

## Serving the Lower Hudson Valley for Over 40 Years



Summer 2018



### Capabilities Welcomes Summer and Fall 2018

A look back on the events that CPI participated in this year...

#### Important dates:

- March was TBI Awareness Month
- April was Autism Awareness Month
- May was Mental Health Awareness Month
- Purple Day for Epilepsy Awareness was March 26th
- Brain Injury Advocacy Day was March 20th
- **McCarthy Golf Outing on July 13, 2018**

#### Upcoming events:

- NEREG Conference in NJ on October 20, 2018
- Stay tuned for our Winter Art Contest and events honoring Epilepsy Awareness in November including the Purple Pumpkin Project! *To participate in these events or for more information on our community education program please contact Erin Drury at (845) 627-0627 or [edrury@cpiny.org](mailto:edrury@cpiny.org)*

## Capabilities Advocates!

### Supporting Traumatic Brain Injury & Epilepsy Awareness

We were honored to participate in several very important advocacy efforts this spring that were organized to raise awareness and support those impacted by epilepsy and traumatic brain injury.

Capabilities recognized Purple Day on March 26, 2018, which is an international grassroots effort dedicated to increasing awareness and reducing stigma about epilepsy worldwide.

We were excited to participate in Brain Injury Advocacy Day in Albany where staff met with legislators and stakeholders advocating for programs and services that support brain injury survivors.



## Medicaid Service Coordination Update

On July 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 our MSC department went through major changes. On a statewide level Medicaid Service Coordination transitioned to something new called Health Home Care Management. All three of our Medicaid Service Coordinators are now Care Managers. CPI chose to partner with one of the four Care Coordination Organizations or CCO's in our area that oversees this program, Tri County Care. All 65 of our MSC families chose to work with Tri County care and so far we have had a very smooth transition. We are working very closely with Tri County Care on a daily basis to learn and understand all of the changes and are confident that Tri County Care will be able to serve our families in the best way possible. We are excited to be a part of a new system that allows for enhanced and more comprehensive care. In addition our department has a new staff member on board. Kate Yeager is our full time Community Service Coordinator. Kate is handling our intakes and Family Empowerment Fund requests. Kate is also helping families to obtain OPWDD eligibility. For individuals that reach out to us needing information and guidance Kate is a great resource and is able to link families to needed services and helps them to access the resources available in their community. *Kali Fiore, Manager of MSC Services*



Mount  
Saint Mary  
College



## Job Placement Spotlight on Marcus

Marcus Daitch provides us with a wonderful example in what happens when organizations work together and someone with Marcus' talent is allowed to flourish. Marcus came to Mount Saint Mary College a couple of years ago through the support of the State of New York and Mr. Grady Miller, and with the personal involvement of Keith Parfitt and the team at Capabilities Partnership. His role was to work--and is currently to work--with faculty in developing research projects and programs, and he does the deep research and analysis, summarizing literature and fitting his analysis to meet the needs of faculty. He works within the library and in the reference department with Derek Sanderson, a librarian faculty member at the College. Marcus has flourished in this role--working on a wide variety of projects (some of which are disability related) and serving faculty across disciplines. The College library has been a home to Marcus, and he has fit in so well thanks to the hospitality of our library director Barbara Petruzzeli. A major project Marcus will be working on--and one that was created by Dr. Lawrence Force (Professor of Psychology and Co-Director of the Center on Aging and Disability Policy at Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY), and myself, Dr. Jeffrey Kahana (Associate Professor of History and Co-Director of the Center on Aging and Disability Policy at Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY) and Elaine Sproat, the Director of the Pro-Active Caring Project at the Center on Aging and Disability Policy at Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY), and funded by the New York State Developmental Disability Planning Conference (DDPC), is aimed to help family caregivers manage the many complex challenges they face. Marcus is an example of success when opportunity is presented to a person who has so much to give, and is given the support to make their gifts available to the community. Bravo, and thanks to everyone for making this happen. *Dr. Jeffrey Kahana, Mount Saint Mary College*

I have seen Marcus grow tremendously over the year and a half I have been working with him. He has become more confident, more independent, and more secure in his abilities as they relate both to his work and his personal life. I have also noticed particular growth in his social skills. At a recent department meeting Marcus participated in the trading off of jokes that is common at the beginning of these meetings. I was surprised and delighted that Marcus took it upon himself to join right in, something I could not have imagined him doing a year ago. Perhaps most importantly, I have learned so much, from Marcus, about how to navigate the world, by seeing it through his eyes and his experiences.

*Derek Sanderson, Mount Saint Mary College*



## Tips on Summer Safety...

- ✓ Stay well hydrated & drink a lot of water
- ✓ Wear sunscreen and make sure to reapply
- ✓ Stay with a partner/buddy when swimming
- ✓ Store your medicines at appropriate temperature
- ✓ Prepare a safety/crisis plan if traveling over the summer
- ✓ For more summer safety tips, go to [www.epilepsy.com](http://www.epilepsy.com)

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## Our Mission

The Mission of Capabilities Partnership Inc. dba The Epilepsy Society of Southern New York is to provide comprehensive services to people with epilepsy and other neurological, physical and developmental disabilities and their families for the promotion of independence and quality of life. All of our services and programs focus on activities which help the individual live independently in the community with dignity.

Our services include education and training, advocacy, vocational services, service coordination, and community independence training. We provide services under OPWDD's Home and Community Based Waiver Program, the Department of Health's Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver Program and through Access-VR. It is our goal to assist all individuals in these programs to reach their optimal growth potential.



## Structured Day Program Corner



The Structured Day Program at Capabilities is happy to announce that our first "Kick off the Summer BBQ" was a huge success! With the support of the McCarthy family Foundation, participants and staff enjoyed a fun filled day of sunshine, music, games, gift bags, and a deliciously catered barbecue! We want to take the time to thank all of our participants for joining us on this special day, and also send a big thank you to the McCarthy Family for their continued generosity and support. We are looking forward to another summer of fun and learning...stay tuned!

**Our Structured Day Program runs every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9:30am-3:30pm. If you or someone you know are interested in joining, please contact Erin Drury at (845) 627-0627 (x157) or edrury@cpiny.org**



## 2017 Annual Report

- o Provided over 60 individuals with TBI with services including service coordination, counseling and independent living skills training
- o Provided over 6,700 safe/educational/fun hours to 26 individuals in our TBI Structured Day Program.
- o Continued to grow our eligibility assistance program and sent 26 packets to OPWDD with over 50% approvals
- o Helped over 240 individuals with disabilities meet their vocational goals including over 30 new job placements
- o Provided 90 families complete dinners for Thanksgiving & Christmas
- o Provide those we serve with fun community events - a Spring Fling Party, a Spirit of NJ boat trip & helped pay for summer camps
- o Participated in community events, health fairs, etc. & taught seizure recognition and first aid

### Financial Summary (in thousands - unaudited)

	2017	2016
<b>Revenue and Support</b>		
Fees & Grants	\$2,017.8	\$1,986.2
Contributions & other support	\$16.8	\$22.2
Fundraising (with McCarthy Fund)	\$50.8	\$52.4
	\$2,085.4	\$2,060.8
<b>Expenses</b>		
Program Services	\$1,858.0	\$1,823.2
Support Services	\$247.8	\$249.0
	\$2,105.8	\$2,072.2
<b>Decrease in Net Assets</b>	-\$20.4	-\$11.4
<b>Total Assets</b>	\$571.3	\$705.3
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	\$123.5	\$237.1
<b>Net Assets</b>	\$447.8	\$468.2

For details on the audited financials or to review the IRS Form 990, please contact us at 845-627-0627.



### Capabilities Has a Food Pantry!

Capabilities Partnership Inc. has a non-perishable food pantry available to anyone in need. The pantry is open Monday – Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Please call 845-627-0627 to make an appointment for pickup or for more information. "This institution is an equal opportunity provider"

## DID YOU KNOW?



### Brain Injury Awareness

Each year, traumatic brain injuries (TBI) contribute to a substantial number of deaths and cases of permanent disability. A TBI is caused by a bump, blow or jolt to the head or by a penetrating head injury that disrupts the normal function of the brain.

Of the 1.7 million who sustain a TBI each year in the United States:

- 52,000 fatalities
- 275,000 are hospitalized
- 1,365,000 are treated and released from the ER
- The number of people with TBI who receive no care is unknown

### Epilepsy Awareness

- Epilepsy is a disorder of the brain that causes seizures.
- Epilepsy can affect people in very different ways. This is because there are many causes and many different kinds of seizures.
- The way a seizure looks depends on the type of seizure a person is experiencing. Some seizures can look like staring spells. Other seizures can cause a person to collapse, shake, and become unaware of what's going on around them.
- Epilepsy can be caused by different conditions that affect a person's brain. Many times the cause is unknown. Some causes include:
  - o Stroke
  - o Brain Tumor
  - o Traumatic Brain Injury or head injury
  - o Central Nervous System Infection
- A person with epilepsy is not contagious and cannot give epilepsy to another person.
- A person with epilepsy is encouraged to work with their healthcare provider to determine the best care and treatment (CDC, 2018)

### Autism Awareness

- Autism now affects 1 in 68 children
- It is estimated that nearly 1/3 of individuals with ASD have concurrent seizure disorders (*Autism Speaks*)
- Many genetic disorders are associated with both epilepsy and autism (*UCLA Center for Autism Research & Treatment*)
- Autism is one of the fastest-growing developmental disorders in the U.S. and its prevalence is growing
- Autism costs a family \$60,000 a year on average
- Boys are nearly five times more likely than girls to have autism
- There is no medical detection or cure for autism

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## Agency Management

Kim Egan - Executive Clinical Director (845) 627-0627 x113  
Anna Vero - Executive Admin Director (845) 627-0627 x112

## Privacy Notice

Your privacy is important to us. You can get a copy of our Privacy Policy on our website ([www.mycapabilities.com](http://www.mycapabilities.com)) or by contacting us directly at 845-627-0627.

## Interested in Donating or Learning More About our Services?

Visit [www.mycapabilities.org](http://www.mycapabilities.org)  
[www.learnaboutepilepsy.org](http://www.learnaboutepilepsy.org)

Or call 845-627-0627 or 800-640-0371

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