It’s always a joy to share the good news of dreams realized and promises fulfilled at Lifetime Assistance. You will find this Lives filled with remarkable real-life success stories; successes made possible by individuals with exceptional drive and ambition, assisted by extraordinarily dedicated and skilled service personnel, and embraced by our wonderfully supportive and engaged community.

Particularly moving are personal stories of two best friends, Devon and Kerry, who’ve realized their dream of sharing a home together; and of Cori, whose life began in an orphanage in Bombay, India and who, in addition to recently completing schooling at Monroe Community College and landing a new job, has advocated for social inclusion at the highest levels, including personally addressing the United Nations!

Strong partnerships are evidenced with the news of Wegmans now employing 28 individuals through Lifetime’s vocational services; the Wolk Foundation, Lifetime Assistance Foundation and the County of Monroe advancing employment, jobs and commerce through their joint investment in commercial shredding equipment at Lifetime’s Classified Shredding Services; and the tremendous support of area foundations, companies, and individuals committed to assuring services of the highest quality through support of Lifetime’s “Mobility and Accessibility Campaign.”

As a strong, spirited, entrepreneurial organization, Lifetime shares a confidence in the future of disability services and supports – even as we face many funding, public policy and regulatory challenges. Our unyielding commitment to mission, coupled with the strength of our caring, involved community, assures a future filled with promise and results, and inclusive meaningful lives for our friends, neighbors and family members of all abilities. We extend our deepest gratitude and thank each of you who stand tall with your Lifetime Community, on behalf of those in need.

Heartlines

New Board Member
Christine Donohue

Ms. Christine Donohue, Account Executive at Lawley Andolina Verdi, has been elected to the Lifetime Assistance, Inc. Board of Directors. As the loving parent of two boys, one with special needs, Christine has become a strong advocate for the rights of persons with developmental disabilities. Her experience as Chair of Lifetime’s Human Rights Committee and personal dedication will prove to be of exceptional value to the agency. Welcome Christine!

New Foundation Board Member
Joel DiMartino

Mr. DiMartino, Vice President and Senior Regional Portfolio Manager at Wilmington Trust – a division of M&T Bank – joined Lifetime’s Agency Board in 2013. Joel’s interest in joining the Foundation Board comes from a sincere willingness to contribute his talents and expertise to support funding initiatives that will improve the lives of individuals we serve. Welcome Joel!

New Foundation Board Member
Lori Klafehn

Mrs. Lori Klafehn, Vice President of Mortgage Banking Risk Management at JP Morgan Chase, also comes to the Foundation as a member of Lifetime’s Agency Board. Lori has served on the agency board for over 20 years. She is passionate about Lifetime’s mission and understands the important role the Foundation plays in support of the agency. Welcome Lori!
Community Collaboration

The Wolk Foundation, Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks, and the Lifetime Assistance Foundation, enjoy a rare behind the scenes look at Lifetime’s successful business enterprise, Classified Shredding Services (CSS).

The Wolk Foundation, Monroe County, and the Lifetime Assistance Foundation have been instrumental in the growth of CSS, joining together to support jobs and the increasing demands of the business. Their combined support has funded a new state-of-the-art shredder which shreds documents to 5/16th of an inch, meeting IRS document destruction requirements. CSS now provides document destruction services to over 800 locations, 10 of which are IRS locations. Thank you Wolk Foundation, Monroe County, and Lifetime Assistance Foundation for your generosity. For information about Classified Shredding Services, visit www.lifetimeassistance.org.

PICTURED: Kevin Head and James Branciforte
INSET: James Branciforte, Jeremy Wolk, David Wolk, Kevin Head, Harold Samloff, David Mattia, and County Executive Maggie Brooks

SANYS U Graduation

SANYS U - Self Advocates of New York State University – is a statewide program designed to educate individuals with developmental disabilities on self-advocacy and independence. Recently, nine individuals from Lifetime’s self-advocacy group – The Powers That Be – and ten individuals from Heritage Christian Services, attended an eight week session through SANYS U, hosted by Lifetime Assistance. The group lessons promoted confidence and relationship building through role playing and public speaking. Each of the participants saw tremendous growth, increased confidence, and skill development in public speaking, socialization, and advocacy.

In late spring, nineteen SANYS U participants proudly celebrated their graduation with family and friends at Lifetime’s Chili Complex. During the ceremony each participant received a certificate of completion and proudly spoke about their accomplishments. SANYS U graduate Janine Westa says, “I would recommend the SANYS U program to anyone. I feel I have grown a lot and now have the skills to help others and myself because of what I have learned.” For their presentation, the class used Lifetime Assistance as an acronym to describe what the agency means to them.

Congratulations graduates, you have a bright future ahead of you. We are very proud of each of you!

BACK ROW: Janine Westa, Naim Lewis, Dan Entress, Allison Pollot, Derek Lowry
FRONT ROW: Sherri Popovich, Donna Lovett and Jennifer Kelly
NOT PICTURED: Jason Belicove

Love
Independence
Family
Energy
Togetherness
Individual
Meaningful
Excellent
Acceptance
Support
Successful
Intelligent
Self-Advocacy
Talent
Ability
Natural
Community
Encouraging

www.lifetimeassistance.org
Devon Quinsland and Kerry Erb are a true testament to strength, love, and lifelong friendship. These remarkable young women originally met through mutual family friends as energetic five-year-olds and have since followed a path through life’s ups and downs that has kept them closely connected.

Both Devon and Kerry were born with developmental disabilities, and they have an extraordinary ability to listen, understand, and relate to each other in a unique way. Dr. LK Quinsland, Devon’s father, says, “The ladies know each other very well, in ways we can’t even comprehend.”

Although their paths have separated from time to time, Devon and Kerry have remained close. Dr. Quinsland remembers when the girls were reunited after being apart for a few years. When Devon was seven years old, her family learned that she had an exceptional ear for music.
After completion of her BOCES education and several years in Lifetime’s day program, her parents enrolled Devon into Cobblestone Arts Center. Coincidentally, on her first day, the family realized that her old friend Kerry was also attending Cobblestone! From that moment on, the girls have been inseparable and continue to enjoy the new skills and creativity that they are learning together.

When Devon turned 21, her parents researched several options for her continued care and education. Dr. Quinsland says, “We chose Lifetime Assistance because it was clear the services offered were of high quality and the staff was caring and professional.” Devon’s parents wanted her to have every opportunity and experience possible, including education and independence. For most of us, a natural progression into adulthood is moving out of our childhood home. Devon’s parents wanted her to experience that same independence, but with the necessary support available. They visited many potential homes, but the story was always the same; group homes are full and due to government cutbacks there are thousands of individuals waiting for placement, without any sign of openings in the near future.

Dr. Quinsland and his wife Anne VanGinkel decided to investigate a new opportunity for their daughter - one that would give Devon the ability to live with her best friend Kerry, while receiving the necessary care and support in each of their daily lives. Appreciating the quality of care Devon had received from Lifetime Assistance throughout the years,

Dr. Quinsland turned to the agency for assistance, and inquired about the possibility of the agency overseeing a home purchased by him and his wife. Devon and Kerry would share their home with a certified family care provider who would be available 24 hours a day to assist them as needed. With the support of the families and the Family Care team at Lifetime Assistance Inc., they researched similar models in other states and presented the idea of having a certified family care provider move into the ladies’ home, to the local office of the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities. Working with the Quinsland and Erb families, numerous meetings and discussions occurred to forge ahead with this new concept - now referred to as “Home and Life Sharing.”

The process of obtaining funding and state approval, locating a home and finding a qualified housemate took over two years. As this was a new concept in New York, the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities - who provide funding and certify the home – required countless meetings, months of negotiations, and ample due diligence to meet regulatory requirements.

In early spring, Devon, Kerry, and their puppy officially moved into their new home in Chili, where their care provider has her own suite, but is close by to care for the ladies. The families, Lifetime Assistance, and New York State are incredibly proud of this new Home and Life Sharing Opportunity. This new option has the potential to open many doors and help other individuals waiting for homes.

Congratulations on your new home Devon and Kerry!
Meet Jaqueline (Jacky) Hammond, an employee of the bakery at the Irondequoit Wegmans for over 3 years. Jacky’s smile and energy are contagious as she expertly organizes the preparation of the variety of bread and pastries to be baked. Jacky explains that she is working toward her future saying, “This job is perfect for me, because I love to cook and my ultimate goal is to go to culinary school.” Her job coach Mira McClain witnessed a tremendous transformation and growth in Jacky since she began with Lifetime’s Vocational Services in 2010.

Through training, goal setting, and open communication Jacky has made incredible progress in her work. “I’m most proud of Jacky for learning to become flexible and her willingness to take on new challenges every day,” Mira says. With the support of Mira, her family, coworkers, and manager at Wegmans, Jacky continues to grow both personally and professionally and has become a highly valued employee. Jeff Price, manager of the bakery, says, “Jacky comes in right on time with a positive attitude every day that she’s here.” A true team player, Jacky says, “I absolutely love my job here at Wegmans. I love being a part of this team, it feels like home.”

Over the years Wegmans has worked closely with Lifetime’s LAICO Industries in employing individuals with disabilities through the Project Search program. Wegmans currently employs 28 individuals with developmental disabilities from Lifetime Assistance in various positions at all levels. Several Lifetime employees have been with Wegmans for 20 years! Lifetime Assistance Employment Specialist, Carmela Whaley says, “As an employer, Wegmans has fundamentally provided individuals with the comprehensive training, tools and environment needed to create a culture of empowered employees.”

For more information about employing individuals with developmental disabilities, contact Lance Schoeps at (585) 426-4120 ext. 3407

PICTURED: Mira McClain & Jaqueline Hammond
United Way
Day of Caring 2014

An impressive 145 volunteers showed up for this year’s United Way Day of Caring. These generous volunteers offered their time and talents to help with projects such as weeding, planting flowers in the gardens, staining, painting, washing windows, yard care, and organizing basements and garages at various Lifetime sites and group residences throughout the community.

By participating in the United Way Day of Caring, businesses have an opportunity to support their communities, allowing employees to take time out of their busy schedules to spend time volunteering. Many thanks to the wonderful volunteers from Lawley Andolina Verdi Insurance, The Bonadio Group, Alert Protective Systems, Inc., Sean Wilcox, Adecco Staffing Solutions, Carestream Health, Eastman Kodak Company, C&S Companies, and ESL Federal Credit Union.
What comes to mind when you think of Lifetime Assistance?

Our hope is that you think of quality services, independence, integrity, and inclusion; that was the goal of our founding families in 1978, and 36 years later it still rings true. When I began my career at Lifetime Assistance a mere nine months ago, it was my goal to learn as much as I could about our programs, the individuals we serve, and their families. What I have learned is that Lifetime Assistance, Inc. is much more than an agency supporting individuals with developmental disabilities; it is a family filled with love, dedication, and determination. I have met some incredible people while visiting Lifetime’s homes and day programs; both individuals and employees.

Lifetime employees often go above and beyond for the individuals they support, ensuring they are truly offered the highest quality of services. Recently, the Chilton family shared with me their incredible story of genuine gratitude. A few months ago their son became very ill. Mrs. Chilton says, “The staff at Brick Schoolhouse saved our son’s life; if it wasn’t for their quick thinking he wouldn’t be here today. Our son was in distress and the staff acted immediately to get him the help he needed.” For the next six weeks Lifetime staff stayed by their son’s hospital bed, 24 hours a day, reading to him, comforting him and advocating on his behalf.

From the individuals we support, to the families and employees who support them, thank you. Please know you are making a difference every day.

Jamie Rada, Coordinator of Development
(585) 784-5002   |  jamie.rada@lifetimeassistance.org

Increasing Mobility & Accessibility

Lifetime Assistance is increasing independence and quality of life for the individuals we support. Through improved mobility and accessibility adaptations we can assure that we continue to offer the highest quality services in an environment that fosters independence, inclusion, respect and safety.

Appreciating Lifetime’s passion to always improve upon quality services, Bob and Jackie Sperandio awarded a $50,000 lead grant for state-of-the-art accessibility, mobility, and lift equipment, along with a $100,000 matching grant for funds awarded by new or returning donors to Lifetime Assistance. Their enthusiasm sparked the beginning of the Lifetime Assistance Foundation’s Mobility and Accessibility Campaign, and with continued community support, we are halfway to reaching our $380,000 goal.

For more information on supporting the Mobility and Accessibility Campaign, contact Jamie Rada at (585) 784-5002.

Thank you for your support.

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Mr. Patrick Burke, the Burke Group
Mrs. Suzanne Nasipak Chapman
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Mr. David Mattia
Sperandio Family Foundation
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Visit facebook.com/lifetimeassistance
15th Annual Lifetime Assistance Airport 5K Run & Walk

We could not have asked for a better day! The morning of the 15th annual Airport 5K was gorgeous; warm, sunny and not a cloud in the sky. Over 800 runners, walkers, and spectators showed their support and helped us raise a record breaking $114,000! County Executive Maggie Brooks and the Greater Rochester International Airport once again stepped up to partner on this exciting event, with County Executive Maggie Brooks officially starting the race for the 11th year in a row! Special guest Ryan Chalmers moved the crowd with his story of triumph and determination. Ryan is a true inspiration. Thank you to all of our sponsors and supporters. Stay tuned for the 16th Annual Lifetime Assistance Airport 5K, with new thrills on the runway!

Lifetime Society

The Lifetime Assistance Foundation is proud to offer the opportunity to leave legacy gifts through The Lifetime Society.

Members of The Lifetime Society help to ensure that the future is bright, and that people with developmental disabilities are always able to realize the opportunities of a lifetime. They realize that through their generous gifts, the Lifetime Assistance Foundation can carry out its charitable objective of enriching the lives of people with developmental disabilities for generations to come.

Wills

Remembering the Lifetime Assistance Foundation in your will is easy. You may leave a percentage or specify the dollar amount. Simply advise your attorney to include an estate gift specifically to “Lifetime Assistance Foundation, Inc.” in your will.

Life Insurance

Insurance policies initiated in the past may no longer be needed for family security. The gift of a paid-up policy may result in a substantial tax savings. Simply contact your insurance company and change the beneficiary to Lifetime Assistance Foundation, Inc. on an existing policy or you can purchase a new policy with Lifetime Assistance Foundation, Inc. as the new beneficiary.

Individual Retirement Account

The IRA that helps you and your spouse face retirement years can later be reduced by income, estate, and even excise taxes before it reaches your heirs. By naming the Lifetime Assistance Foundation, Inc. as the plan beneficiary, you can ensure that all of the assets will benefit Lifetime Assistance.

If you and your family are interested in joining the Lifetime Society and leaving a lasting legacy to perpetuate your commitment to individuals with developmental disabilities and to Lifetime Assistance, please contact the Lifetime Assistance Foundation at (585) 784-5002 or jamie.rada@lifetimeassistance.org.
Lifetime Nursing Talent

Congratulations to Our Nursing Graduates!

Marge Fitzsimmons
Lisa Ouellette
Teresa Shannon
Theresa Sulimowicz
Cafina Wilson

2014 Joanne Mills Award for Nursing Excellence

Dawn Heideman, R.N.

Congratulations to Dawn Heideman, R.N., recipient of the 2014 Joanne Mills Award for Nursing Excellence. This award is given each year to a registered nurse who shows exceptional dedication and compassion for the individuals in his or her care. Dawn has been described as “someone who makes extraordinary contributions to the individuals that she supports, and always advocates for what is best for them.”

Dawn exemplifies a commitment to excellence while empowering colleagues and staff in her work sites to also be their best. “She works tirelessly at each of her sites so that staff members are up to date and informed of all things new, changed, and improved,” says a colleague.

An individual who resides at one of Dawn’s residence sites says, “She is always very nice to me, knows a lot and always takes care of us.” Dawn supports the individuals who reside at Brick Schoolhouse Road, Ridge Road Apartments, and Traciann Drive, and has been contributing her outstanding talent and commitment to Lifetime Assistance for 24 years!

Top Honors for Ted Williams

The 2014 William B. Joslin Outstanding Performance Award recipients were honored during the New York State Individuals with Disabilities (NYSID) Annual Meeting in Saratoga Springs. Ted Williams, an employee at Lifetime’s LAICO Industries’ Classified Shredding Services, was among the eleven Western New Yorkers - 59 statewide - recognized through NYSID with the William B. Joslin Outstanding Performance Award.

“For 40 years, NYSID has been turning business opportunities into jobs for New Yorkers with disabilities, and we are proud to recognize this year’s 59 Joslin Outstanding Performers,” said Ron Romano, NYSID president & CEO. “They provide incredible examples of how much New York State benefits by having a workforce that is inclusive of persons with disabilities, particularly as NYSID celebrates ‘40 Years of Looking Forward’ during this upcoming anniversary year.”

NYSID’s annual Joslin Awards Program celebrates excellence in Preferred Source employment by New Yorkers with disabilities. Ted was recognized for his outstanding team work, leadership and performance on the job. Congratulations Ted!

For more information on the Joslin Awards, including videos of previous award recipients, visit www.nysid.org/joslin.cfm.
Residents Kevin, Mike, Jamie, John, and Boyd make a team effort of keeping their home a clean and happy place. John says, “I love this home with all my heart!”

The house sparkles with energy and activity as the gentlemen proudly share their favorite pastimes of playing the drums and the guitar, assembling puzzles, working out and playing games in the house “man cave,” attending community events, and volunteering their time with the community recreational center. Kevin says, “Our staff and my friends here make it a great home for me.” Jamie points out, “I really like the staff. They’re always here to help us.” In addition to the daily support received from each other and the staff, most of the gentlemen enjoy weekends with their families.

A well-acquainted group, nearly all have lived together in the Idlewood home since 2009. Residence manager Marcy Johnson says, “I can honestly say for myself and the staff here that the house is not just a workplace for us, but a home full of wonderful men who have invited us in to share their lives. We find ourselves “doing life together,” sharing joys, sorrows, accomplishments, disappointments and challenges, knowing our hearts are being knit together day by day. We are learning as we journey together, discovering our lives are so enriched from having each other.”

PICTURED TOP: Mike Peworchik, Jamie Auburn, Boyd Shaffer, Kevin Head, and John Himmelsbach.

PICTURED MIDDLE: Jamie Auburn and John Himmelsbach

PICTURED BOTTOM: Boyd Shaffer

Welcome to Idlewood Drive, a home full of life, love, and a social calendar to meet every interest!

www.lifetimeassistance.org
Realizing the Opportunities of a Lifetime

For the first six years of her life, Cori Piels lived in Bombay India; five of those years were spent in an orphanage, after her parents passed away. In October of 1991, Cori was adopted by Karalee, who was thrilled to open her heart and home to her new daughter.

When Cori arrived in America she had very few language skills and poor muscle tone in her legs. Karalee immediately began advocating for her daughter to receive the services she needed to improve her development. With the love and support of her new family and incredible inner strength, Cori began making great strides.

In 2004 Cori joined the Special Olympics team and became a Global Messenger Ambassador. She has attended many special events throughout the Rochester area, and has spoken to the United Nations Social Development Committee about inclusion of persons with disabilities.

Three years ago Cori made the decision to go back to school. She signed up for a two-year achievement award certificate program at Monroe Community College (MCC). The program was initiated through the partnership of Lifetime Assistance and MCC, with funding through Excellus BlueCross BlueShield and TPSID, a federal grant for students with intellectual disabilities. Cori took classes at MCC, worked with peer mentors for two and a half years, and completed four internships, including the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office and the Rochester AmeriCorps – a federally funded community services program that is sponsored by MCC and housed at its Damon City Campus. In June, Cori celebrated her graduation from MCC’s certificate program with her classmates, family and friends. She now has a full time position with AmeriCorps as an Inclusion Specialist. Cori will be featured in an upcoming documentary through the Institute for Innovative Transition at the University of Rochester that will premiere within the next few months.

Congratulations on all of your achievements, Cori!

Visit facebook.com/lifetimeassistance
Advocates from across New York State gathered at the Albany State Capitol Building for the May 20th Flag Rally to speak out and raise awareness of the plight of 12,000 people on the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) state-wide residential registry of individuals awaiting residential services and supports.

Family Advocates United in association with DDAWNY Family Committee and other advocacy groups across NYS gathered for the state-wide event, organized to bring attention to the growing crisis in the lack of availability of residential options for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Congressman Chris Collins, representative of New York’s 27th Congressional District visited LAICO Industries and Classified Shredding and Scanning Services in June to show his wholehearted support of Work Centers, a very important public policy matter affecting the quality of life for many New York State citizens with developmental disabilities, and their families.

BACK ROW: Congressman Chris Collins
FRONT ROW: Quintin Christian, Kelly Smithgall, Stephen Rose
INSET: Carolyn Fose, James Branciforte, Congressman Chris Collins

Flag Rally in Support of Residential Choices
Thank You to Our Donors

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You’ve Soared to New Heights.
Recently raising over $114,000 in June’s Airport 5K, Lifetime Assistance continues to lead our community with comprehensive services for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Thank you for helping foster independence and self-reliance in people with special needs. You are quite heroic in our eyes.
LIFETIME ASSISTANCE RECOGNIZES OUR
DIRECT-SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS

The heart & soul
OF OUR ORGANIZATION.

We applaud your energy, dedication, work ethic, and caring hearts.
2014 ANNUAL APPEAL

It’s Your Time
to Help Them Realize the
Opportunities of a Lifetime

Visit www.lifetimeassistance.org
and click donate to start changing lives today.