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A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO OF ACHIEVE

Greetings Everyone!

Finally, we are experiencing some warmer weather, and not looking out our windows every day at a white carpet of snow!

Our world is constantly changing, with challenges and opportunities.

We wish to thank everyone for their advocacy to support the BFair2DirectCare Campaign to help us direct the spotlight on the need to increase wages for Direct Support Professionals. The Governor has promised to pass a budget including increases for these professionals who work tirelessly to support the individuals we serve. They are the backbone and foundation of all of our organizations, and we are thankful that the Governor is recognizing their work with inclusion of wage increases in the budget.

As many of you are aware, our agency has made the difficult decision to cease our manufacturing operations in Country Valley Industries, our employment center. We will continue to provide prevocational services to individuals in the community, and for those wishing to transition to alternative programming, we will work with their "Circle of Support" to assist them in pursuing other opportunities. This change supports OPWDD's Transformation Agenda to assist people in pursuing more integrated vocational, volunteer and recreational opportunities, and challenges our agency to be more innovative and creative in our service provision.

We are also gearing up for another site visit from the Council on Quality Leadership in June. ACHIEVE received this prestigious accreditation in 2015, and looks forward to an extended accreditation reflecting our person centered planning, outstanding excellence and quality in services.

And, we continue our work on unification with our sister chapter, Chenango County ARC. We are opening new programs in Norwich – Pathway to Employment, Community Prevoc, and Supported Employment, as well as expanding some existing programs.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Bob Warner PinCrushing Bowling Tournament again this year. We surpassed our goal, and are now looking forward to our Annual Dinner Dance scheduled for June 2nd. Please come and join us if you can, and celebrate all of the accomplishments of the individuals we support and our staff. Your continued support of our organization is greatly appreciated!

Happy Spring!
Mary Jo



Mary Jo Thorn
Chief Executive Officer

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ACHIEVE Volunteers for the 2017 Binghamton Color Run



Kathleen Derenthal



Jenny Soroka



Casey Taylor, Honie Buskirk, Nikki Smith
& Amanda Dingman

Michael Phillips

2016 Joslin Outstanding Performer

On Tuesday March 28 ACHIEVE/CVI Community Contract Specialist John Backus and Conduent Operations Manager Shahzad Azad presented ACHIEVE/Country Valley Industries participant Michael Phillips a letter of recognition and certificate from the NY State Assembly for being selected as one of 59 statewide 2016 Joslin Outstanding Performers recognized through NYSID's annual people-centered awards program.



Pictured: John Backus, Michael Phillips and Shahzad Azad

JOIN US FOR A BBQ!

ACHIEVE RECREATION RESPITE & FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES OPEN HOUSE

Bring the whole family to our cookout on Thursday, May 25th, 5-7pm
ACHIEVE 125 Cutler Pond Rd
RSVP: 607.231.5288 (Mel) by May 23rd

THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR FAMILIES TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS, MEET OTHER PARTICIPANTS AND OUR STAFF!



greetingisland.com

Food Donations



Thank you to all of the ACHIEVE Staff and Families that donated items for the March food drive benefitting local food pantries in Chenango County.

Michael Friends

May Lourdes Hospital Volunteer of the Month



Congratulations to Michael Friends who received the May Volunteer of the Month award at Lourdes Hospital. Michael began volunteering in the Pharmacy department at Lourdes with Pathway to Employment Services and enjoyed it so much that he decided continue this experience with Community Prevocational Services. Both services have helped Michael to explore and experience a variety of vocational placements within the community while learning positive work habits. Michael's responsibilities have included delivering medication to multiple units/departments in the hospital and placing labels on medication. The staff at Lourdes says that Michael has been a joy to work with and his dedication and enthusiasm towards his duties have been a wonderful addition to their department.

NBT Bank, Fox 40 and Rogers Service Group Team Up to Support ACHIEVE



Jerry McCabe (Fox 40), Bob Brazill (ACHIEVE), Jeff Lake (NBT), Diane Julian (NBT), Sean Ross (Rogers), Sam Savelli (Rogers)

NBT Bank held a post-tax day shredding event on Saturday, April 22nd to support ACHIEVE. The event was held at NBT's Upper Front Street location and cars and trucks lined up to the Rogers Services Group shredding truck to safely rid themselves of unwanted documents. Volunteers from NBT Bank, Fox 40 and ACHIEVE provided traffic control and helped unload thousands of pounds of paper. Rogers Service Group donated the use of the shredding truck while Fox 40 provided free promotion of the event on their network. NBT Regional President and ACHIEVE Foundation Chairman Jeff Lake Coordinated the event that raised close to \$600.

ACHIEVE would like to thank NBT Bank, Fox 40 and Rogers Service Group for their generous donation of time and effort. An additional thank you to all those community members who showed up to support ACHIEVE.

Employment Opportunities at ACHIEVE

- Are you ready for new challenges and new opportunities?
- Are you compassionate, caring, and motivated?
- Are you interested in making a difference in our community?
- Would you like to work for a company that can offer you opportunities for growth and advancement?

Then consider joining our team at ACHIEVE!



ACHIEVE offers a variety of direct support and professional positions. On-site programming, residential, and community work settings are available. If you enjoy working with people and helping your community, we want to talk with you about great career opportunities.

We provide excellent full-time employee benefits, including:

- Health / Dental / Vision Insurance • 401(k) Plan
- Employer-paid Life Insurance • Paid Time Off Package
- Tuition Assistance

NYSARC, Inc., Broome-Tioga County Chapter, dba ACHIEVE complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.
ATTENTION: If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call 1-607-723-8361
ATENCIÓN: Si usted habla español, servicios de asistencia lingüística, de forma gratuita, están disponibles para usted.
Lláme 1-607-723-8361

ACHIEVE is a committed equal opportunity employer.

If you are interested in a career with ACHIEVE, call us at 607-723-8361 or go to our website to learn more and to complete an application.

www.achieveny.org

Planned Giving

Every year, more donors are discovering the benefits of supporting the ACHIEVE Foundation through their estate plans. These planned gifts are the cornerstones of our foundation and support the programs and services of ACHIEVE.

Ways to make a gift to the ACHIEVE Foundation:

- Bequest
- IRA
- Stock and Securities
- Real Estate

For more information regarding Planned Giving at ACHIEVE, please contact:

Bob Brazill, Development Officer
(607) 231-5262

bbrazill@achieveny.org
125 Cutler Pond Road
Binghamton, NY 13905

You're Invited...

63rd Annual Dinner Dance

Featuring the 2017 Membership Meeting and Awards Banquet

Friday June 2, 2017 • 5:00pm – 10:00pm

The McKinley at Huron Campus

Tickets: \$45 Members / \$50 Non-Members

Social Hour 5:00pm-6:00pm

2017 Membership Meeting 6:00pm – 6:15pm

Dinner Served 6:15pm

Choice of Balsamic Chicken OR Pasta Primavera

Soda, water, coffee and tea will be available free of charge.

Beer and Wine will be available at an additional cost.

Awards Ceremony 6:45pm – 7:30pm

Dancing 7:30pm – 10:00pm

Entertainment for the evening provided by DJ John Adams

For questions or additional information, please contact Christa Reese at 607.231.5217.



Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Chenango Day Habilitation

Submitted by: Tara Packer – Program Manager Chenango Day Habilitation

With Spring finally here, Chenango Day Habilitation is pleased to announce some exciting changes that have occurred. As we continue with unification with ACHIEVE, there has been some changes in the direct oversight of the program. The new management team has been working on providing meaningful day planning for the people that we support. This includes systematic changes in the setup of our core rooms and staffing. Programming is now based on the individual's choices, interests and needs.

We have been participating in several volunteer opportunities for the individuals that have the desire to be an active member of community. This includes socialization at the SPCA and making cat and dog treats, volunteering at Valley Height School assisting with janitorial needs and recreation, preparing bird feeders for the local parks program and the half-hab program has participated in volunteering at Valley View Nursing Home for recreation time as well as the local Pizza Hut with day preparation.

which have been used to decorate the program walls. The individuals who have interest in music, have requested to bring back chimes and choir to the programming schedule, which has been a great success. Both musical programs have been actively preparing for Memorial Day and July 4th performances at local organizations. Our cooking program has been a popular program with many of the individuals. They have selected recipes and dishes that they would like to prepare including Christmas cookies, pizza rolls, spaghetti luncheon, homemade pizza and other baked goods. Our greenhouse project has started this month, we have been collecting, planting and caring for seedlings. We have also been preparing the greenhouse for spring. As we continue to enhance our programming at the Chenango Day Habilitation, we look forward to offering quality service that focuses on a person-centered approach and meaningful days.



Chenango Day Hab Visits Norwich Firehouse

Recently there have been several outings offered to people attending the program. This includes the Norwich Fire Department, SPCA of Chenango & Delaware, Tops Bakery, Walling's Maple Farm, Earlville Opera House, Roger's Conservation Center, a picnic in the park (Keith Park, Sidney) and Creature Comforts Pet Store. They have also enjoyed delivering mail to Cutler Pond twice weekly and having lunch with some of the people there. The half-hab program has visited Frog Pond Farms and has been bowling weekly. These outings are offered to all individuals receiving services.

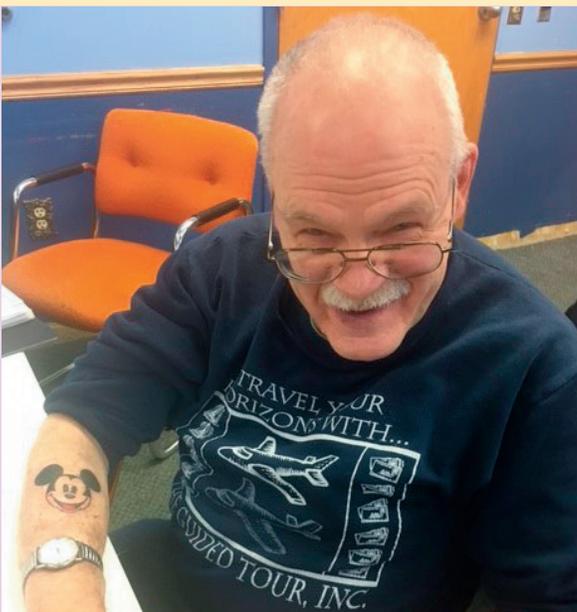
The Individuals who have interest in participating in recreation activities at Day Habilitation have been given opportunities to participate in art & crafts, musical programming, greenhouse project, a cooking program and other group activities. Currently anyone who is interested in arts & crafts has been assisting with paintings and crafts



Chenango Day Hab makes Pizza



Chenango Day Hab Volunteers at the SPCA



Donnie Nesbitt

Submitted by: Jennifer Guinn - Medicaid Service Coordinator /Self-Directed Services Broker

Donnie Nesbitt achieved one of his goals with the help of his friends & staff at CWS/ARC. They collected cans & bottles for many months to help Donnie pay for a tattoo. Donnie recently saved enough money and got one of his favorite characters tattooed on him, Mickey Mouse!

Donnie shared with the tattoo artist from Rosebud Tattoo (Brett Lein) that he had saved his cans and bottles for a long time to meet this goal. Brett loved his dedication and didn't charge him the full amount for the tattoo. Donnie looks forward to getting at least two more tattoos!

Olga Gonzalez

Who is She?

Some of you may have seen me walking down the halls at Cutler, sitting in the conference room at the plaza, or visiting guardianship folks at their homes. My name is Olga Gonzalez, and as an MSW intern I run group activities every Monday at Day Hab, co-facilitate the relationship course, and help out in the guardianship program in different ways. I started at ACHIEVE last August, and will be around until the middle of this May.

Needless to say, interning at ACHIEVE has been one of the most humbling experiences of my life. Here I have learned that one does not have to hear a person to truly listen to what they are telling us. Many of the people we serve have their own unique ways of (verbally and non-verbally) communicating their wants, needs, dreams and desires. To be a part of an agency that not only respects, but encourages folks to embrace their true selves is nothing short of magical.

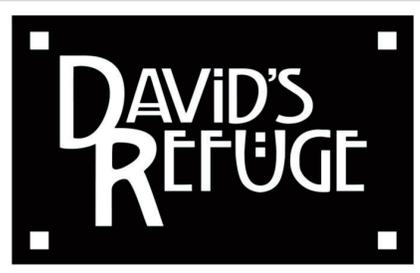
Gratefully,
Olga Gonzalez
MSW Intern



Pictured: John Boyer and John Adams

“Cheffing”

John Boyer practices his cooking skills with ACHIEVE Speech Therapist John Adams in the Cutler Pond Day Hab kitchen donated by the Dibble Family. You will be able to taste their culinary creations at the 8th Annual Savor the Summer presented by M&T Bank on Thursday August 31!



David's Refuge provides a place of respite, free of charge, to parents and guardians of children with special needs or life threatening medical conditions where they will be refreshed, restored, and renewed in their role as caregiver.

We want our guests to return home knowing three things: they are not alone, what they do matters, and that they are loved by God.



VOLUNTEER—SUPPORT—BECOME A GUEST

For more information, visit us online or email
contact@david refuge.org

315.682.4204

8195 CAZENOVIA RD MANLIUS, NY 13104

DAVIDSREFUGE.ORG

Thank You

to everyone that came out for **ACHIEVE's 22nd Annual Bob Warner Pin Crushing Classic** presented by **Visions Federal Credit Union**. More than 240 guests attended this year's bowling tournament, which was held on Saturday, March 25, 2017 at Midway Lanes in Vestal. Bowlers were joined by Baxter the Bearcat and various Star Wars characters as Bob Warner welcomed guests to the event featuring great bowling, and raffle drawings including a 50" TV, Bon Jovi tickets and Grill donated by Warner's Gas Service. It was a great afternoon and helped to not only raise money, but to raise agency visibility and make people more aware of the work we do.

Thank you to our 2017 Sponsors

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Vestal Police
Visions Federal Credit Union
WICZ - Fox 40



Overall tournament winners – McFarland Johnson



ACHIEVE Staff winning team – Splitz Season



Presenting Sponsor Visions Federal Credit Union Bowling Teams

ACHIEVE'S Annual Membership Campaign

What is ACHIEVE'S Annual Membership Campaign?

- Each year ACHIEVE runs a membership campaign in which we ask our staff, families, people we support and the community to become a member of the agency.
- It is only \$5.00, per person, to become a member!
- Membership lasts one full calendar year.

Why is ACHIEVE'S Annual Membership Campaign So Important?

- Your support and inclusion in the agency helps people with disabilities become more independent, productive and integrated in our local community. Without your help there is less opportunity for personal growth and achievement.
- Membership provides our agency the ability to advocate legislatively at the state and national levels. As we move forward, our agency continues to face enormous challenges given the current economic climate of our state and nation. It would be helpful for our advocacy with legislative and government officials to have the largest membership ever.

We hope you'll join ACHIEVE. Together, we will keep the vision alive of creating opportunities for individual successes.

(PLEASE PROVIDE COMPLETE INFORMATION FOR EACH MEMBER)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Signature _____

Please Check One:

- Lifetime Membership: Minimum \$500
- Basic Membership: Minimum \$5
- ACHIEVE Program Participant/Staff Membership: Minimum \$1
- Additional Donation Enclosed: \$ _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: ACHIEVE

If paying by Credit Card, please fill in the information below:

- Visa
- MasterCard
- Discover

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ / _____

CVC _____ (found on back of card)

Name _____

(name as it appears on card)

Signature _____

Mail completed Registration form along with dues to:

ACHIEVE
Attn: Membership
125 Cutler Pond Road
Binghamton, New York 13905



Kathy Muller

ACHIEVE Speech Therapist John Adams, AKA DJ John Adams brought in his recording equipment and set up in the Cutler Pond Sensory Room for a recording session with Kathy Muller. Kathy can often be heard singing as she works at ACHIEVE's Cutler Pond facility. You will be able to hear the beautiful rendition of the National Anthem that Kathy recorded with John at this year's Savor the Summer event August 31.

Thank you for your Support!



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save THE DATE!

8TH annual

savor THE summer

ACHIEVE M&T Bank
Understanding what's important™

THURSDAY,
AUGUST 31, 2017
6:00 - 9:00PM

ACHIEVE
125 CUTLER POND ROAD
BINGHAMTON, NY

GO TO
www.achieveny.org
FOR MORE INFORMATION

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