Scarlett and Catherine's husband, Josh, joined her at the Gala.

This event is made possible through the enthusiasm and support of our sponsors: The Lilliputian Foundation (Presenting Sponsor); The Bonadio Group (Platinum Sponsor); U.S. Employee Benefits Services Group (Rose Gold Sponsor); Alesco Advisors LLC, Peter L. Morse & Associates, and CloudDOCX (Silver Sponsors); Al Sigl Community of Agencies, Burke Group, Dr. & Mrs. Elmar Frangenberg, Barclay Damon, Center Information Services, Miller's Pharmacy, Lawley Insurance, Rizzo, DiGiacco, Hern & Baniewicz, CPAs, PLLC, SureHands Lift & Care Systems, NFP Telecom, SWBR Architects, Harris Beach PLLC, Relph Benefit Advisors, and Harter Secrest & Emery LLP (Bronze Sponsors); and our Other Sponsors: Fleetwood Accessibility Services LLC, Key Bank, Mr. Frank Marianacci, Manning and Napier, 101 Mobility, and AutoCrafting.



Nearly 180 guests enjoyed the evening at the Memorial Art Gallery. Mrs. Catherine Manelis (far left) was the Keynote Speaker. Dee Mosteller and Henry Simon from The Lilliputian Foundation (left) were the Presenting Sponsors.



(l to r) The Kurz Family received The Harold C. Augustin Founders Award. John Horvath received the Humanitarian of the Year Award. William Weir received the Volunteer of the Year Award. Joanna Scott received the Community Partner of the Year Award. Jeffrey Baker (bottom left photo, far right) and Mary Herlihy Gearan (bottom right photo, second from left) received the Outstanding Board Members of the Year Award.

# Program Helps Students with Disabilities Attend College

CP Rochester partners with Roberts Wesleyan and BOCES 2 in the B.E.L.L. Program



Five students, who just a few years ago wouldn't have necessarily expected to attend college, donned their cap and gown and walked alongside their fellow students at the commencement celebration at Roberts Wesleyan College. These students, Tyler Davis, James Fortin, Mark Houppert, Dalton Letta, and Austin Ritondale are part of an educational program known as the B.E.L.L. Program.

B.E.L.L. (Bridge to Earning, Living, and Learning) is a two-year, inclusive postsecondary certificate program for students ages 18-26 with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are transitioning to adulthood. The program is a partnership among CP Rochester, Monroe 2 Orleans BOCES, and Roberts Wesleyan College.

"We are thrilled to see these young adults, who have worked extraordinarily hard over the past two years, achieve this milestone," said Mary

Walsh Boatfield. "We are particularly proud that this is the first year B.E.L.L. participants walked across the stage to receive their diploma along with their fellow graduates. In fact, they led the procession!"

B.E.L.L. students complete college courses and work with undergraduate students who serve as academic coaches and peer mentors. All courses, activities, and work experiences are catered to students' individual career goals and interests. Post-graduation objectives include personal enrichment, independence, and preparation for competitive employment.

"The Golisano Foundation will continue to work closely with agencies such as CP Rochester and Roberts Wesleyan College to improve opportunities for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities after graduation from high school," said Ann Costello, Director of

the Golisano Foundation. "The B.E.L.L. Program has set the bar for inclusion of students with disabilities very high; we hope others will follow this example."

The B.E.L.L. program partnership began in 2010 thanks to a \$2.5 million grant awarded to the Institute for Innovative Transition. This grant was to be utilized to develop community-wide, post-secondary opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities. The grant was funded through the U.S. Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education Transition, and Postsecondary Program for Students with Intellectual Disabilities. The program is now funded through a combination of agency support, tuition, and Roberts Wesleyan College scholarships.

*Well-deserved congratulations to Board of Director Member Sean Ossont for receiving the Rochester Press-Radio Club's ESL Volunteer of the Year Award! Sean's professional proficiencies and dedication to volunteering have made him an essential part of the Rochester community. We are very proud to have him serve as an integral part of our Board of Directors and Shared Ski Adventures program!*





## \$150,000 in Health Information Technology Grant Awards

The Office of Mental Health, in partnership with the Office of Substance Abuse Services and the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities created a one-time \$10 million Non-Profit Behavioral Health/Developmental Disability Providers Health Information Technology Investment Program. This Program was created to support the acquisition of information technology systems, electronic health records, billing systems, or other hardware and any other infrastructure costs associated with the inclusion of behavioral health or developmental disability services in the Medicaid Managed Care benefit package.

CP Rochester, Happiness House, and Rochester Rehabilitation each received an award of \$50,000 to be used toward the acquisition of equipment and electronic health record systems. These initiatives will support Behavioral Health Services within each organization to accomplish several key objectives including:

- Meeting Department of Health e-prescribing requirements
- Enhance scheduling, documentation, and billing systems
- Interlink electronic communication amongst Behavioral Health and other clinic services
- Provide a platform enabling Behavioral Health Services to interlink with the Rochester Health Information Organization
- Provide individuals served with access to a personalized Patient Health Portal

## Women's Club of Pittsford Gives \$500

Since its founding in 1984, the Women's Club of Pittsford has been dedicated to charitable, civic, and educational purposes supporting a wide variety of charitable activities. The Club awarded a \$500 grant to CP Rochester to purchase equipment needed to provide quality, individually-focused, after school/wrap-around services. These services are provided to individuals ages 12 to early 30s who are older than those typically served in traditional child care environments but not yet ready or able to be home alone after school or day program. Through the generosity of the Women's Club of Pittsford, we will be able to purchase additional supplies needed to provide developmentally appropriate activities to after school/wrap-around service participants. CP Rochester thanks the Women's Club of Pittsford for their support.

## Music to the Ears!

Since 2002, the Gilbert Spirit Fund of the First Unitarian Church of Rochester has provided support to programs and projects that reflect the special interests of Richard and Joyce Gilbert. A key focus area of this fund is to "promote art and music as integral parts of a responsible search for meaning in life." The Fund gifted CP Rochester's Day Habilitation program \$1,000 to purchase musical instruments that will be used to implement a music program designed to enrich the education, sensory, and social aspects of the services we deliver.



## Donor Dollars in Action

### Volunteer Helps Make Connection

CP Rochester is the recipient of a \$1,000 gift from Mercantile Adjustment Bureau to be used to further enhance learning opportunities to Day Habilitation participants by providing the equipment necessary to engage in interactive multimedia applications, multiple modality learning, and ready access to on-line information.

As a Day Habilitation volunteer, Mr. William (Bill) Dreitlein noticed a need for equipment and brought to our attention the giving program of his employer, Mercantile Adjustment Bureau. The company has cultivated a culture of giving back to the community; employees voluntarily pool donation resources to support local and national organizations. Thank you, Bill... and thank you Mercantile Adjustment Bureau.

### Rochester Rehabilitation Receives \$10,000 from United Way for Synergy Efforts

In December 2015, Mary Walsh Boatfield met with representatives of United Way's Synergy Committee to discuss the beneficial outcomes resulting from the collaborative relationship forged between Happiness House and Rochester Rehabilitation since entering into an executive staffing agreement in March 2015. As a result of that meeting, Rochester Rehabilitation was selected as the recipient of a \$10,000 United Way of Greater Rochester's Synergy Implementation Grant.

Patricia Leo, Director of Community Investment for United Way of Greater Rochester, noted that Synergy Committee volunteers were impressed by the work being done by CP Rochester, Happiness House, and Rochester Rehabilitation through Ability Partners, Inc. The grant was used to cover expenses associated with Rochester Rehabilitation formalizing its relationship with Ability Partners, Inc. We thank United Way of Greater Rochester and the Synergy Committee once again for making this funding opportunity available to the local non-profit community.



## Donor Dollars in Action

## Taking the Plunge for Happiness House!

Marge Donhauser and Greg Constantino recently presented a check for \$1,860 to Happiness House's Canandaigua Day Program. Marge, dressed as the Pillsbury Dough Boy in the photos below, took part in the Polar Plunge in Canandaigua Lake. Marge participates in the Plunge every year and raises money for Happiness House. Special thanks to Marge and to Greg!



## SportsNet Golf Sinks Hole-in-One!

SportsNet, a partnership among the Al Sigi Community of Agencies, CP Rochester, and Rochester Rehabilitation, has received grants from the Al Sigi Foundation thanks to the generous support of longtime friends who believe in integrated sporting opportunities for people of all abilities.

Community member Bruce Hennekey spearheaded a golf tournament at Eagle Vale Country Club in Penfield in memory of his friend Bill Cardello, who passed away two years ago. Bill's wife, Mary, suggested that the money raised benefit a good cause which is 'golf-related.' The staff at Eagle Vale, led by Head PGA Golf Professional Chris Devinentis, recommended the SportsNet program as the best fit!

A special gift was made by Ellie Smith in memory of her late husband Jack Smith, who was a passionate wheelchair athlete and founder of SportsNet. These funds will be used to support special programming and equipment, including Lacrosse and Sled Hockey clinics, a Ski Day, and the Cycling program.

Mary and many of her family, along with Bruce, Chris, and several SportsNet participants, presented an \$800 check to SportsNet Coordinator Mike Cocquyt. This gift was used to enhance SportsNet's popular (and growing!) golf program. Thank you to Bruce Hennekey, Mary Cardello, Chris Devinentis, and the staff at Eagle Vale for your commitment to SportsNet's mission of celebrating the accomplishments of all athletes and abilities!

A second generous gift was made from the Lester Harrison Fund, which will be used to purchase a sit-ski specially sized for our smaller skiers, enabling them to have greater control over the ski, and enabling Shared Ski Adventures to serve more skiers. Lester Harrison was a giant in Rochester basketball, who coached and owned the Rochester Royals and is a member of the NBA Hall of Fame.

SportsNet extends our thanks to the Smith, Lane, and Dworkin families for honoring Jack Smith and Lester Harrison as "Good Sports."



## Karen Readel Charity Golf Tournament Celebrates 23 Years

For 23 years, the Readel family has hosted the 'Karen Readel Charity Golf Tournament' to benefit CP Rochester. This year, they presented Mary Walsh Boatfield with a check for \$1,500. Since the first tournament, the Readels have donated over \$30,000! We thank this very special family for their continued generosity to our mission.



Joining Mary Walsh Boatfield (center) for the check presentation are (l to r) Dave Readel, Karen Readel, and Petra and Kevin Readel (with their daughter Josephine).

## WorkForce Academy Receives \$5,000 from First Niagara Foundation

The Rochester Rehabilitation WorkForce Academy has received a grant of \$5,000 from the First Niagara Foundation. This grant is being used in support of Bank Teller/Customer Service training - a NYSED approved 10-week Certificate Program providing adult learners with skills in understanding the customer service culture, customer needs and wants, development of behavior-based skills designed to enhance customer relationships, and effective team dynamics. We anticipate enrollment of 15-20 adults during each 10-week session. A Program Certificate is presented to participants who demonstrate desired customer service skills at the conclusion of the 10-week program. We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to First Niagara Foundation for their support of this initiative.



## Happiness House and CP Rochester Receive Grants from Ability Partners Foundation



Since its inception, the Foundation Board has approved over \$70,000 in grants to benefit Happiness House and CP Rochester programs and services. Recently, the following awards were presented:

### Happiness House (awarded \$5,000 total):

- Augmentative Communication Device for students with autism. Submitted by Jill Mundy, Autism Specialist (\$691)
- Sensory Center. Submitted by Heather Ryan, Special Education Teacher (\$771)
- Happiness House/CP Rochester Training and Conference Center. Submitted by Dawn Sutton, Training Specialist (\$3,538)

### CP Rochester (awarded \$5,000 total):

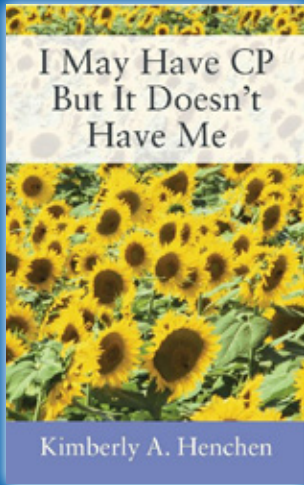
- Happiness House/CP Rochester Training and Conference Center. Submitted by Dawn Sutton, Training Specialist (\$1,850)
- Day Habilitation Sensory Wall. Submitted by Kate Leonard, Senior Supervisor (\$1,550)
- iPad for Adult Wrap Around Program. Submitted by Courtney Adams, Community Services Supervisor (\$850)

Thank you for your support as we ensure those we serve realize *What Happens Here Changes Lives Forever* in a community that *Opens Doors and Enriches Lives*.

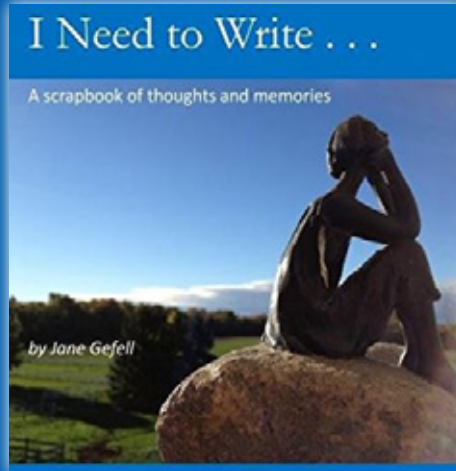
\$70,000



# Authors Among Us



From Kim Henchen: "My name is Kim Henchen and I attended CP Rochester Day Habilitation for 18 years, until I left in 2003 to go into Self Determination. Recently I wrote and published my autobiography. This was a major achievement for me! The book is titled [I May Have CP, But it Doesn't Have Me](#) and is available through Amazon as well as Barnes and Noble."



Jane Gefell, a participant at CP Rochester's Day Habilitation program, has added a new book to her published works titled, [I Need to Write](#). In this new book, Jane focuses on her life, people she has met, and how life can be a maze sometimes. Books can be purchased via AmazonSmile. All proceeds benefit CP Rochester!

## Long-Term Employee Reflects on his Life at Rochester Rehabilitation

### One of his fondest memories was being given a bike to ride to work

John Hahn is an employee of Rochester Rehabilitation's OneSource Solutions Janitorial Services division. For nearly 30 years, he has been working at the Federal Building in Rochester as part of the long-term contract it has with Rochester Rehab – cleaning bathrooms, vacuuming offices, and emptying trash receptacles. For many of those years, he walked 45 minutes, at 4 o'clock in the morning, to get to work since buses don't run that early. That all changed two years ago when several people who work in one of the offices in the Federal Building John cleans surprised him with a brand new bike and helmet. What used to take 45 minutes now takes less than 15 minutes. John was surprised and grateful at the unsolicited, charitable gift he received from his friends at the Federal Building on that day. It was something that changed his life forever. But that's not the only time John's life was changed for the better.



Not only is John an employee of Rochester Rehabilitation, he is also a program participant. He came to the agency years ago while receiving welfare assistance. Over the last several years John has taken advantage of various services, including benefit counseling, assistance locating safe and affordable housing, and on-going job coaching. His is truly a success story!

# Rochester Rookies Earn 57 Medals!

Under the umbrella of SportsNet, the Rochester Rookies offers children with physical disabilities from ages 6 to 22 opportunities to participate in recreational and competitive wheelchair and ambulatory track and field sports. Several members of the team participated in the Junior Masonic Regional Meet in New Jersey. We're excited to report that all athletes met the standards and qualifications for Nationals! The team brought home a combined medal count of 43 gold, 10 silver, and 4 bronze medals. Amanda Merlau received the Coaches' Award, recognizing her outstanding athletic accomplishments. Scott Niles received the sportsmanship award for his positive attitude and team spirit.

Highlights of the event included:

- Jackson Smith, five years old, completed the 60 meters for the first time.
- Scott Niles, 16 years old, came in first place in power lifting (lifting 195 pounds).
- Lizzie Marvin pushed herself academically, excelling in school and receiving clearance to participate. She qualified for Nationals in all field events.
- Luke Schultz completed his first attempt at long jump, receiving 1st place and qualifying for Nationals.
- Cory Alberti met the challenge of tougher competition and higher qualification standards.
- Nico Santiago completed the 800 meter event.
- Chase Marcott performed very well in all events and continues to be a role model for other athletes.

We are proud of the accomplishments of all of the team members this past season! Everyone made great progress, and they all pushed each other to continue growing and improving. As always, we want to extend a special thank you to SUNY Brockport, Dr. Lauren Lieberman, and our student volunteers for their support.



## Aktion Club in Action

The Aktion Club is the only service club for adults with disabilities with more than 11,000 members worldwide. Aktion Clubs draw members from various organizations (like CP Rochester) that support individuals with disabilities. A Kiwanis club, composed of like-minded, service-oriented people from the community, serves as the club's sponsor.

In our area, the Brighton Aktion Club is very active with CP Rochester. The group attends sporting events, picnics, and does so many other fun things. In addition, they also fundraise. One recent fundraiser, the 'magnet sale,' raised over \$1,500 at various events. The group purchased an adapted swing that was installed in a town playground over the summer. In addition, the group plans to contribute over \$1,000 toward the purchase of an inclusive glider to be placed in the Brighton Kiwanis playground next to the Town Hall in spring 2017.



Three Aktion Club Members were recognized in the New York District poster contest: Thuan (1<sup>st</sup> place), Joseph (2<sup>nd</sup> Place) and Jeff (3<sup>rd</sup> Place). Geraldine also placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the speech contest. Congratulations to everyone!

# Over \$75,000 Raised from Summer Fundraisers!

## Francis 'Ben' Bonafiglia Golf Tournament

What a great day on the links! The Francis 'Ben' Bonafiglia – Happiness House Golf Tournament, hosted at Seneca Falls Country Club, raised over \$45,000 in support of adults and children with disabilities! Celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, the tournament has raised \$820,000 since its inaugural event in 1986.

The honorary chair for this year's tournament was Lyons National Bank. The Underwriter was BonaDent Dental Laboratories. The Founding and Major Sponsors were Sam and Tom Vasile. Tournament Sponsors included Bill Cram Chevrolet, Lamar Advertising, Nationwide Retirement Solutions, Edward Jones - Tony Fulgieri, Relph Benefit Advisors, CP Rochester, The Bonadio Group, Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Bonafiglia, Lyons National Bank, and LECESSÉ Construction. Dozens of other sponsors and volunteers helped ensure the success of the event. Thank you all! Save the date for next year's golf event: August 2, 2017.



## 5K Run for Fun

CP Rochester's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K Run for Fun and 1 Mile Fun Walk, presented by The Lilliputian Foundation, was a great success! Nearly 375 people participated in the event by either running, walking, rolling, or volunteering. Over \$30,000 was raised! All proceeds benefit Ability Partners Foundation in support of the programs and services offered through CP Rochester, Happiness House, and Rochester Rehabilitation.

Special thanks to our Media Sponsor, WHEC-TV Channel 10 and our emcee, Reporter Chris Horvatits! Thanks also to 7-Eleven, Wegmans, and Mark's Pizzeria for supplying all the great food! This event was made possible by all of our wonderful sponsors: Alesco Advisors, Lawley, Monroe Wheelchair, Burke Group, Wegmans, The Vein Institute, Benefits Management Inc., Indiano Capital Management, NFP Telecom, LLC, SureHands Lift and Care System, Comton, Inc., Isaac Heating and Air Conditioning, and Vanderstyné Toyota. We also want to acknowledge our 2016 Run for Fun Ambassador Trevor Bansbach and the entire Bansbach family (parents Mary and Tim) who embody the mission of CP Rochester and the spirit of the 5K Run for Fun! Next year's run is scheduled for June 10, 2017.



# Rochester Rehabilitation Hosts Sold-Out Employment Conference

Hundreds of professionals attended Rochester Rehabilitation's first-of-its-kind employment conference in Western New York focusing on employment outcomes for special populations. This conference, presented by Wegmans, offered workshop sessions for both human service providers and other busi-

nesses. It featured evidenced-based, best practice models and highlighted successful partnerships between non-profit vocational employment programs and local businesses. The Keynote Speaker was Robert Egger, a nationally-known non-profit leader, author, speaker, and activist.



The John Horvath Professional Service Award is presented annually to CP Rochester employees who in and through their work display the qualities and professionalism inherent in the agency Mission, Vision, and Guiding Principles. This award honors John Horvath, current Board Member, who continually demonstrates dedicated commitment to improving the lives of people with disabilities through effective Board Leadership. The inaugural winners of this award are Judi Zoltoski, Executive Assistant, Wilma Walker, Habilitator, and Linda Brown, Physical Therapist.



*John Horvath has been involved with the Board of Directors for over 35 years, including participating on the Executive and Finance Committees. John has also served as the AI Sigi Board Delegate and serves on the Finance Committee for CP of NYS. He is recognized on the CP Rochester Wall of Honor for his dedicated commitment to improving the lives of people with disabilities through effective Board Leadership.*



The Mary W. Griswold Professional Service Award recognizes the exceptional work of Happiness House employees who display the qualities and professionalism inherent in the mission and vision of the agency. The award was established in memory of Mary W. Griswold, a former member of Happiness House's Board of Directors. Nominated by their peers, this year's award recipients are Crystal Barzac, TBI Program Assistant; Carmela "Aggy" Osborne, Speech Language Pathologist; and Linda Green, Residential Assistant (Shift Leader).



# Understanding Where Your Gift Goes

Ability Partners Foundation supports the missions of CP Rochester, Happiness House, and Rochester Rehabilitation, so it is important to understand where monetary and in-kind gifts go once they are given by a donor.

Nearly every gift given to CP Rochester, Happiness House, Rochester Rehabilitation, and Ability Partners Foundation benefits ALL organizations! Monies raised from the two Galas, the *Autism Walk*, *5K Run for Fun*, *Francis 'Ben' Bonafiglia Golf Tournament*, *Dash to Dash*, *Bowling to Raise Bucks*, and most other events are accepted by Ability Partners Foundation. This means, by participating in any agency event, your contribution helps **all three** agencies! Now, donors' gifts carry a much greater impact. In addition, general gifts to CP Rochester, Happiness House, and Rochester Rehabilitation throughout the year benefit all agencies.

There are certainly exceptions to the rule. Gifts that are made to a specific program or service at an agency are reserved solely for that agency. For example, if a donor wishes to give \$1,000 to the Happiness House Structured Day Program, Ability Partners Foundation will process the gift and only apply it to that specific program at Happiness House. Where this is typically most prevalent is with in-kind gifts (furniture, food, etc.) but it can happen with monetary gifts as well. In order for this type of *donor designated* gift to occur, the donor must submit the request in writing when making the gift.

When writing a check to benefit CP Rochester, Happiness House, or Rochester Rehabilitation, we ask that you make it out to **Ability Partners Foundation**. However, even if your check is made out to one of the agencies, it will still benefit all three (unless you designate your gift to a specific program or agency).

Thank you for your generosity over the years! Rest assured, CP Rochester, Happiness House, and Rochester Rehabilitation apply good stewardship to any and all gifts given to our agencies. If you would like to make a donation now, you can do so using the enclosed envelope, or visit us on-line.



Congratulations to Happiness House's Canandaigua 'Orange' Pre-K classroom, winners of the Junior American Citizens Committee Competition sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution. The preschoolers made placemats that were used by a local diner, Patty's Place, to serve Thanksgiving dinner to veterans, homeless individuals, or anyone in need.

The children's entry has been awarded the Chapter First Place Award, the NYS First Place Award, the Northeastern Division First Place Award, and the National First Place Award! Several members from the Daughters of the American Revolution were on-site at Happiness House's Canandaigua location to present the preschoolers with individual awards. Congratulations to our patriotic preschoolers!

[www.CPRochester.org](http://www.CPRochester.org)  
[www.HappinessHouse.org](http://www.HappinessHouse.org)  
[www.RochesterRehab.org](http://www.RochesterRehab.org)





# Ways to Give

Many donors choose to give from their immediate assets such as cash and check (or via credit card). In addition to this type of giving, there are a number of creative ways to provide long-term financial support, such as with a 'legacy' gift. The goal of the Legacy Society is to plan for our organizations' future and set the course for a strategic vision which will carry the agencies forward. Legacy gifts include bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts, life insurance, real estate, and others.

Every member of the CP Rochester, Happiness House, and Rochester Rehabilitation family has the power to make future change possible. Together, we continue to ensure the long-term sustainability of programs and services for the 6,000 individuals we serve each year.

## Legacy Gifts

- Stocks – Gifts of stock enable donors to avoid capital gains on the appreciation in market value of the shares.
- Bequests – Simple bequests may be made through a donor's will and can specify any dollar amount, percentage, or portion of the estate.
- Charitable Gift Annuity – When a donor transfers property (cash, securities, real estate) to our agencies in exchange for a fixed dollar payment during the donor's lifetime.
- Charitable Gift from an IRA – Individuals over 70½ may designate direct contributions from an IRA.
- Charitable Remainder Trust – Pays income to the donor or beneficiary for a period of time, after which the property in the trust passes to our agencies.
- Charitable Lead Trusts – A charitable lead (income) trust is established when a donor transfers property to a trust, which generally pays interest income to our agencies.
- Life Insurance – A gift of life insurance allows a donor to pass on part of his or her estate with minimum cost, maximum benefit, and often an estate tax advantage.
- Real Estate – Gifts of real estate include a principal residence, vacation home, farm, commercial property, and land.

For more information on making an immediate or long-term legacy gift, call Cheryl Schaefer-Coppola, Vice President of Ability Partners Foundation, at 585-286-9711 x1325 or via e-mail at [ccoppola@happinesshouse.org](mailto:ccoppola@happinesshouse.org).

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#### \$1,000+

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# 5K RUN FOR FUN



## Runners, Walkers, and Rollers!

Join us for CP Rochester's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual  
5K Run for Fun and 1 Mile Fun Walk

Saturday, June 10, 2017

3399 Winton Road South in Henrietta  
Certified 5K course (#NY06129KL)

For more information, contact Laura Wakley at 585-286-9711 x1324  
or lwakley@cprochester.org

**Food, music, and cash/prizes for top runners.**

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# 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Happiness House Gala Dinner & Auction Event



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February 3, 2017

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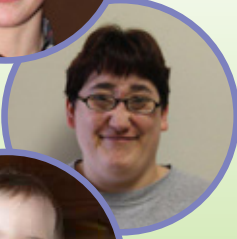
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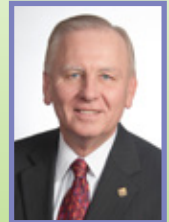
## happiness HOUSE

### Changing Lives Forever Campus Campaign

As the population of our community has grown, so has the demand and need for Happiness House's programs and services. To continue serving our families in our four county region, we must meet the internal needs of our agency in several areas. Join us as we raise funds to support the essential services that Happiness House provides to families and individuals daily across the Finger Lakes region.

Together, we can change lives forever.

**Amy Cram and Robert Schick**  
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Independent Living Skills Training and Development  
Licensed Home Health Care Agency  
Mental Health  
Ventures Personalized Recovery Oriented Services (PROS)  
Music Therapy  
New Friends Integrated Preschool  
New York State (NYS) Licensed Child Care  
NYS Home and Community-Based Waivers:

- Nursing Home Transition and Diversion
- Office for People with Developmental Disabilities
- Traumatic Brain Injury

Occupational, Physical, and Speech Therapies  
OneSource Solutions  
Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support  
Pre-Vocational Day Program  
Psychiatric Services  
Psychological Services  
Recreation Services  
Residential Services  
Respite Services (In-Home)  
Respite Services (On-Site)  
Self-Direction Services  
Service Coordination  
Special Education  
SportsNet  
Strengthening Working Families Initiative  
Structured Day Program  
Teens and Tweens Club  
Transition Program  
Transportation  
Universal Pre-Kindergarten

[www.CPRochester.org](http://www.CPRochester.org)

[www.HappinessHouse.org](http://www.HappinessHouse.org)

[www.RochesterRehab.org](http://www.RochesterRehab.org)

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