



CAPTAIN
Community Human Services

News&Notes
Winter 2021

Because of you.



Thank you for being a hero.

This holiday season, you helped to raise over \$100,000 in support of programs for our community's most vulnerable, and raised a record amount of donations in 2020 - making it possible to provide services to more individuals and families than we ever have in over 40 years of service.

You provided food and basic hygiene supplies for nearly 500 people every month. When our Food Pantry saw a tremendous increase in need, you were there to ensure we could meet it.

You delivered a record number of Free Summer Meals to kids this past summer. Because of you, any child in need in Saratoga County could access free lunch at nearly two dozen sites.

You gave more than 70 homeless youth a safe place to sleep. Through your gifts, the Youth Shelter provided over 1,000 bed nights for local kids in need.

You helped more than two dozen youth safely exit the streets. Through your support, we continued to operate the Street Outreach Program in Saratoga, Fulton, and Montgomery Counties.

You kept over 40 homebound seniors safe. Through Care Links, seniors had access to food and medicine - all without leaving the safety of their home.

The challenges aren't yet over, but because of you - they aren't insurmountable.

You made the difference and changed lives.

You may not wear a cape, but you are a hero.

Lifting people up. Building brighter futures.

HUNGER | HOMELESSNESS | ECONOMIC CRISIS | COMMUNITY SUPPORT | EMPOWERMENT

www.captaincares.org

From the desk of Executive Director **Andy Gilpin**



Andy Gilpin
Executive Director

This January, I was excited and honored to take on the role of Executive Director here at CAPTAIN Community Human Services. I take such pride in being part of an incredible group of people who have such powerful impact on the community and with our clients - our staff, our board, our volunteers, and you - our supporters.

CAPTAIN CHS has come far in the last few years - from the merger with Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Community Human Services to the acquisition of Capital Respite to our most recent endeavor as coordinators of Saratoga County's homeless collaborative.

Because of you, we truly lift people up and build brighter futures. These aren't just words - they are a living, breathing ethos and culture that is ingrained in everything we do.

As Executive Director, I plan to continue upholding our values as a volunteer-led organization. We are an organization that prides itself on excellence in our work and respect for the dignity of our clients. We work in collaboration with our community

and our supporters. And, importantly, we strive for transparency and to be good stewards of the resources donors like you have so generously provided.

As we look forward into 2021 and beyond, we know the challenges of the pandemic have only begun to show impact. As families face eviction, and as many struggle to regain employment, our doors remain open to those in need.

From the bottom of my heart, I thank you, the board, and our community for this tremendous opportunity, and for going above and beyond for your neighbors.

I'd love to get to know more about you, so please do not hesitate to give me a call at 518-399-4624 or email andy@captaincares.org.

Thank you again for your neverending kindness,

Andy Gilpin
Executive Director

Introducing Our New **Board of Directors**

Officers

Mike Holley, President

Kate Gurley, 1st Vice President & Vice President - Programs

Belinda Cross Kucharski, Vice President - Philanthropy

Scott DeMarco, Vice-President - Finance

John Kuznia, Vice President - Personnel

Rob Picotte, Vice President - Development and Marketing

Claire Brown, Immediate Past President

Patti Ellis, Secretary

Directors

Dan Bazile | Kishani Choudhury

Scott DeMarco | Denise Desmond

Richard Ferguson | Terry Mango

Bob O'Connell | Jim Pugliese

Ashlynn Savarese | Tom Savino

Student Board Members

Nithya Chockalingam | Riane Richard

Advisory Council

Phil Barrett | Dennis Brobston | Fr. Patrick Butler | Bill Casey | Gary Dake | C.J. DeCrescente

David DeMarco | James Doern | Dale Gleason | Bill Long | Anthony Mashuta | Tom Savino | Todd Shimkus |

Marcy Steiner | Virginia Touhey | John Yagielski

The first place I felt like home.



The first place I felt like home. The first place I felt like family.

At age fourteen, Cassie was removed from her home by Child Protective Services. For years, she had endured horrible abuse. At the time, she stayed at the CAPTAIN CHS Runaway and Homeless Youth Shelter while a more permanent place was found. As with others in her situation, the foster care system couldn't meet her needs and she was soon couch-surfing, staying with friends, distant relatives and, at times, back at home.

Because her living situation was so unstable, it was almost impossible for Cassie to access services.

In November, her school social worker reached out to CAPTAIN CHS. Cassie was now a senior, having spent her entire high school life homeless. She was just a few months away from having no where else to go, and aging out of the system that had already failed her.

Because of the kindness and generosity of donors and volunteers like you, staff were able to connect with

Cassie and invite her to apply for one of the apartments in CAPTAIN CHS's Supportive Housing for Homeless Youth program.

During the interview, our staff were amazed at her can-do attitude and eager attitude. Without knowing much about the program, she asked only for a bedroom - somewhere to sleep, night after night, in safety and comfort. When we explained the program offered an apartment, she broke down in tears.

To qualify for the program, she would need to gather dozens of documents that most youth have no access to. Our Street Outreach team quickly stepped in and within a few days, had all of the documentation needed. Last month, she finally moved into her very first home of her own.

Cassie told us that her time at the Youth Shelter had been life-changing. It was the first place she felt like home - the first place she felt like she was part of a family. She says that's still how it feels - that CAPTAIN CHS has become her family, and that, by giving her a home, we've given her a future.

All of this was possible because of you. Because of you, Cassie has hope.

To learn more about our Supportive Housing for Homeless Youth program, please visit www.captaincares.org or call 518-399-4624.

Right:
Photographs of the Intrada development where the Supportive Housing for Homeless Youth program is housed. A total of ten apartments were provided for youth. An example apartment is shown at the far right.



#ThisIsCommunity

The Heroes that Make it Happen



Thank you to the New York School Nutrition Association for hosting their first annual Food and Hygiene Drive this past November. Along with Bonacio Construction and the community's support, they helped to bring in enough to provide over 27,000 meals!

Clifton Park Town Supervisor Phil Barrett, Congressman Paul Tonko, and Saratoga Chamber of Commerce's Liz Roggenbuck stopped by to drop off donations in support of the drive. We look forward to working together with NYSNA to expand and enhance Free Summer Meals and end food insecurity for our community's kids!

Thank you to the Alfred Z. Solomon Charitable Trust and Northway Church for replacing the Wellness Van and ensuring our community's homebound seniors can make it to important medical appointments.

The Wellness Express Transportation Program provides transportation for residents to medical appointments. This curb to curb service is available to residents in the towns of Ballston, Charlton, Galway, Malta, Milton, Providence, and the Village of Ballston Spa.

The Wellness Express is funded by the Saratoga County Office for the Aging, the New York State Office for the Aging, the Towns of Milton and Ballston, and the Village of Ballston Spa.



A Year of Philanthropy

CAPTAIN CHS kicked off the Year of Philanthropy in January 2020, just before the pandemic began. Despite the changes and challenges the year brought, many of you remained committed to our community and its future.

Thank you to the following individuals for making a gift toward the CAPTAIN CHS endowment as part of the Year of Philanthropy - ensuring their legacy lives on for generations to come:

Shirley Bold
Robert and Claire Brown
Karyl Camardo
Roselain Carignan
Bill and Betty Casey
Eric and Kelly Catricala
Ken and Judi Clements
John and Stephanie Copeland
The Cosgrove Family
Theresa Croyle
Gary and Aimee Dake
Robert and Suzanne Daly
C.J. and Marybeth DeCrescente
Sheila DeMola
Denise Desmond and Rob Picotte

Mary Lou Dunham
Thomas and Carol Eckert
Patricia Ellis
Richard and Mary Ferguson
Sheila Flanagan
Karen Gerhardt
John and Sandra Gilpin
Kirk and Dale Gleason
Kate Gurley
Audra Higgins
Edward and Judy Hines
Michael and Stephanie Holley
Joyce Jacobson
Mary Kobylar
Kevin Kralovic

John Kuznia
Alan and Sue Lasker
Bill and Anne Long
Dennis Marr
Susan Lund
Johnathan Paul and Kimberly Mahar
Terry Mango
Ken Grey
David and Jane McCarthy
Deron Milleville
Michael and Maryellen Moore
Robert and Carol O'Connell
Barbara Oberdieck
Paul and Joann Pagiotas
Robert and Loretta Parsons

Jonathan and Theresa Peace
Rodney and Gail Read
Doug Sauer
Ashlynn Savarese
John and Sharon Sayles
Steve and Sharon Schoenberg
Nancy Shade
Linda Toohey
Lyle VanVranken
The Waters-Batko Family
Gray and Vickie Watkins
Joan Watson
John Yagielski

Save-the-Date Upcoming Events

**Route 50
Mile Race**
June 10, 2021

**An Unbridled
Affair Gala**
July 22, 2021

Join our eNewsletter list to keep up with the latest news and events at CAPTAIN CHS by visiting the following link:
captaincares.org/newsletter



SWING INTO ACTION

PLAY WINTER GOLF
FOR CAPTAIN CHS

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2021
TOPTRACER RANGE AT
NORTHWAY GOLF CENTER
1519 CRESCENT ROAD, HALFMOON



CAPTAIN
Community Human Services

AWARDS FOR

- Low Gross
- Low Net
- Longest Drive
- Closest to the Pin
- Best Dressed Foursome

THREE FLIGHTS: 12-2PM | 2-4PM | 4-6PM
\$100 PER PERSON | \$375 FOURSOME
SCRAMBLE FORMAT | AWARDS

Includes two hours of 9 hole high-tech virtual golf in a socially-distanced, heated luxury private bay for four, a delicious food item from the Caddy Shack, and a cash bar.

LEARN MORE OR REGISTER ONLINE AT
CAPTAINCARES.ORG/GOLF



AN EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER

The Swing Into Action golf tournament will be held at Northway Golf Center's TopTracer Range, a virtual driving range that accurately captures shots using tracking technology with advanced sensors and software. The range is spacious and provides fresh air on the open-side of the golf bays to adhere to all COVID-19 restrictions, and is heated for cold weather. On-site catering will be provided at the caddy shack and awards will be given for competitions throughout the event!

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TICKETS, VISIT
WWW.CAPTAINCARES.ORG/GOLF



Visit any local Jersey Mike's throughout the month of March to donate and be sure to mark your calendar for the Day of Giving!

SAVE THE DATE!

**WEDNESDAY
MARCH 31ST**

join us for their

**DAY OF GIVING
AND GRAB SOME SUBS
BECAUSE...**

100% OF SALES
will be going to

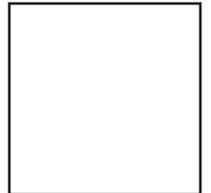
OUR CAUSE!

Thank You to the many individuals, families, organizations, and businesses whose generosity provided so much support for our local community!



Top left to bottom right: Senator Jim Tedisco and Clifton Park Town Supervisor Phil Barrett help to fill the Food Pantry shelves as part of the Town's effort to support those in crisis. Belmonte Builders hosted a very successful Shelter Christmas Drive at their new development, Griffins Ridge. The Saratoga Casino Foundation presented a check for \$1,000 and delivered \$1,500 worth of food, hygiene, and cleaning products to Karyl's Kupboard Food Pantry. Aiden Sherwood, an Eagle Scout, hosted a pantry donation drive, bringing in over 1,500 items to earn one of his scout badges. Local student Justice Peters organized a food drive for his "Boys Town" Merit Project to benefit the Youth Shelter. Adirondack Taekwondo & Fitness Center donated hundreds of toys for Toy Shop. TCT Federal Credit Union brought in bags of holiday cheer for our community.

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NAME
COMPANY
ADDRESS 1
ADDRESS 2
CITY, STATE ZIP