

THE LIFE OF LARRY

Regardless of ability, we all want the same things out of life; to be valued, included and appreciated. With the help of AccessCNY, Larry finds all these things and more in our community.

For Larry, his work as a Library Assistant at Syracuse University's Law Library is a true passion.

With the help of AccessCNY, Larry has been a beloved part of the Syracuse University community for over three decades. At the library he does everything from sorting and delivering the mail, to answering questions from frantic law students. Coworkers and law students alike know they can trust Larry not only to help them find the resources they need, but to do so with a smile and a joke.

Despite his dedication to his job, working has not always been easy for Larry. As one of the 49 million Americans living with a disability, Larry has had to overcome many hurdles throughout his career. Thankfully, AccessCNY has been there to help every step of the way.

AccessCNY's Physical Therapists work with Larry on maintaining the physical strength and dexterity he needs to be independent. The Technology Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities (TRAID) Center at AccessCNY assists Larry with finding the right technology to help him do his job. And our Supported Employment program has been a crucial partner in helping Larry navigate workplace accommodations, such as the implementation of his new assisted communications device.

Larry is not only thriving at work, but at home too. He enjoys close relationships with his roommates and the staff at his AccessCNY operated home. They encourage him to pursue all of his passions, including watching movies and traveling.



Larry on a recent trip to New York City was excited to meet New York's finest.

Several months ago, Larry arranged a trip to New York City for himself and a few friends. They trekked all over the city and stopped at the 9/11 Memorial Museum, but Larry's favorite part of the trip was visiting Hudson Yards. He's already planning a return trip!

AccessCNY is proud to play a small role in Larry's success. For more than 70 years, AccessCNY and its legacy agencies have been driven to create a community where everyone has a voice, everyone is heard and all are connected. Whether at home, at work or at play, Larry is a part of our Central New York Community.

Please join us in making Central New York a place where everyone matters and everyone belongs with your donation today. Your gift will help Larry and 3,000 others be part of our community. Mail the enclosed coupon with your gift today or donate at: www.accesscny.org.



Students of Exploring Your World Preschool on their new gym mats courtesy of the Boeheim Foundation.

BOEHEIM FOUNDATION

SUPPORTS EXPLORING YOUR WORLD PRESCHOOL

Thanks to the Jim and Juli Boeheim Foundation new gym mats became a reality for Exploring Your World preschool. Installed in September, the new mats replaced tattered and taped mats that had been run, jumped and played on for almost twenty years. The large 2,000 square foot gym was created in 2012 and is named in honor of the Boeheim Foundation. The Foundation has supported AccessCNY's Exploring Your World preschool over the last eight years.



From the desk of Paul Joslyn, Executive Director

ACCESSCNY ADDS ONONDAGA CASA TO SUPPORT CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

Earlier this year AccessCNY added Onondaga CASA as a new program. CASA or Court Appointed Special Advocates, provides volunteer advocates for children in the foster care system who have been abused or neglected.

Established in 1997, Onondaga CASA is comprised of community-based volunteers who are trained and sworn-in by a Family Court Judge to advocate for the best interests of children. For many abused children, their CASA volunteer will be the one constant adult presence in their life until a safe and permanent home is achieved.

Onondaga CASA is a lifeline to children in the foster care system and continues AccessCNY's vision to adapt as the needs of our community change. This partnership will help children and families served by CASA connect with other AccessCNY programs that could benefit a child or parent with a developmental disability or mental

health diagnosis. These supports will help move the family forward. Syracuse is one of the nation's most impoverished cities; by growing the CASA program we can create more stability for children and help move our community forward.

Each year more than 300 children experience foster care in Onondaga County; far more than can be supported by CASA. As a result, CASA volunteers are assigned to the most difficult cases. AccessCNY hopes to grow the number of children served by the program.

To learn more about Onondaga CASA contact; Stefanie Savory at: 315-218-0868 or stefanie.savory@accesscny.org.



Last month a child served by CASA was adopted into their forever family.

HELP SUPPORT MORE STORIES OF SUCCESS

Your Full Name: _____
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I would like to make a monthly credit card gift of: \$ _____

Please cut out and return donation form to:
AccessCNY
1603 Court Street
Syracuse, NY 13208
Give securely online at
www.accesscny.org/donate/
or call us at 315.410.3384

ACCESSCNY TRAINS FIRST RESPONDERS TO IMPROVE ENCOUNTERS WITH THOSE IN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

Over the course of the last three months, AccessCNY's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) has trained over 60 law enforcement officials and first responders on how to best de-escalate an encounter with someone in a mental health crisis.

Started earlier this year, CIT is a collaboration between AccessCNY and the Central New York Care Collaborative. CIT training uses evidence-based approaches to improve relationships between those with a mental health diagnosis or disability and law enforcement officials. The goal of CIT is to inform first responders about community-based resources in order to keep those in crisis out of the justice system or emergency room and reduce the potential of injury.

Captain John Cooney is retired from the City of Troy Police Department and is the Law Enforcement Coordinator of AccessCNY's CIT program. "The Crisis Intervention Team training supplies officers with an additional tool on their belt. De-escalation skills lead to less use of force, thus reducing the potential for officer and citizen injury. The program brings community resources, mental health professionals and our sworn protectors together to improve the lives of those with a mental health



Syracuse City Police Chief Kenton Buckner with CIT Graduate Officer Joseph R. Talone and Syracuse Mayor Ben Walsh.

diagnosis. By bringing this training to six counties across Central New York we will blanket the region with compassionate, efficient and empathetic response and follow up."

In addition to the weeklong trainings, a truncated series makes the training more accessible to time-strapped officers. As part of CIT, AccessCNY also convenes monthly meetings with representatives of local police and the Justice Center, local emergency providers, family members, individuals with mental health disorders and other community partners. The advisory committee dis-

cusses community and police relations regarding mental health disorders, training needs and feedback regarding services and interactions from first responders.

AccessCNY plans to train 500 law enforcement officers and first responders across six counties over the course of two years. The next week-long CIT Training will be offered in January.

For details on the program contact Spencer Gervasoni at 315-218-0823 or spencer.gervasoni@accesscny.org.

The AccessTomorrow Society provides a way to recognize and honor those individuals who plan to benefit AccessCNY through their estate plan. The Society was created to support future generations of individuals who will need services from AccessCNY.

For more than 150 combined years, generations of Central New Yorkers have entrusted AccessCNY and its legacy agencies to support individuals with disabilities. AccessTomorrow ensures future generations will have the supports they need.

The AccessTomorrow Fund is managed through the CNY Community Foundation for the sole and exclusive benefit of AccessCNY. Estate and planned gifts can benefit all served by AccessCNY or be dedicated to a specific program or service.

AccessCNY is pleased to thank the inaugural members of our AccessTomorrow planned giving society:

- Paul and Kathy Joslyn
- Anonymous Donors from Brewerton
- Matt and Stacey Seubert and Family
- Anonymous Donors from DeWitt

To learn more about the AccessTomorrow Society and how to create a legacy through your estate plan, contact Matt Seubert at 315-410-3383 or matt.seubert@accesscny.org.





Community | Possibility | Success

1603 Court Street | Syracuse, NY 13208

Michael Wirtheim

Board President

Paul Joslyn

Executive Director

Matt Seubert

Assoc. Executive Director - Development

SAVE THE DATE

AccessCNY events provide vital funding that helps create independent and fulfilling lives.

- SADA Charity Preview – February 5, 2020
- AccessCNY Golf Classic – June 8, 2020

Visit www.accesscny.org/events for details.



1603 Court Street
Syracuse, NY 13208
315.455.7591

420 East Genesee Street
Syracuse, NY 13202
315.478.4151

6666 Manlius Center Road
East Syracuse, NY 13057
315.478.4151

6520 Basile Rowe
East Syracuse, NY 13057
315-478-6210

Administrative Offices: 315.410.3343

Clinical Services: 315.410.3319

Communications & Development: 315.410.3383

Consumer Directed Homecare: 315.410.3332

DD/ABI Services: 315.410.3301

Exploring Your World Preschool: 315.362.2664

Human Resources: 315.410.3312

Mental Health Services: 315.218.0880

Agency Services

Every day, AccessCNY helps people of all ages and abilities live their best life. AccessCNY advocates so everyone has a voice, everyone is heard and all are connected. Together we create a community where everyone belongs.

Services for those with a Developmental Disability or Acquired Brain Injury

Adaptive Equipment Loan Program
Advocacy
Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA)
Assistive Technology
Augmentative Communication
Certified Residential Settings
Community Habilitation

Consumer Directed Homecare
Day Habilitation
Environmental Modifications
Family and Individual Supports
Home and Community Based Services
Inclusive Preschool Education
Individualized Support Services

Occupational Therapy
Physical Therapy
Preschool Evaluations
Respite Services
Self-Direction
Sensory Integration
Speech and Language Therapy

Services for those with a Mental Health Issue

Berkana Crisis Respite
Certified Residential Services
Community Supports
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)

Crisis Intervention Training (CIT)
Family Supports
Housing Supports
Peer-Based Support

Social Skills Training
Supported Education
Supported Employment
Vocational Rehabilitation

Affiliations

Association for Community Living
Association for Persons in Supported Employment
Cerebral Palsy Associations of NYS
National Association for the Education of Young Children

New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services
Supported Housing Network of New York
United Way of CNY

