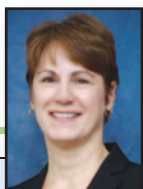


Your Voices, Your Choices

From the desk of Prudence York



Executive Director



The dramatic reveal of the new AccessCNY logo was presented at the AccessToday awards dinner in March. Representatives from the community came up to each assemble a piece of the logo, showing how we all have worked together to become AccessCNY.

AccessCNY is different things to different people. For some, we are just a small part of their lives, offering an hour or two of support in the home each week. For others, we are a lifeline of resources, people, and tools to help make life more manageable on a daily basis. Each person we serve is unique, with a different level of need. One of our strengths is our ability to adapt, offering programs that are diverse enough to meet the needs of a senior looking for help around the house, to a young child who needs daily physical therapy.

We put the people we serve first, offering them choices in everything that we do. Our Self-Direction service, for example, gives individuals with disabilities the option to choose what support they wish to have, empowering them to make their own decisions regarding who they hire to assist them, and how to manage their own budgets. This approach to service stems from the idea of giving individuals the right to do what they can

- and offering help when and where they want it. We pride ourselves on our commitment to person-centered services.

This past spring, we held an event called **AccessToday: Inspiring Stories, Inspiring People** to reflect on the progress that has been made for people with disabilities. We celebrated what access and inclusion mean today. We invited past leaders from both Transitional Living Services and Enable to join us in honoring individuals, families, and businesses who have dedicated their lives to making a difference for people of all abilities.

We know that our community is stronger when everyone has a voice; whether that voice is spoken, through sign-language, or via use of technology. We all communicate our needs in different ways and need help from time to time. AccessCNY is dedicated to helping people in ways that make them stronger as individuals, as families, and as a society. Thank you for sharing in our mission to help make our shared community more accessible for all.

WORLD CP DAY October 7, 2015

World CP Day is Wednesday, October 7th. Cerebral Palsy (CP) impacts approximately 17 million people worldwide. For some, CP affects their physical bodies like their balance and mobility. For others, it affects their brain and intellectual development. Sometimes it can affect both. CP is a complex disability with no cure. We invite you to participate in World CP Day if you or someone you know has a story to share about living with CP. Visit www.accesscny.org to learn how you can get involved.

AccessCNY Expands Support for Veterans

AccessCNY was recently awarded a \$2,000 grant from The Million Dollar Roundtable (MDRT) Foundation to support services for veterans with mental health issues. The grant will help AccessCNY expand housing supports to retired service men and women.

AccessCNY currently assists veterans with mental health issues locate affordable and safe housing. This is a vital service that provides veterans stability. At present, the service only provides a roof over the veteran's head. Funding from the MDRT Foundation will help make the house

Continued inside...

Veterans Grant continued...

more comfortable and livable by providing essentials like beds, tables and chairs, kitchen items, and other home staples. The grant will give veterans a home that they can be proud to call their own.

The grant was made possible with the assistance of John Enright of Custom Wealth Management, a member of the MDRT. Enright is a long-time supporter of AccessCNY and worked with agency staff to determine the community need and complete the application. AccessCNY, along with Custom Wealth Management, plans to grow the program in the future with the assistance of the MDRT Foundation.

“AccessCNY and its legacy agencies have served Central New York for more than 100 years combined,” said Prudence York. “The agencies grew because of a willingness to adapt to meet the changing needs of the community. This generous gift from the Million Dollar Roundtable Foundation will allow us to continue to be responsive as the needs of our community change.”



Prudence York receives a check for veterans' services from John Enright of Custom Wealth Management. Enright is joined by Andrew and Cooper, two of his three children.

Through its global grants, the MDRT Foundation is committed to building stronger families and communities around the globe. This year, the MDRT Foundation will award nearly \$1 million in MDRT member-endorsed grants to more than 100 charitable organizations worldwide.

Changes Coming To Provisions Bakery

One of Central New York's best kept secrets is Provisions Bakery and Restaurant in Syracuse's Armory Square. To many customers, Provisions is a great local bakery with breakfast and lunch options.



Provisions, the last day before renovations.

But, it is much more. When Provisions opened in 1988 the concept was simple: teach practical job skills to individuals recovering from mental health issues to help them get back on their feet and reenter the workforce. This recipe for success has helped hundreds of people learn skills that have resulted in permanent employment and stability in their personal and professional lives.

As a program of AccessCNY, Provisions offers a place of security and comfort to people who often have no other source of support. The restaurant attracts people of all backgrounds and creates a welcoming environment for all.

Provisions is being renovated for the first time since opening 27 years ago. The goal is to maintain a warm and inviting restaurant, while offering more comfortable updates to appeal to more customers. Keeping the restaurant competitive and current ensures the strength and longevity of the program.



King+King Architect's rendering of Provisions' new design and layout.

Community supporters have already contributed \$139,000 of \$160,000 needed to make the renovations possible. Learn more about the Provisions Renovation Project and how your donation will make a difference at www.provisionsbakery.com.

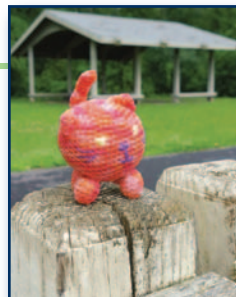
Special Thanks To:

- The Allyn Foundation
- The Central New York Community Foundation
- The Gifford Foundation
- The John Ben Snow Foundation
- The Dorothy and Marshall Reisman Foundation
- INFICON
- Lockheed Martin
- And many individuals, who have chosen to remain anonymous

Summer Scavenger Hunt

Over the summer, participants in AccessCNY's Community Habilitation program enjoyed a series of scavenger hunt challenges while exploring the community with friends and family. The game, called the Toki Chase, was a 15-week long quest in and around local parks. The game was named after "Toki," a small rabbit character who revealed clues along the way. The participants learned about history, people, and "named" places throughout the county, while on a walking tour. When they found the final clue, participants took "selfies" and shared them with each other on Facebook. For each challenge completed, participants received a ticket to be used for raffle prizes at a summer wrap-up party.

The challenge was a great way to enrich social skills and physical activity amongst participants. Spring Bielec, Program Manager for Community Habilitation, designed the challenge and wrote all the



"Toki" the rabbit offered clues within area parks.



Challenge Completed!

clues. "I'm really proud of everyone who participated. They walked further than they thought they could and formed new friendships," said Spring. "People liked how difficult the clues were. They really challenged themselves and had fun along the way!"

A Hole-in-One at the 25th Annual Golf Classic

Every golfer's dream became Jim Menter's reality as he watched his tee shot soar 167-yards on the 8th hole at Lake Shore Yacht & Country Club in Cicero. It was a great shot that became a perfect one, as the ball landed and found its way to the hole.



Jim Menter with the lucky golf ball in front of his new GMC Denali truck.

Major Sponsors:

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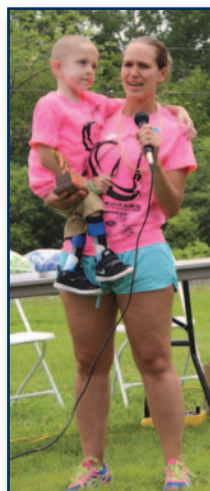
"It took just minutes for word to spread about the hole-in-one," said Prudence York. "In the twenty-five years that we've hosted the Golf Classic no one has ever scored a hole-in-one. The club professionals at Lake Shore were surprised too; not only was this the course's first hole-in-one during a tournament, but it was for a truck nonetheless. What a way to commemorate the silver anniversary of the tournament!"

The hole-in-one prize was sponsored by Burdick Chevrolet Buick & GMC. Jim, part of the Voss Signs team, also won first place in the AccessCNY tournament, along with the skins contest. Menter and his teammates generously donated their winnings back to the agency. The June tournament raised \$56,000 for AccessCNY's services. Thank you to all our sponsors and players for making this year's tournament so memorable!

Anything That Rolls

July 19th was a swelteringly hot day, but for attendees at the 4th annual Anything That Rolls, the heat didn't stand in anyone's way. This annual "rollathon" brought more than 550 people to Onondaga Lake Park to walk or ride down the Parkway. The event raised over \$40,000 for AccessCNY, but also offered a chance for individuals with disabilities, as well as the general public, to explore different modes of transportation. After completing the route, the Adaptive Bike Course offered individuals of all ages and abilities a chance to try out different hand-cycles, tricycles, balance bikes, wheelchairs, and other devices that help people move in different ways. Additionally, attendees enjoyed snacks, kids' crafts and face-painting, as well as an awards ceremony. Karen Vecellio, a physical therapist for AccessCNY won the award for top individual fundraiser. Her team, The Acronyms, won the prize for Top Fundraising Team, raising over \$5,300! "This is my favorite event of the year," said Karen, whose enthusiasm inspires people both in the therapy gym and out. "I love seeing the participants I help, who are already working on mobility, get excited about getting involved in the community. It's the best part of being a team captain!"

Thank you to everyone who came out for Anything That Rolls!



Karen Vecellio accepts her top fundraiser award with Lucas Abreu

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Americans With Disabilities Act 25th Anniversary



On July 23, people of all ages and abilities

gathered in downtown Syracuse to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the passing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Signed in 1990, the ADA

prohibits discrimination based on disability and requires access to employment and accessibility in public places, including public transportation and telecommunication. Band members from AccessCNY's Acquired Brain Injury day habilitation program - The David Clark Learning Center - played tunes to welcome the marchers. Attendees listened to inspiring stories of the progress that has been made over the years and reflected on work that still needs to be done. Sally Johnston, Advocacy Coordinator for AccessCNY and President of the Board of Directors for Disabled in Action of Greater Syracuse, Inc., has dedicated her life to fighting for the rights of individuals with disabilities. "Lives have changed significantly over the past 25 years as a result of the ADA, but we still have a long way to go," Sally commented. "Many people with disabilities still remain warehoused in nursing homes and institutions and discrimination in employment still exists. It is only through awareness and collaborative action that we can hope to ensure that all people have access to equal opportunities."



Ricky Ryder
Board President

Prudence York
Executive Director

Matt Seubert
Assoc. Executive
Director – Development

Upcoming Event Dates



Disability Mentoring Day..... October 21, 2015
Opportunities to become a mentor or mentee are still available.

Syracuse Auto Dealers Association Charity Preview..... February 10, 2016
Your ticket to the greatest car show in Syracuse supports AccessCNY.

AccessCNY Golf Classic..... June 17, 2016
Join us for 18 holes by Oneida Lake at Lake Shore Yacht & Country Club in Cicero.

For more details on these events contact
Matt Seubert, Associate Executive Director – Development at 315.410.3383 or mseubert@accesscny.org

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Clinical Services: 315.410.3319

Communications & Development: 315.410.3383

Consumer Directed Homecare: 315.410.3388

DD/ABI Services: 315.410.3301

Exploring Your World Preschool: 315.362.2664

Human Resources: 315.410.3312

Mental Health Services: 315.218.0880

www.accesscny.org

Agency Services

AccessCNY provides a dynamic array of services for people with physical and developmental disabilities, acquired brain injuries (ABI) and/or mental health issues.

Services for those with a Developmental Disability or ABI

Adaptive Equipment Loan Program	Early Intervention Services	Physical Therapy
Advocacy	Environmental Modifications	Preschool Evaluations
Assistive Technology	Family and Individual Supports	Self-Direction
Augmentative Communication	Home and Community Based Services	Sensory Integration
Certified Residential Settings	Inclusive Preschool Education	Social Work Counseling
Community Habilitation	Individualized Support Services	Speech and Language Therapy
Consumer Directed Homecare	Medicaid Service Coordination	Supported Employment
Day Habilitation	Occupational Therapy	

Services for those with a Mental Health Issue

Certified Residential Services	Housing Supports	Supported Education
Community Supports	Peer-Based Support	Supported Employment
Family Supports	Social Skills Training	Vocational Rehabilitation

Affiliations

Association for Community Living	New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services
Association for Persons in Supported Employment	Supported Housing Network of New York
Cerebral Palsy Associations of NYS	United Way of CNY
National Association for the Education of Young Children	United Way of Oswego County

