



Staff Service Awards – 10 Years

Nancy Alvarez, Educational Assistant, Children’s Learning Center

Over the past 10 years, Nancy has been dedicated to the students of CLC. Nancy was hired in 2009 as an Educational Assistant. Nancy ensures that the students in CLC achieve their maximum potential by being patient, positive, and respectful and by making appropriate decisions based on circumstances and instruction. She is kind, hardworking, caring, and a team player. Nancy goes above and beyond her duties and often spends her spare time at home creating theme-related educational activities and assists with the preparation for different instructional activities.

Nancy’s family is very important to her and she loves spending time with her husband, Herbert, and her two children, Kenneth and Katherine. Kenneth attends SUNY Binghamton and wants to pursue a major in the medical field. Katherine attends the Fashion Institute of Technology and wants to become a fashion designer. Nancy loves cooking and shopping for bargains. She also loves watching Mr. Bean movies.

Nancy is an asset in CLC. Congratulations on 10 years of dedication and commitment to the students!

Farah Bonitor, Direct Support Professional, CP Bayville

Over the past 10 years, Farah has been a part of the CP Bayville team. Her passion and compassion for the individuals who live at Bayville is genuine. She comes to work with a smile on her face and is in good spirits. She does not allow anything to get in the way of her providing quality care. While Farah does not drive, she still finds the means to get to work. She loves and appreciates the individuals, which is evident in her interactions with them and the smile she leaves on their faces. Over the years, Farah has proven herself to be an asset in the dining room as assistant due to her ability to safely and properly feed even the most difficult residents. Even when she is not assigned to be in this area, you will always find her assisting, cleaning, helping, until every resident has finished. Farah recently went to a per-diem status, when she comes to work her attitude remains the same.

Outside of working with the Bayville residents, Farah’s time is spent nurturing her four children. She is passionate when she speaks about her unwavering love and devotion to her family and church.

Thank you Farah for everything you do.

Symong Choi, Physical Therapist Supervisor, Children's Learning Center

Symong began his career at CP Nassau in June of 2010 as a staff physical therapist. His many skills and expertise in physical therapy were quickly recognized. Symong soon became the senior PT in the department as his intelligence and personable manner endeared him to all the CLC staff. If you needed something done Symong could do it, quickly, quietly, and without any fuss or muss. Symong became the PT Department Supervisor in September of 2018 and he made the transition seamlessly. Symong is soft spoken and not one to toot his own horn. He works to make his staff better and promotes their accomplishments above his. His humor and always cheerful attitude are appreciated by all. His leadership and management skills keep the PT department and CLC running smoothly throughout the year.

Symong lives with his wife Aeri, his son Ryan, 11, and the twins Charlotte and Chloe, 9. Symong has brought his family to CP Nassau events and even had his daughters participate as models for PR events. Symong spends his weekend with American Presbyterian Church of Queens, where he is an Elder. He runs trips and youth groups for his church.

Thank you Symong for your 10 years of service to CP Nassau and CLC. You have made a difference!

Deniesha Clarke, Secretary-Programmatic, Children's Learning Center

Deniesha Clarke has been a part of The Children's Learning Center for the past 10 years. She is a dedicated employee who exhibits a strong commitment to the school, and its philosophy. Deniesha has an excellent attitude, is upbeat, friendly and positive. She exhibits these traits with all staff, consumers, and students. Deniesha is flexible, cooperative, a team player and always willing to do whatever it takes to get the job done. Deniesha is extremely proficient, exhibits excellent judgment and confidence handling many matters when supervisors are out of the office. When in the school office, Deniesha is patient with students, families, and district personnel. She is aware of the different procedures for completing tasks making it easy to form a cohesive team among her peers.

When not at work Deniesha enjoys spending time with her husband, Kirk, son Liam and her large extended family. She enjoys traveling, eating and shopping at Home Goods!

We congratulate Deniesha on her 10 years at CLC and thank her for being an asset to our school and making a difference.

Michelle Cresante, Nurse Educator, Quality Assurance

Michelle began working at CP Nassau as an RN in the Adult Day Services nursing office in September 2010 where she provided gentle loving care to all of the individuals that she cared for each day. In January 2019, Michelle took a new position as the Quality Assurance Department (QA) Nurse Educator. Michelle is the AMAP trainer for the Agency and also participates in investigations and QA reviews within all areas. The QA Department relies on

Michelle to provide an important medical perspective. Michelle has raised all of the QA processes to a higher level of thoroughness with the expertise that she brings.

Michelle married her husband Joe in 2011. Michelle and Joe have two adorable daughters Gianna, age 6 and Olivia, age 4. Michelle spends her free time running the kids to soccer, gymnastics, dance, lacrosse, swim, girl scouts, etc. Michelle does not have much extra time for hobbies but does enjoy spending time at the beach and with her family.

Michelle is a pleasure to work with thanks to her positive outlook and approaches to her role at CP Nassau. Thank you Michelle for 10 years of providing the highest quality of services!

Patrick Elois, Residence Manager, Residential Services

Patrick started his career at CP Nassau 10 years ago as an Assistant Manager at the Abbey Lane IRA. He subsequently transferred to the Diesman residence and, due to his hard work and skill, he was promoted to Residence Manager. Since his promotion Patrick has supervised the Diesman residence, home to seven gentlemen. It hasn't always been easy, and Patrick has faced many challenges, but no matter what challenges come his way Patrick accepts them head on. Patrick has often been called a one man show and the two words you will never hear him say are "I can't".

When he is not at the residence, Patrick enjoys spending his time modifying his cars and tending to his gardens. He is active in his church as a first elder and is a dedicated husband and father of three. Patrick is also an accomplished musician who performs at area churches.

We appreciate Patrick's dedication and work ethic. It is with a great deal of appreciation that we congratulate Patrick on his 10 years of service to CP Nassau.

Loretta England, Occupational Therapist Assistant, Children's Learning Center

Loretta England is celebrating 10 years of dedicated service to CP Nassau and CLC. Loretta began her career working in the adult program and later brought her skills over to the CLC students. Loretta is the total package: she provides skilled therapies to both preschoolers and school-age students, shares her clinical expertise with colleagues, and manages the power mobility program. Loretta is a caring, patient, kind, and caring therapist. She goes above and beyond to help anyone in need. She is truly a team player who is dependable and flexible in all situations.

Loretta spends her hours away from work with her two beautiful girls, Layla and Lauren, and her wonderful husband, Vincil. She generously shares cakes provided by her husband and bakes the most deliciously seasoned pretzels. Loretta is a Cricut maven and loves to work on arts-and-craft projects including designing t-shirts. Loretta centers herself around her family, her home, and her church.

Loretta is truly an asset to the entire Agency. We congratulate Loretta for 10 years of dedicated, professional, and fabulous service.

Marie Francillion, Direct Support Professional, Chapman Avenue Residence

Marie began her career at CP Nassau at the Plainview IRA in 2010. Marie worked at the Plainview and Seaford residences until 2019, when she transferred to the Chapman Avenue IRA. Marie quickly became a favorite staff of the individuals. Marie is a mentor for the new staff and can be counted on to share her knowledge with them. Marie is reliable and can be depended on for emergency coverage. Marie genuinely cares about all the the people who live at Chapman. Marie's dedication was proven during the COVID pandemic. Marie stayed at Chapman during the quarantine and provided excellent direct care to the individuals who were COVID positive, without concern for her own personal safety. Marie was part of the team who cared for one of the individuals who was very ill with COVID until he had to be hospitalized.

In her personal life, Marie is the proud parent of a daughter who recently graduated from college as a registered nurse.

We thank and congratulate Marie for her 10 years of service.

Junie Frederique, Direct Support Professional, Arrow Lane Residence

Junie joined CP Nassau's residential program in December of 2009 and she has worked at the Arrow Lane residence since its opening in 2010. For the past 10 years Junie has dedicated herself to meeting the needs of the residence and the people who live there.

Junie worked the overnight shift for many years and she recently changed her schedule to care for her mother. Junie's devotion for taking care of those in need is not limited to her family, but extends to her job. She does an amazing job and plays an integral part in the lives of the people she supports with her caring and polite attitude. She keeps everyone engaged in activities and ADL care. Most recently she assisted in starting a garden. Junie uses her time with everyone in the garden as a way of teaching them about nature and life skills. Junie is always there for her co-workers and the people living in the residence by assisting whenever she can.

We congratulate Junie on 10 years of service.

Karen Grant, Assistant Residence Manager, Residential Services

Karen Grant began her career with CP Nassau in October 2010, working in the Wantagh Day Habilitation program as an Assistant Community Coach. In January 2015, Karen was looking for a change and switched over to the Adult Day Service program as a Classroom Aide. Soon after, she was promoted to Lead Coach. In October 2018, Karen returned to the Wantagh Day Habilitation Service program, where her heart never left. In October 2020, Karen was promoted to the Assistant Residence Manager of the Greenvale IRA. Karen puts extra time into ensuring

each individual gets what they need and want. Karen enjoys one-on-one interactions with each individual. During the pandemic, Karen worked tirelessly at the Arrow Lane residence caring for the individuals who had COVID. Karen continues to be an asset to the Agency, the individuals, and the families.

Karen loves being a wife and parent to her two children, Brook and London.

Congratulations, Karen, for completing 10 terrific years of service. We look forward to your continued success with the Agency.

Karen Greenwood, Registered Nurse, Residential Services

Karen Greenwood joined CP Nassau as a Registered Nurse in April 2010. Karen began her employment at the Seaford residence and then joined the teams at Chapman, Plainview and Arrow Lane. If any individual becomes sick or goes to the hospital, Karen will show up at a moment's notice, and stay until she feels the individual is safe. Karen is a strong advocate for the individuals. AMAP staff in Karen's residences don't make medication errors otherwise Karen will review the whole AMAP course with them.

Karen is a deeply religious woman who is a minister at her church. Karen is happily married to Colin. She has a twin sister, and is one of ten children. She is always available to spend time and mentor her many nieces and nephews.

We are fortunate to have Karen working at CP Nassau and would like to congratulate her as she celebrates her 10 year anniversary with CP Nassau. Thank you for your outstanding dedication and support to the individuals and staff during the pandemic.

Micheline Jerome, Educational Assistant, Children's Learning Center

Hard-working, dedicated, and committed are a few words that might highlight the best attributes of a great team member. We are lucky at CLC! Micheline is respected by her co-workers and they will tell you so. Micheline was a dedicated member of the kitchen staff before coming to CLC. Her hard work never went unnoticed to me as she hustled throughout the busy hallways of the school, delivering lunches. Her infectious smile and warm presence is what makes her so approachable. Micheline goes above and beyond any expectation set in our school. She is more than accommodating to meet all the needs of all of our students, as well as to her other colleagues in the classroom.

Micheline is a dedicated follower to her faith and enjoys cooking and spending time with her husband, Jean, and her two daughters, Rebeca and Rachel.

All the best and all my thanks to a very important person to CLC, thank you for everything Micheline! Congratulations on 10 years of service.

Phelder Louissant, Direct Support Professional, CP Bayville

Phelder has been a part of the CP Nassau Bayville family for the past 10 years. He is well liked by all of his peers and has a great personality. He loves his New York Knicks and he often watches the games with the consumers. He is a very loyal and dedicated to the individuals he serves, providing the highest quality of care to all. Phelder is the first to do the alternate positioning task by ensuring all of the individuals with poor skin integrity are taken out of their wheelchairs as per doctor's orders, as well as training the new DSP staff on the ins and outs of skin integrity and the importance of alternate positioning. On any given day one will find Phelder assisting consumers on their medical appointments or helping with alternate positioning. He also trains new staff on understanding the protocols such as goal books, repositioning logs, feeding, etc.

Phelder is a great asset to CP Nassau Bayville and we are celebrating his 10 years of amazing service. We are lucky to have you. Congratulations!

Oneida Magana, Matron, Maintenance

Oneida began working at CP Nassau in 2010 as the matron. Her responsibilities include stocking the bathrooms every morning, clean-ups throughout the day and anything in between. She loves to see all the students, participants and staff in the hallways and is always greeted by them in a warm and familiar fashion. Oneida sings while she works and makes sure her work is done quickly and efficiently. She enjoys meeting new staff and loves to hear about staff's families and accomplishments.

Oneida is the proud mother of two sons, Deonicio and Ezequiel, always sharing about their latest adventures and achievements. Every year, she will take a trip to El Salvador to visit family and enjoy all the delicacies the season has to offer. For Oneida, the weekends are for family and shopping. She never fails to find a good deal at her favorite stores and loves to host family and friends where stories are shared over a cup of coffee and some Salvadoran sweet bread.

Congratulations on your 10 years of service at CP Nassau. We thank you for your dedication and hard work at the Agency.

Patricia Maher, Registered Nurse, Residential Services

Patricia Maher also known to her friends and colleagues as Trish joined CP Nassau as a Registered Nurse in October 2010. Trish has worked at 350 Washington, Chapman, Diesman, and finally settled in at Adams Gate, Richmond Road and Wantagh residence. Trish's strength is her knowledge of the individuals' medical and nursing needs in many of the residential programs. It's not a surprise to find Trish at work early in the morning, late at night or weekends conducting AMAP pouring to certify staff.

Trish is a woman of faith and a dedicated mother to her daughter, Jewels. Most weekends, Trish is spending time with her mother, siblings and her niece. If there is a stray cat, Trish will rescue any stray or injured cat, and provide them with a good home. Trish is an essential staff member of the Residential nursing and the residences. During the pandemic, Trish provided exceptional care to the individuals and support to the staff.

Congratulations Patricia, on your 10 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!

Guinette Matthews, Direct Support Professional, 387 Washington Avenue Residence

Guinette has been part of the 387 Washington Avenue. ICF for the past 10 years as a DSP. Guinette is an excellent worker, a great team player, and is always willing to come in early or stay late to help out. Guinette always arrives to the residence ready to work with a cheerful smile. She is renowned for her enthusiasm and the positive energy that she consistently displays while on the job. Guinette takes great pride in not only meeting goals but in surpassing them. During this pandemic she has been a supportive and a valued member of the 387 ICF team. Her dedication to the job has been noticed and appreciated by the individuals, their family members and her co-workers.

Guinette is a wonderful mother and is very involved with her grandchildren. She enjoys traveling with her family and loves going back to Trinidad for Carnival.

Guinette's dedication throughout the years has made a real difference in the lives of the individuals and their families and for that we give our thanks and appreciation.

Dana Moore, Residential Manager, Residential Services

Dana started her career with CP Nassau in CLC. She went on to work in the Adult Day program and embarked on a career in the Residential Services Department as Assistant Manager at the 350 residence which proved to be successful and earned her the Manager position. She is a well rounded individual that dedicates the time and effort necessary to achieve results. She is known for being assertive and direct, but fair. She assumes personal responsibility and will reset her priorities. She doesn't miss an opportunity to keep the décor of the house seasonal and with the help of the residents' personable. She is intentional in her ability to do what is necessary to ensure that they are healthy, satisfied, and happy.

She has two beautiful children, Cydney attended Herkimer College in NY and Caleb is completing his High School Diploma. In her spare time, she enjoys cleaning, watching Tyler Perry shows, and the smell of her scented candles.

Congratulations Dana on your accomplishments over the last 10 years.

Nadege Prochet, Direct Support Professional, CP Bayville

Nadege Prochet has worked with Cerebral Palsy of Bayville since 2011, jumping right in to assist and dedicate herself to the 48 people who reside at Bayville. Nadege's dedication to the individuals she serves shows daily on the faces of all the residents, including those residents who can be behaviorally challenging. These individuals have found her hard work on their behalf through strong advocacy a great relief. Through her efforts Nadege has also garnered the respect of her peers and supervisors.

Nadege's is also dedicated to her son Zachary. As she ensures, 16 year old Zachary has the best education, the best life and some extra pocket money as he is so far away in her home country of Haiti and she cannot be there physically to personally dote over him, so this task falls upon Zachary's Grandmother. Nadege video calls him at every possible moment within her busy work life.

CP Bayville residents and supervisors are glad to have Nadege and her dedication and loyalty
Thank you dégè

Doreen Simpson, Educational Assistant, Children's Learning Center

During her time here, Miss Doreen has cultivated longstanding relationships with staff, students and families. Students enjoy working with Miss Doreen and will smile and become excited when she greets them. Each day, our class looks forward to Miss Doreen's energy, humor and dance moves! We love dancing to some of our familiar songs in class, such as "September" by Earth Wind and Fire. Students and staff alike can't help but smile, laugh and join in during our dance parties when Miss Doreen begins her famous two-step!

Miss Doreen provides excellent hands on care for our children and maintains their comfort throughout the day utilizing her natural parental instincts. Miss Doreen has a high school aged daughter who has her mother's sense of style, energy and compassion for others. Beyond caring for our student's daily needs, Miss Doreen has completed trainings and participated in professional development. A natural teacher, Miss Doreen displays patience and kindness, balanced with appropriate educational interventions based on student needs.

On behalf of the students here at CLC, I would like to thank Miss Doreen for her dedication to our mission to provide the highest quality services for our students.

Bernita Smith, Community Coach, Life Options

Bernita started in the Life Options program at CP Nassau in 2010 as a Community Aide. Over the years we've watched Bernita grow into a leader and she is now a Community Coach 2. Bernita is also a driver for transportation and her priority is to get the guys here safe and sound every day. Bernita is able to adapt to change and is good at brainstorming ideas for change. She will also not hesitate to ask for clarification when necessary. During the pandemic, Bernita worked in the "Safe House" as an AMAP staff for nursing, taught classes on zoom, and is now a

lead in her cluster. Bernita was a great asset during the pandemic. Her dependability and competency in her AMAP skills was a great help and relief to our nursing staff during that extremely trying time. Bernita also works in the Greenvale residence and the 350 residence.

Bernita's greatest love and priority is her son Errol who recently turned 8 years old last June. As she celebrated his birthday, he can celebrate his mother's 10 year anniversary at CP Nassau.

Congratulations Bernita, on your 10 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!

Rebecca Taro, Dining Room Coordinator, Life Options

Rebecca started at CP Nassau in 2010 as a Classroom Aide in the Life Options program. Since then she's held many positions including Activity Aide, Senior Classroom Aide, and currently Dining Room Coordinator. She's excelled at every position she's held and is a staff member that anyone would want on their team. Due to her upbeat, can do attitude we have asked Rebecca to take on an additional responsibility as a trainer in our 4th day training regiment for new employees and for our annual staff training day. Her work ethic and competency is an excellent example for new and current employees alike. These, however, are not Rebecca's only talents. She is also one of the Life Options' karaoke stars and has performed in many talent shows. She is a real asset to the Life Options program!

Rebecca's love story started here at CP Nassau where she met her husband Melquan and married in January 2020. Together they have two beautiful girls, Adrienne who is 3 years old and Madison who is 1 year old.

Congratulations Rebecca on your 10 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!

Mary Victor-Alize, Direct Support Professional, CP Bayville

Mary Victor has been a part of the CP Nassau Bayville team for the past 10 years. Mary is a dedicated DSP and a mainstay on the overnight shift. Mary is loyal to the consumers that she cares for and provides them with the best quality of care. Mary is fun to be around and the staff and consumers alike all adore her. When one sees Mary she is never without a smile on her face and always has a positive attitude. Mary is always ready and willing to provide the overnight coverage at the hospital when needed. While at the hospital, Mary will always make sure that the resident is safe, comfortable and being provided with the best quality of care. Mary truly cares for each and every resident that she comes in contact with. She always makes sure that the residents look good in the morning and are dressed appropriately.

Mary is a great asset to CP Nassau Bayville and we are celebrating her 10 years of outstanding service, we are lucky to have you. Congratulations!!

Kaliq Washington, Educational Assistant, Children's Learning Center

Kaliq Washington also known as 'Big Papa Puff' has been working for CLC for 10 years! He has received the Joyce Ackin Award and Kindness Award of 2018. He believes in the philosophy that every student should be as independent as possible. Kaliq believes in exposing our students to real life experiences and understands when to let our students "fly out of the nest" and when to lend a helping hand. He has put on his "Papa Puff Hat" to bake for several fundraisers and has made many delicious dishes for special occasions. Kaliq has funded several trips and has negotiated on merchandise for raffle sales. He even dressed up as a Vera Bradley pocketbook to walk around the mall for donations! Kaliq has been awarded several Jovia Grants to purchase cooking equipment for the classroom.

When not working, Kaliq believes in the finer things in life with his family. He loves traveling across country and other exotic places. He enjoys fishing and all the things associated such as country deep fish fries or grilling. He also loves adding to his Kicks collection.

I would like to Thank Kaliq for his services and dedication to CLC.



Staff Service Awards – 15 Years

Angela Ankobiah Physical Therapist Assistant, Children’s Learning Center

Angela has been a PTA at CLC for the past 15 years. She is a dedicated therapist who continually demonstrates a desire to learn and grow, not just as a therapist but as a person as well. Her hunger for learning is a reminder to all those around her, that no matter what stage you are in life, we can always learn to improve ourselves. Angela is always willing to lend a hand or participate in department and school wide activities. She is well respected by her peers and coworkers. Angela is someone you can turn to for advice or to lend an ear. She is always encouraging others around her through her words and deeds.

Outside of CLC, Angela enjoys spending time with her family, her husband Nana and her children Benjamin and Christine. She dedicates her time to teach her children not only academics but also how to live a gospel centered life.

Congratulations Angela, on your 15 years of service to the school and to CP Nassau.

Patricia Black, Medical Aide, Nursing

Patty began her career at CP Nassau in September 2004. Patty started as a Community Coach in Site Based Day Hab and worked in several different classrooms. A few years later Patty then transferred to the Life Options program also as a Community Coach. She took many of the Life Options participants into the community setting and visited various local shops, stores and eateries. Finally in November of 2010 the Nursing Department created a medical aide position and Patty was hired as one of the first medical aides for the Nursing Department in Adult Day program. Patty dispenses medications on the medication cart, provides G-tube feedings, nebulizer treatments, and various other care services. She within the past two years also goes over to the Bayville location and works as a medical aide there as well.

Patty enjoys spending time with her husband Vernon and 4 year old son Aiden.

Congratulations and thank you for your 15 years of service to CP Nassau.

Tamara Bryant, Direct Support Professional, Arrow Lane Residence

Tamara joined the Residential Services Department at CP Nassau in 2006 as a DSP at the Plainview residence. In 2020 she transferred to the Arrow Lane residence in Hicksville. Tamara was recognized by the Agency for her exemplary work in 2017 and she has continued to live up

to her reputation of being one of the most caring and patient direct support professionals in the department. Her professional demeanor is stellar and it shows through the way she works with her co-workers as well as the people she cares for she is always polite and considerate. Tamara has a can do attitude and she makes sure that the needs of the program are met, even if it requires her to stay past her designated hours.

Tamara's love for helping people never stops. She is currently looking into pursuing a career in nursing so that she can do even more to help people in need. She continues to be active in her church and her children's lives.

We appreciate and thank Tamara for 15 years of service.

Tirra Candies, Direct Support Professional, Greenvale Residence

Tirra started her career at CP Nassau in 2006, working for the Residential Services Department as a Direct Support Professional for the Plainview IRA. During the years, Tirra has re-located to several difference residences until she found her true calling at the Greenvale residence. Tirra's consistently goes the extra mile to make sure the individuals are always safe and happy. Tirra's main concern is the health and well-being of the individuals and she always has their best interest at heart. She is helpful not only to the individuals but to her co-workers and supervisors as well. Tirra has clearly become a vital part of the Greenvale team during her years of service.

In her personal life Tirra is getting ready to welcome her first child with her husband. In her free time Tirra is very involved with her family and church.

Tirra's dedication throughout the years has made a real difference in the lives of the individuals and their families and for that we congratulate Tirra for completing 15 terrific years.

Jean Charles, Maintenance Worker, Residential Services

Jean began his career at CP Nassau in November 2004 at the Chapman Avenue residence as a Direct Support Professional. Jean transferred to the Adams Gate residence in November 2005. Jean makes himself available to help in emergency situations, during inclement weather and when an extra pair of hands is needed to get the job done. His pleasant demeanor and warm interactions with the individuals he works with are very endearing. Jean is known for treating everyone with respect and dignity.

In August 2011, Jean was looking for a new challenge and decided to join the Residential Services Maintenance Department, while still remaining on-call to work in the residential programs. Jean's responsibilities vary from day to day based on the needs of the program. Jean had stated that the reason he likes his job so much is that every day the work is different and he never gets bored.

Although Jean has worn many hats his energy level never diminishes nor does his smile. Jean is loved by all of the individuals that he works with. His desire to get the job done right the first time is commendable. Jean's supervisors and co-workers wish him much success in the future.

Cheryl Cobb, Teaching Assistant & Training Coach, Children's Learning Center

Cheryl Cobb is well-known by many at CLC. She started working as an Educational Assistant on August 9, 2005, and several years later became a Teacher Assistant. Cheryl is also a bussing supervisor. She also led the dance team as a co-captain and step team as a captain for many years. Her love for the students is evident in all she does. Cheryl brings her creativity to the classroom as well. She enjoys working on the bulletin boards and doing various science experiments with the children.

Cheryl is a hard working woman, who also works a second job part-time in the evenings. During Cheryl's spare time she enjoys dancing, singing, preparing and eating foods from various cultures and most of all, spending time with her family and friends. She shares many of her free moments with her mom, children and grandchildren. Cheryl also loves to travel and enjoys the outdoors.

Congratulations Cheryl on all your accomplishments here at CLC and for all the time, energy and love you put into your work.

Laura D'Amico, Supervising Psychologist-Article 16/28 & Adult Day Programs

We are fortunate that Dr. D'Amico has chosen to work at CP Nassau not once, but twice in her extensive career treating our adult and child participants. We are grateful she decided to make CP Nassau her work home, because when she's not scheduled with clients of her own, she is busy supporting our clinical team through the ups and downs of OPWDD regs. Laura continually exhibits an admiral level of empathy, positivity, and motivation that undoubtedly influences not only those she treats, but those who work so closely to her. Time and time again she voluntarily goes above and beyond, employing an abundance of patience as she helps individuals tackle the many obstacles of life to find their path towards healing.

Laura loves her family life, cycles for fitness, and never truly stops supporting her clients therapeutically even on her days off. She is mom to four children: Brad, Juliana, Jameson and Angelina, all approaching adulthood. They are the major joys of her life.

Congratulations Laura and thank you for all your years of service!

Terrel Davis-Wilson, Payroll Assistant, Human Resources

Terrel came to CP Nassau in March of 2006. Terrel was originally hired to be the Agency's receptionist and later was promoted to Payroll Assistant in 2018. Terrel joined payroll with abundant experience in tax preparations and filing. Terrel is open to learning new things; She

has set goals for herself and is driven to be successful and to grow personally and professionally. Terrel is very helpful when our employees are confused about payroll matters. She understands how seriously people take their paychecks. Terrel's calm, professional demeanor has always enabled her to smoothly handle issues and get the job done.

Outside of CP Nassau, Terrel is also motivated and inspired by her daughter Chasiti, who is as driven as she is. Her daughter recently purchased a home on Long Island with her fiancé William, whom she will marry in August 2021. Terrel is a sewing expert and has shared her sewing talents with the Agency. Terrel is an excellent cook and makes turkey wings that are to die for. Lastly, travelling and shopping is something that she enjoys, and you will find her doing as often as she can.

Terrel we all thank you for all that you do in payroll and CP Nassau each and every day.

Rachel Diaz, Director of Nursing, Nursing

Rachel Diaz joined CP Nassau as a RN 15 years ago and very quickly proved to be a tremendous asset. Rachel's numerous strengths maintained efficient and enthusiastic nursing offices at the Center and Oceanside for a decade. Rachel is a consummate professional who always looks for the win. She is a strong advocate for her nurses while keeping the big picture of the Agency in sight. Two years ago, when CP Bayville was in need of a Director of Nursing, all eyes were on Rachel to add this new role to her existing responsibilities. Rachel quickly realized how special Bayville is – both residents and staff! Then the pandemic hit hard and Rachel truly demonstrated her dedication and commitment to keep our residents healthy and safe. On a daily basis, Rachel found herself covered in PPEs, providing hands on care and professionally handling the high level of anxiety while maintaining her work ethic. In addition, she carried her admirable traits to her staff around her. True leadership! How do you begin to say thank you for helping to save people's lives?

Then, in the middle of the pandemic crisis, there was a ray of sunshine and it glittered off a beautiful ring Rachel and Billy were engaged! Congratulations and wishing you both a wonderful future!

It is beyond a pleasure working with Rachel. To say you make a difference is a significant understatement! Thank you.

Jeanine Dossous, Educational Assistant, Children's Learning Center

Jeanine has worked at CLC for 15 years. In her time at CLC, she has worked with students of all ages in several different classroom environments. No matter where Miss Jeanine works, she is always a valued member of the classroom team. She not only makes sure all students are prepared and ready to learn, but she is a big part of making sure the classroom environment are set up, clean and ready for the students to take on a new day of learning! Miss Jeanine has a serious, but fun work ethic that she tries to teach to other staff members and even the students,

which results in many positive changes in the classroom. Under Miss Jeanine's watch, students are always involved in classroom activities or focused on learning.

When not working, Miss Jeanine enjoys spending time with family, her two successful adult children, and her grandson. Jeanine also enjoys traveling to beautiful places and relaxing.

Congratulations on 15 years Jeanine! CLC and the class would not be the same without you!

Tracy Doxey, Assistant Director of Quality Assurance

Tracy's career at CP Nassau started in 2006 as a Quality Assurance/Investigator and within a short period of time she was promoted to Coordinator of Quality Assurance. Tracy's leadership skills helped to define QA's role across various departments. In 2016 Tracy became one of the CP Nassau's first Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL) Person Centered Certified Trainer. In 2017 Tracy's continued achievements led to her becoming the first Assistant Director of the Quality Assurance Department. Whether it's meeting with the self advocates, serving as Co-Chairperson of the Human Rights Committee, or as a member of the Agency's Wellness Committee, Tracy can always be counted on to generate quality results.

Tracy and her husband of 19 years Townsend have two teenage children; their daughter Holly is 17 and their son Townsend, aka TJ, is 13. An active family, considered by some "weekend warriors," enjoy spending their weekends engaged in quality time together either camping, skiing, bike riding or visiting amusement parks.

Tracy's constant pursuit of quality has contributed greatly to the QA department's achievements in providing the highest quality of services.

Thank you Tracy for your 15 years of dedicated service to CP Nassau.

Felicia Epps, Educational Assistant, Children's Learning Center

Ms. Felicia has spent years working hard and trying to make sure that the students in her classrooms experience the best day possible. She is always making sure that all of "the little things get done". Her pride in each student's accomplishments is apparent. Felicia always goes above and beyond for her students.

Ms. Felicia's positive attitude and modeling has rubbed off on everyone and has helped to make the students' experiences with our faculty even better. Ms. Felicia truly cares about the students in our class as if they were her own children. For example, you often see Felicia helping students sit in regular classroom chairs with support.

Ms. Felicia has a heart of gold. She is devoted to her family, friends, our students and their families. She goes above and beyond to make the students at CLC have a safe and comfortable educational experience. Ms. Felicia has shown herself to be conscientious in the fulfillment of

her duties and sensitive to her student's needs. Congratulations Felicia and thank you for making a difference here at CLC!

Rob Escolastico, Medical Counselor, CP Bayville

Rob Escolastico started at CP Bayville as a Recreation Therapist in 2006; he now works as a Medical Counselor for the Bayville Nursing Department. Rob is loved by all the individuals here at Bayville. He is known for his loud, fun loving friendly personality. He takes the individuals to and from their medical appointments and program at Roosevelt. He is an excellent source of communication when he takes the individuals to their appointments. Rob is always laughing and smiling while at work which makes him a pleasure to work with. His dedication to the individuals shows in the way he does his work. He is always willing to lend a helping hand.

On his weekends off, he enjoys spending his children Justin, Ceasar and Diana. Rob is a sports fan and loves his NY Giants, Yankees and NY Knicks.

Congratulations, on your 15 years of service at CP Bayville! Thank you for all your love and support for the individuals at Bayville!

Loretta Ferrigno, Physical Therapist Assistant, Children's Learning Center

Loretta has been a PTA and teacher at CLC for the past 15 years. She began her career as a PTA at CLC in 1995, received her Masters in Special Education in 2009, became a teacher at CLC in 2012, before retiring in 2019. Loretta is very well known to all the new employee orientation speakers as she has gone through orientation on numerous occasions. If you ask Loretta, what keeps bringing you back? She will always reply, "It's always the kids". It goes without saying that CLC has become Loretta's second home. Loretta continues to give back to the students at CLC by making herself available to work per diem as a PTA.

Outside of CLC, Loretta enjoys spending time with her husband and two children Charles and Stephanie. Loretta loves being outdoors, whether it's gardening or going fishing. Loretta has a love for sea creatures, as she has five freshwater fish tanks at home, one of which is over 200 gallons!

Congratulations Loretta, on your 15 years of service to the school and to CP Nassau.

Lekesha Fowler-Williams, Community Coach, Day Habilitation-Site Based

Lekesha has worked at CP Nassau for the last 15 years as a Community Coach. She portrays a calm and patient demeanor that instantly puts participants at ease in her presence. It is this demeanor that helps her to build relationships with the participants and their families. She is a leader in the classroom and demonstrates compassion, patience and respect for the individuals we serve. Lekesha is very creative and puts that creativity to good use in coming up with activities for the participants to do in the classroom. Lekesha is committed to making sure the

participants get the most out of each day while in program and she ensures that the participants in her room take an active role in participating in all special events such as spirit week, the door decorating contest, etc. Lekesha enjoys working with the guys and participating in activities and special events. Her enthusiasm and enjoyment makes it more fun for them as well.

Lekesha is a proud mother to five wonderful young adults to whom she is devoted. She speaks fondly of her family and enjoys spending time with them.

Congratulations Lekesha, on your 15 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!

William Gaines, Teacher, Life Options

William, known as Billy to us, gave his time voluntarily for 24 years prior to being employed at CP Nassau. When Life Options opened in 2005, however, it was evident that he would be a great addition to the team and was hired as a Teacher. To this day he says it is not about the money, it is about the guys. Billy currently works with CP Nassau's singing group, Creation, and has become one of the participants' favorite Teachers in the Life Options program. He continues to motivate, inspire and make the guys happy with music. The staff also enjoys his classes and look forward to hearing him sing and play the piano daily. CP Nassau is a family affair for Billy. His brother, Charles and sister-in-law, Joan, have welcomed Billy's colleague Maura into their home and spent time teaching her all about video editing and volunteered their time to assist with creating the Budget Cut Song and video for the program.

When not at CP Nassau Billy is usually performing somewhere around Long Island, as he is also a wonderful musician in his own right.

Congratulations Billy, on your 15 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!

Rocio Gonzalez, Teacher, Children's Learning Center

Rocio is celebrating 15 years of service at CLC! Rocio has a Masters Degree from Hofstra University and has a Bilingual Extension from St John's University. She is certified in Early Childhood birth-2 and Students with Disabilities birth-2. She began her career at CLC as a Teacher Aide and worked her way up to becoming a Teacher in 2010. She is currently a Preschool Teacher in a Spanish speaking dominant classroom. Rocio is a great support to the parents and students in the classroom. She is a great role model to all.

When not at CLC, Rocio enjoys shopping, going for walks, watching documentaries and eating out with family and friends. She tries to get back to Peru whenever possible to visit her parents and other family members. She has one son named, Noe who is attending SUNY Farmingdale for Civil Engineering. She is very proud of his accomplishments thus far.

Thank you Rocio for 15 years of service! We appreciate all you have done over the years to help our preschool students bloom.

Hindi M. Guglielmo, Psychology Services Supervisor, Children's Learning Center

Hindi began her career at CP Nassau in 2006 as CLC's Psychology Supervisor. Hindi is well known for her calm, thoughtful approach to all problems. One of her greatest skills is the ability to ask the right question at the right time, often bringing clarity to difficult problems. Hindi continues to coordinate and run all school district meetings, a responsibility she took on a number of years ago. She has added sense and sensibility to over 250 school district meetings held each year. Hindi's patience and calm demeanor assists in keeping others calm in these sometimes tense district meetings. The CLC psychology department is stable and well run thanks to Hindi. Her full knowledge of each student allows her to contribute to the development of all students' education plans. CLC psychologists say, and we all agree, that Hindi makes a difference to the lives of staff and students in CLC.

Hindi is the proud mother of a daughter, Hannah, who is in her sophomore year at Syracuse University studying music and entertainment business.

Thank you for your 15 years of service to CP Nassau and CLC.

Antonio Hamilton, Lead Direct Support Professional, CP Bayville

Antonio has been a part of the CP Bayville team for 15 years. Antonio started out as a DSP, was promoted to the Lead DSP in 2010. He earned a promotion to Senior Program Aide in 2016. The reason for Antonio's rise is because he works all over the building and is helping whomever needs a hand including doing laundry. Antonio will complete the next day's schedules for both shifts. . Antonio is part of the screening team, going to evaluate new residential candidates & welcomes people who are just moving in. Antonio gives the resident extra attention which they really enjoy. Staff say "you don't know if he is upset or not because he always has a smile on his face."

Antonio's home life is very busy just like work. Antonio is the proud father of six daughters. Antonio likes to work out to keep his mind and body in shape.

Congratulations in celebrating 15 years of great service. Thank you Antonio for all of your hard work!

William (Tony) Ingram Jr., Maintenance, CP Bayville

Tony has been a part of the Bayville family since 2006. The entire Bayville world turns much slower when Tony's not around. Tony is the person everyone needs. He is the one who makes sure the soap, hand sanitizer and toilet paper are in stock. He may be the most important person in the building. All this past year throughout COVID, Tony showed up every day to make

sure that everyone had supplies to keep them safe. Tony was diligent about making sure everything that was needed was available. Tony is always willing to help staff with a project, he's often asked to help move furniture, bring in deliveries and he does all of them with knowing that he is appreciated. Tony has a smile and a good morning for each of the guys and they appreciate his great attitude.

When he's not at work Tony likes rooting for the NY Giants through the fall and he avidly followed the Knicks to the playoffs.

Thank you for your 15 years of service to the Agency.

Natacha Jeudi, Direct Support Professional, CP Bayville

Natacha brings many assets to the Bayville family for the past 15 years. Natacha wears many hats throughout the day, she is asked to be the concierge, the fashion consultant, the chauffer, and the Maitre'd. Natacha goes on medical appointments and is a great advocate. She makes sure to ask questions so that she and the individual have the necessary information. Natacha is often asked to drive people for necessities like eyeglasses or special outfits. Natacha frequently fills in as the dining room coordinator. Auditor's have commented on Natacha's wealth of knowledge in the dining room and have noted what an asset she is. Besides all these extra jobs, Natacha is also a DSP who provides great ADL care, feeding people and makes sure everyone has fun in recreation. Natacha is an overall great team player, working with all departments to ensure the residents have their best life here at Bayville.

When Natacha has spare time she loves spending it with her family.

You make a difference for everyone here at Bayville and you are very much appreciated.

Stacy Khan, HR Assistant, Human Resources

Stacy began her career at CP Nassau in 2005 as an HR Assistant. If you have a question, Stacy is the person you want to talk to. She knows what to do, when to do it, and how to do it. Her dedication to the Agency, our employees, and our department is an example for all. No job is too big or too small for Stacy. She takes great pride in everything that she does and consistently goes the extra mile to make sure it is error free before she moves on to the next task.

In 2018, Stacy was recognized as CP Nassau's Employee of the Quarter. A recognition that was well deserved and acknowledged by all who know her.

One of the pleasures of working with someone for 15 years is that you not only get to know them but you get to know their family. The same passion Stacy brings to her work in Human Resources can also be seen whenever she talks about her husband Nezam and their daughter Alia.

It is hard to imagine what Human Resources would be like without Stacy. Fortunately, we don't have to. We thank her for her 15 years of dedicated service, and we look forward to many more years to come.

Belinda Lyons, Teacher, Children's Learning Center

Belinda has been part of the CLC family for 21 years. Belinda has developed the ability to recognize how each of her students communicate and what their gestures mean. She is always seeking out fun opportunities that continuously engage her students. Belinda has also established strong and trusting relationships with the families of her students. Her team members love and support her, in part due to her respectful and professional way of handling any challenge. We are sometimes amazed at how she is able to maintain that same upbeat, energy and positivity that even have parents joining and participating on remote lessons! This past year was a very challenging year. But in such a short period of time, Belinda was able to increase her knowledge and skills technology in order to maintain the engagement levels and sense of consistency for her students.

Belinda loves all things GREEN! We could always count on seeing her walk through the halls in its varied shades. The mom of three also loves to spend time with her family.

Belinda thank you for your dedication and service to CLC and we are so glad that you are part of this team!

Taneika McGriff, Switchboard Operator/Clerk, Maintenance

Taneika started working for the Agency as a Teacher's Aide from May 1999 through December 2003. She took a short break from the Agency and returned to her position as Teachers Aide in August 2009, which she stayed until she began working for the Maintenance Department as Switchboard Operator/Receptionist in October 2018. Taneika is the perfect fit for this position, her kind, professional, and positive attitude is exactly what the agency represents. When you enter the main lobby of Marvin Linder Pavilion you are greeted by a warm and pleasant receptionist who takes the time to help staff and visitors with all their inquiries.

Taneika is a proud mother to her two daughters Keandra, Alaysia, and grandmother to her two grandchildren Akayla and Dez. Taneika has a strong dedication and passion to her church, where she is a Sunday school teacher for the youth and choir member. One of Taneika's strengths is her ability to understand people's emotions and demonstrates patience and empathy. She will take any amount of time to write out a touching and uplifting letter or note to anyone who needs words of encouragement.

Let's all congratulate Taneika on her 15 years of service to the Agency.

Tom O'Connor, Teacher, Life Options

Tom O'Connor began his career at CP Nassau in 2006 as a Teacher in Life Options. Tom is a man of many talents and his artistic personality allows him to bring this creativity to the classroom with a hint of sarcastic humor that the participants really appreciate and enjoy. Whether it is through music, art or just him telling his fascinating animated stories filled with colorful vision through use of his own words he brings various topics to life for the participants' that keeps them intrigued and wanting more. Tom is a very talented guitar player and singer and has a wealth of knowledge that he is willing to share. The participants continue to enjoy Tom's sense of humor and unlimited knowledge of facts. It is very hard to beat Tom in any trivia challenge competition.

Tom is the proud father of three children, two daughters named Molly and Bryn and a son named Aaron who is his pride and joy.

Congratulations Tom, on your 15 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!

Marlene O'Dea, Speech Language Pathologist Therap. Sr., Children's Learning Center

Marlene O'Dea has been a Speech-Language Pathologist working with the children at CLC for the past 15 years. Marlene was given the title Senior Speech Language Pathologist and serves as the assistant to the department manager in the Speech-Language Department. She has also served as a mentor and clinical supervisor to incoming clinical fellows, who are seeking their clinical certifications, NYS licensures and teaching certifications. She has also supervised graduate students seeking clinical experience. Marlene is an active member in the CLC organization and has participated in many of the CLC clubs and committees. She enjoys working together with the students, teachers and other staff members to help in developing students' functional life skills.

On a personal note, Marlene has been married to her husband, Kevin, for almost 23 years. They met walking their dogs, Corky and Elvis, in the local park. They now share an adorable Pomeranian, Kody. Marlene loves nature, gardening and long road trips upstate.

Marlene has been an invaluable member of the Speech Language Department, as well as CLC as a whole. Thank you for your hard work and dedication!

Angeliki Palazzo, Speech Language Path. Therap. Supervisor, Children's Learning Center

Angeliki began her career at CP Nassau as the CLC Speech Language Supervisor in September of 2005. She was immediately accepted and embraced by the Speech Language Department due to her extensive knowledge, unwavering support, and her friendly, uplifting personality. To this day Angeliki is well liked and respected by her department. Angeliki is smart, knowledgeable and a known problem solver who provides thoughtful solutions. Angeliki

grew up speaking two languages which provides her with personal insight into the way CLC's bilingual students learn to communicate.

"Kiki", as she is known to her family and friends, is the mother of Lia and Lexi, her two daughters. Angeliki enjoys close family times with her parents and siblings and travels to Greece with her daughters in the summer whenever she can. Angeliki has a dry sense of humor (which is appreciated by so many) and is quick to laugh. Her laughter is infectious and all love to hear that sound.

Thank you Angeliki for your 15 years of service to CP Nassau and CLC. You have made a difference!

Roger Perez, Treatment Plan Specialist, CP Bayville

Roger has been an employee of CP Bayville for 15 years as a Treatment Plan Specialist. In his role, Roger is always looking for different ways to help the residents be as independent as possible, not only when working on skills they need, but also when participating in activities they enjoy. He will spend time with the residents talking about old TV shows and singing old commercials and theme songs with them. His version of "Name that Tune" is a hit with residents and staff alike.

When Roger is not working, he spends time with his wife Alyssa and daughter Gwen. He also enjoys playing the drums with his band and hopes to get back on the road with the band soon. Roger can make any task more enjoyable by lightening up the mood with a funny joke or story. His personality shines through in everything he does. Whether he is training new staff or working on goals with the residents, he is able to make learning fun and interesting.

Thank you Roger for 15 years of dedication and service to CP Bayville.

Karlyne Pierre-Jacques, Assistant Residence Manager, Chapman Avenue Residence

Karlyne Pierre-Jacques was hired as the Assistant Manager for the Seaford residence in 2005 and she transferred to the Chapman Ave. residence in 2010. Karlyne is the glue that keeps individuals and staff together at Chapman. Karlyne displayed her dedication to the Agency during the COVID pandemic. Karlyne continuously worked through the quarantine, even after being directly exposed to COVID at the residence.

Karlyne continues to take pride in decorating the residence for every occasion. Karlyne has developed a love for gardening and has taken the lead in having an annual garden planted at Chapman. The individuals who reside at Chapman enjoy helping with the gardening and eating the fresh vegetables they grow.

In her personal life, Karlyne is active as a soccer, lacrosse, track and dance mom! Karlyne ensures both of her daughters are kept busy participating in sports and is actively involved in

their school. Karlyne enjoys traveling with her family, including her sister, brother-in-law, parents and nieces and nephews.

We thank Karlyne for her dedication and her 15 years of service!

Kathleen Quinn, Teacher, Life Options

Kathy began her career at CP Nassau in 2006 as a Teacher in Life Options. She is also a Certified American Sign Language Teacher and has made it her mission to teach sign language to as many people as possible. She has shared her knowledge with staff in Oceanside Day Hab and CLC. Each semester Kathy has a walking group that the individuals enjoy. The participants love their walks with Kathy because she exposes them to new experiences and always finds something to teach them during each walk. Kathy also loves plants and living a healthy lifestyle. She shares these passions with the participants by teaching them how to grow and care for plants. During the pandemic Kathy continued teaching her classes on zoom and is currently working at the Arrow Lane residence where she started a garden with the guys there as well.

Kathy's personal passion is her family. She has two daughters, Shannon and Kerri and two granddaughters Harley and Scarlet. On any given day you can hear Kathy talk about them with pride and joy.

Congratulations Kathy, on your 15 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!

Janet Reilly, Licensed Practical Nurse, Nursing

Janet Reilly has been working as an LPN with the Nursing Department since 2005. Prior to beginning her nursing career Janet started as a CLC Classroom Aide in 1987, then in 1989 she moved onto become a Senior Training Supervisor in the work center, in 1992 became an Assistant Production Manager and eventually moved up to Production Manager in the work center in 1995. Janet left for a period of time in 1998 and when she returned she began working in the nursing office. Janet started when there was only one nursing office and she was well versed with the adult population as well as the students. Janet provides the highest quality services and care to both the students and adults that we serve. Janet is always caring and compassionate. And she often is seen taking the time to understand the need of the students.

Janet enjoys spending time with her husband Terry and two children. Her son Frank is a Police Officer with the Suffolk County Police Department Her daughter Katie continues to work as the Assistant Principal in a School in Queens. Janet has a granddaughter, Emma, who will be 4 in August. Janet loves nothing more than spending time with her granddaughter and family. Janet is very creative and artistic often coming up with decorative new ideas within the nursing office.

We thank you for your 15 years of hard work and dedication.

Ann Russo, Occupational Supervisor, Children's Learning Center

Ann Russo joined CP Nassau in 2005 as a Staff Occupational Therapist. In 2011, she was promoted to the combined position of OT Co-Supervisor/Treating Therapist within the Children's Learning Center. Ann's ready smile makes her a very approachable and open manager. Ann's involvement in OT extends beyond her job as she is very active in the NYS OT Association (NYSOTA), having been treasurer of the NYSOTA Long Island District and currently, she is Chairperson of that group. Ann also has the challenging role within CLC as Chairperson of the Legislative Committee, which works diligently to meet with legislators about tuition rates for schools like CLC.

Ann and her husband Mike have three children, Jocelyn, Michael, and Alexandra,. When not working for CLC, volunteering with NYSOTA and enjoying her family, Ann is an avid gardener and she loves to dance. She has been studying and performing for the past 32 years with a dance program based in Wyandanch.

Ann is a highly respected manager, clinician, and colleague within CLC and CP Nassau. Ann Congratulations on your 15 year anniversary!

Marie-Cecile Sapini, Community Habilitation Worker, Wrap Around Services

Marie began her career at CP Nassau in 2006 as a Community Coach and in 2008 she was promoted to Day Habilitation Specialist. Marie began working for Community Habilitation services as a per-diem staff in 2016. Marie relinquished her full-time position at CP Nassau to become a Care Manager however we are pleased Marie remained with the Community Habilitation Services Department. Marie spends her weekends providing Community Habilitation Services to one of the participants she grew to love and admire when she worked in the Day Hab. Marie's fun and energetic personality always call for a great weekend spent at the local shops and malls. Marie i teaches independence while purchasing craft materials to create a masterpiece of memorable fun.

Marie's pride and joy are her three daughters Orlandina, Lloydie and Trescinda, and granddaughter, Zurielle. When Marie has challenges with the new Therap system, she often refers to her daughters to assist her with her technical skills. They seem to help a less technical mom with love and patience.

Congratulations Marie and thank you for your 15 years of service and making a difference in the lives of the individuals we serve.

Monalisa Singh, Occupational Therapist, Children's Learning Center

Monalisa is an exemplary clinician who has dedicated over 15 years of service to CLC. She demonstrates many positive attributes and is an essential part of the Occupational Therapy Department. Monalisa independently completes all her job responsibilities with a positive attitude and smile. Her cheerful attitude shines through in her everyday interactions. Although

this past year has been difficult, Monalisa showed much flexibility and was extremely adaptable. She recognizes when others extend themselves, expressing her appreciation through her words and actions. Monalisa demonstrates knowledge and understanding when working with students of all ages and capabilities.

Monalisa is a wonderful mother to her two young children, her son Sanjiv and daughter Sanjani. In her free time, Monalisa enjoys spending time with her husband Gopal, her family and friends. She also enjoys relaxing and unwinding with her favorite TV shows.

Monalisa is a genuine and compassionate therapist. We are extremely grateful and thankful of Monalisa being an integral member of the Occupational Therapy Department. We congratulate Monalisa and look forward to working with her in the future.

Christine Summers, Direct Support Professional, CP Bayville

Christine Summers has been a dedicated and loyal advocate to the people who reside at Bayville for the last 15 years, improving the life, mental and physical health of residents both old and new. On a normal day, you can find Christine doting over her favorite person, treating her as a mother hen watching over her chicks with love, caring and adoration. Christine can also be heard commanding the flow of the floor she is working on, ensuring all new staff are doing right by the residents they are caring for, making the new direct support professionals inform her of any needed ADL items and clothing as well as ensuring all hygiene care is completed accurately and needed items are replenished by supervisors ASAP.

In short, Christine is a major league baseball coach's secret weapon, as she is the player the coach uses in a clutch. For Bayville that means she is the person on a Sunday when you are down staff, you can count on Christine to say okay, put her bag down roll up her sleeves and help the residents.

Thank you for your 15 years of service.

Rebecca Talmadge, Classroom Aide, Life Options

Rebecca began her career with CP Nassau in 2006. She started in Group Site Based Day Habilitation as an Assistant Community Coach and transferred to the Life Options program as a Classroom Aide in 2007. Rebecca has a talent for remembering everything about everyone, staff and participants alike. She remembers the details about each participant's likes and dislikes, staff's anniversaries and special events and of course, program procedures. During the pandemic, Rebecca assisted the staff in the "Safe House" and filled in wherever needed, which included showers, shopping, and haircuts. She did anything to help make the guys feel at home. She was also our "go to" person and did whatever was asked of her whether it was shopping for needed items or transporting staff somewhere. Rebecca was willing and able to help out.

Rebecca has two daughters Sha'Becca and Shy'Ann. She is very family oriented and very proud of her daughters. Rebecca brings her family oriented spirit into the workplace where you

can often find her acknowledging birthdays, anniversaries and remembering the little things that make people feel special.

Congratulations Rebecca, on your 15 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!

Desiree Thompson, Office Manager, Residential Services

Desiree started her career at CP Nassau as an Administrative Assistant for the Residential Services Department. It was evident that her skills surpassed those responsibilities and she became the Office Manager. Desiree gives support to the Directors, Coordinators, Managers, and DSP's in any way she can. She ensures that the residents and their families' needs are addressed when they come to the office or call for assistance. Desiree has a wealth of knowledge in the Residential Services Department and she readily shares her expertise with others. She organizes the office, systems, maintains the work flow, and provide resources in the department for efficiency and success. She is a no nonsense kind of lady when it comes to her responsibilities and will let you know if you are delaying the process.

Desiree is the matriarch of her family and enjoys spending her spare time with them. She has two daughters, Chameka and Latoya, five grandchildren, Alton, Kevin, Mylah, Khayden, and Logan, and two great grandsons Avra and Winter who are twins.

Congratulations on 15 years of dedicated service.

Adam Tobias, Assistant Community Coach-Lead, Day Habilitation-Site Based

Adam started at CP Nassau as a Program Aide in the Adult Day Treatment program. He has grown and moved on to be the Senior Assistant Community Coach, where his talents and dedication shine. His knowledge of the field and the participant's he serves is immeasurable. He is willing to step in and help whenever he can, whether it is in transportation or in day program. Adam takes the time to not only get to know the individuals he is working with but the families as well. This has helped him to build meaningful relationships that benefit all. His fun nature and humor can be seen in the classroom with the different activities he conducts. Adam has quite the knowledge for trivia which has come in very handy when playing Jeopardy with the participants.

Adam is a proud father of three children, Juel, age 7, Jade, age 5, and Jiya, age 3. When he is not talking about his family, Adam is often talking about his love of sports and his favorite teams, the Yankees and the Jets.

Congratulations Adam, on your 15 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!

Claudia Uwode, Teaching Assistant, Children's Learning Center

When I hear the word "lady" the woman I think of is Claudia Uwode. Lady as defined by Miriam Webster - "a woman of refinement and gentle manners". Claudia is a woman who exudes gentleness, kindness, respect and refinement. Claudia, Teaching Assistant and previously was an Educational Assistant in CLC. Not only does Claudia teach the students how to be as independent as they can be, she teaches them how to be respectful, how to speak to one another, and how to say please and thank you which are still the magic words! A quote by Bob Talbert speaks volumes to what Claudia personifies "Teaching kids to count is fine, but teaching them what counts is best."

Claudia has been married 20 plus years to her husband Val. She has a daughter Danielle, and a son Otega, two step children Tamare and Vakpor and is blessed with a beautiful granddaughter Rowo. Claudia enjoys taking care of her house and spending time with her children.

Claudia is an invaluable member of CLC and Class 535. Each day with Claudia is a day filled with kindness, knowledge, and selflessness.

Diane Vaughn, Registered Nurse, CP Bayville

Diane Vaughn started at the CP Nassau as a CLC Secretary in 2006. In 2011, she completed her Associates Degree in Nursing and joined the Bayville nursing team in 2012 as a Registered Nurse. Diane held multiple roles as a Registered Nurse here at Bayville. She was part of the Skin Integrity team, On-call nurse and nurse educator. Diane was mostly known for her annual refresher trainings with the medical aides. Although, Diane is no longer with the Bayville fulltime she is with us per-diem as the on-call nurse, annual AMAP training and on occasion we call her in to review the medical charts. Diane is a kind, respectful and dedicated nurse. It is a pleasure to work with Diane; she does not mind taking the time to educate the medical aides and nurses. It is always a delight to see Diane, she always greets you with a smile and ask about your wellbeing.

While Diane is not working she enjoys spending time with her granddaughter Anastasia who she just adores and her daughter Courtney.

Congratulations, Diane and thank you for your 15 years of dedication to CP Bayville!

Nedgine Vilfort, Residence Manager, Residential Services

Nedgine Vilfort began her career with CP Nassau on April 25th, 2006 working in the Adult Day Habilitation program in the position of Community Coach. She worked her way over to the Residential Services Department in July of 2007, where she was promoted to the Residence Manager of the Adams Gate IRA. Nedgine continues to enjoy one-on-one interactions with the individuals that she works with. Nedgine continues to be an asset to the Agency, the individuals and the families she works with. Her dedication to the Agency and the residents she serves is

reflected in her daily work. Nedgine will put in the extra time to ensure that each individual gets exactly what they need and want.

Nedgine absolutely loves being a parent and spends every free moment with her two children, Ian and Naomi. At Adams Gate, we love hearing about how her wonderful children are growing up so fast and have become teenagers.

Congratulations Nedgine for completing 15 terrific years of service. We look forward to your continued success.

Charles Wilson, Maintenance Mechanic, Physical Plant Operations

Charles began his career at CP Nassau in August of 2005 as a Maintenance Mechanic. Charles has been a dedicated employee for the past 15 years. He has some pretty important roles here for the Agency, such as, overseeing the cleaning crew, closing and securing the building nightly, and responding to all after hour emergencies. Charles is known as Chas around the building and has developed so many special connections with staff, students, and participants.

Chas is the proud father/grandfather of five kids, four grand children, and one great grandchild. Chas loves telling stories of his glory days as a track and field star for Sewanhaka High School. Chas ran the 100m, 200m, and 400m relay events for his school and qualified for the Olympic tryouts in 1976. He is a huge football fan and his favorite team is the NY Jets. During football season you can always catch Chas talking about the Jets with some of the participants in our ADS program.

Congratulations and thank you for your 15 years of service to CP Nassau. The Agency is a better place because of you.



Staff Service Awards – 20 Years

Barbara Barcia, Teacher, Children’s Learning Center

Barbara Barcia has been a dedicated teacher at CLC for the past 20 years. She has always worked closely with her team to ensure that the needs of her students are met and that student goals are actualized. Working mostly with those students who are unable to vocalize and rely on the adults around them to provide care, Barbara has developed the ability to recognize how each of her students communicate and what their gestures mean. She has always maintained a professional demeanor which has granted her the respect from those around her.

Outside of CLC, Barbara enjoys spending time with her family. She and her mother Anna are neighbors which allow both of them to help raise the new addition to their family. Barbara is the proud grandmother to 17 month old Kevin. Barbara, her daughter Samantha and fiancé Frank enjoy window shopping and baking together.

CLC has been fortunate to have you on the team Barbara! Thank you for your hard work and dedication to the students and families that we serve.

Diane Cafran, Benefits Assistant, Human Resources

Diane is one of the most popular people in Human Resources. If you have a problem with your healthcare, chances are you will end up speaking to Diane. If she can't solve the problem herself, she will get you in touch with the people that can. Diane is committed to our Agency and our staff. She will set aside whatever she is doing to assist anyone who comes to her for help.

In a normal year, open enrollment for our health insurance plans is a busy time for Human Resources and Diane in particular. COVID added a whole new dimension to that process as we shifted to virtual enrollment meetings. Diane adapted to the change and made sure that everyone received the information that they needed and the changes that they requested. It has been said before and still bears repeating, Diane has the patience of a saint.

Diane is a dedicated and diligent employee. She has never been a clock watcher. She will devote as much time as is necessary to assist one of our staff with their insurance needs. She is an essential component of our Human Resources team.

Congratulations and thank you Diane for your 20 years of service to CP Nassau.

Jacqueline Connolly, Physical Therapist Assistant, Article 26/16 Clinic

Jackie began her professional career as a Physical Therapist Assistant working with the CP population in Albany where she grew up. She relocated to North Carolina where she further developed an interest in working with the TBI population. With her RESNA certification, strong knowledge of wheelchairs and expertise in molding, Jackie joined Rehab Solutions in 2001 and has given many children and adults the gift of mobility over the years. In her current position as a physical therapist assistant in the Article 16/28 clinic, Jackie is a supportive role model to her patients, coaching them through the therapy session with her empathy, tenderness and sense of humor. Her knowledge and genuine concern for the patients is a major asset in all the program areas in which she works.

When Jackie's not adjusting a headrest or listening to The Dave Matthews Band you can find her reading at the beach, camping or spending quality time with her husband and family at a lake house near Albany.

We thank you for your 20 years of dedicated service.

Lisa Corry, HR Assistant, Human Resources

Lisa began her career at CP Nassau in 2000 as an Accounting Clerk. In 2004, she transferred to the Payroll Department and promoted to the position of Senior Payroll Clerk. In 2008, Lisa moved into Human Resources. Her knowledge of payroll policies and procedures was extremely valuable to the HR Department. She is open to learning new tasks and at no time complains about her workload. Lisa's primary responsibility in HR is disability and FMLA, where her payroll background is a great asset. As New York continues to update its policies, she increases her knowledge and educates employees on what is available to them. When staff is injured or ill, Lisa makes sure they get the paperwork they need and that their disability payments arrive timely and accurately.

Lisa is a wonderful mother to her daughter Kyra. Kyra is now a college student at SUNY Farmingdale. Finally, we would be remiss if we did not discuss Lisa's passion for good food. She's a "Foodie." If you are ever in need of a restaurant recommendation, a suggested must-have food item to try and/or a menu to place a lunch delivery, Lisa's the one to call! She also keeps a few bare essentials in her office (e.g. can opener for tuna, seasonings and various condiments).

Thank you for your 20 years of service to CP Nassau.

Kelly Dickey, Teacher, Children's Learning Center

Kelly is celebrating 20 years of service at CLC! Kelly is a 2001 graduate from Molloy College and has NYS dual certification in Elementary Education K-6 and Special Education Prek-12. Beyond being a hands-on dedicated teacher, Kelly has also been instrumental in the design of

CLC's playground and participating in the Festival of Trees event. Outside of her regular classroom responsibilities, Kelly has also been a lead teacher which focused on the planning of school events.

Kelly has been married to her husband, Christopher for 13 years. She is the mother of two beautiful children, Charlie age 10 and Emily age 7. Kelly is also the mother of two fur baby Pudelpointers, Shelby and Cash. She enjoys spending time with her family camping and being outdoors. She also enjoys exercising with her Peloton. Kelly is also quite crafty and has designed some spectacular T-shirt designs!

Congratulations Kelly on all your accomplishments over the past 20 years at CLC. We appreciate your hard work and dedication to our students!

Kristen Gaglio, Teacher, Children's Learning Center

Kristen has been a dedicated member of CLC for the past 20 years. As a veteran teacher she has worked with students in various classrooms and with varied developmental levels. Her passion has become focused on the development of pre-vocational skills in students who will soon be graduating CLC. Kristen has become such an asset to the needs of those students and has developed an amazing program to begin training them on specific job skills that could be beneficial to them in the future. Kristen established relationships in other parts of our Agency leading the way for simulated work opportunities for the pre-vocational students. During this past year she has also provided support to her colleagues as they transitioning to teaching virtually.

Outside of CLC her passion leads her to organizing and connecting over 10,000 individuals with the same passion through her Facebook page dedicated to pre-vocation. She has also turned it into a business vendor, partnering up to create and sell resources through Teacher pay Teachers. Kristen enjoys taking care of her vegetable garden and spending time with her family.

Thank you Kristen for the dedication to our mission to provide the highest quality services. Thank you for your consistent advocacy.

Sophia Ginos, Director of Psychology, TBI

Sophia Ginos is being recognized for 20 years of dedicated service. Over the years, Sophia has worn many hats as she volunteers for so many different arenas. Sophia is the Director of the Psychology/TBI Department where she also runs Café Connections as part of the TBI day program. Sophia continues to be a strong advocate for TBI services on a state-wide level. Her intelligent, logical advocacy has helped to maintain the needed services for our individuals. Sophia also plays a critical role in ADS. During the past few years, Sophia also shared her vision in the Agency's Strategic Planning process as well as taking an active role in our Generosity Series 5K. In the latter venture, Sophia's competitive nature surfaced as she was determined to be a top fund-raiser; thank you Glam Sales! No matter what needs to be done,

you can find Sophia in the front of the line with ideas, enthusiasm and a “no problem” attitude. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Sophia work side by side with her staff to ensure that all possible services were delivered and her program participants remained safe.

When not at work, Sophia knows how to relax. She is very involved with her family and friends and as soon as travel limitations are lifted, we know Sophia will be enjoying the sand and surf!

Thank you Sophia - you continue to make a significant difference and we appreciate you.

Eric Jackson, Residence Manager, Residential Services

Eric began his career as a DSP at CP Bayville in 2000. While at Bayville, Eric was promoted multiple times. He became the residences first Medical Counselor in 2003 and was subsequently promoted to Assistant Director. Eric has always sought out and accepted additional challenges and responsibilities. He helped to form UCP Bayville’s Skin Integrity Team and participated in presentations at NYSACRA and CP State Conferences. Most recently Eric joined the Agency’s Health and Wellness Committee. In 2010 Eric helped open the Arrow Lane IRA in Hicksville and assumed the position of Residence Manager for the program. Eric can always be counted on to help other residences in need. His assistance was critical in the opening of Blueberry Lane and he was instrumental in helping the 350 Washington Avenue ICF through the first lock down of the pandemic.

Eric is health conscious but that doesn’t impede his hunt for the next great microbrew Eric is also especially proud of his daughter, Malaysia, who is a practicing attorney in Florida.

We congratulate Eric on 20 years of dedicated service.

Jessica Jean-Charles, Assistant Principal, Children’s Learning Center

Jessica Jean-Charles is celebrating and being recognized for 20 years of dedicated service in the Children's Learning Center. Jessica has held several positions in CLC, preschool teacher and Coordinator of Instructional Technology and, after receiving her Master's Degree in Educational Leadership and Technology and becoming certified as a School Administrator; Jessica was promoted and has been the Assistant Principal since August 31, 2011. Jessica is smart, capable, and solution-oriented, a phenomenal role model. Jessica is responsible for coordinating many important events in CLC, graduation and training day, to name just two. Coordinating the many component parts of events like these is intense! And Jessica makes it all look easy as pie.

And Jessica is busy at home! Jessica and her husband, Thelemaque, have three wonderful children, Sebastian, Ava, and Malia.

Thank you Jessica for making a difference. A few CLC staff members described Jessica as a role model, great with the kids, team player, tactful – always finds the right words. No wonder CLC is a better school because you are one of the administrators.

Marc Kluger, Coordinator Residential Services

Marc started his journey with CP Nassau in 2000. He has held many positions in the Residential Services Department, Assistant Coordinator of Residential Services, Coordinator of Residential Services, Director of Community Habilitation to his current position as Coordinator of Residential Services. He is always looking for residential opportunities that would benefit the Agency and willingly accepts responsibility for new projects. He introduced the Agency to a new way of looking at data collection and billing through Therap. His research and knowledge about the program left him with the task of training staff in all departments on how to use Therap, thus the reason why we call him "The Therap Guru".

Marc enjoys kayaking and fishing as a sport. His wife, Robyn is his greatest cheerleader for all his endeavors. His son, Zach is currently in college pursuing a medical degree and his daughter, Jessica is a senior graduating this month of June. He adores his mother and never misses a Sunday morning breakfast with her.

Congratulations on 20 years of service.

Jeannette Langdon-Mirabella, Teacher, Children's Learning Center

Jeannette has been teaching at CLC for 20 years. She is always trying new and exciting ways to ensure that her students move ahead. Throughout the years she has also continued to build and strengthen wonderful relationships with the families. This past year brought about many changes and challenges. Through it all, Jeannette has been a great resource for her colleagues and the administrative team. She currently is our school dog Freddie's 'Keeper' who now travels to school with her and then back home, each day. In the classroom, her students are continuously engaged in dynamic lessons that allow them to explore and imagine. She has worked closely with the pre-vocational coordinator to ensure that hands-on experiences are explored. Outside of the classroom, she works on keeping that same goal. Jeannette has planned great trips for her kids so that they are practicing the skills learned in class and exposed to environments that they may not have been.

Jeannette loves to travel with her husband Cristian and their four children; Nina, Nicolas, Damian and DaVinci- and now Freddie. Sharing beautiful sunsets are her favorite. Thank you

Jeannette for sharing so many years of service to CLC!

Monica Hladky, Teacher, Children's Learning Center

Monica has shared her gift of teaching with The Children's Learning Center since July of 2001. Monica began her career at CLC learning the importance of M.O.V.E. (Mobility Opportunities via Education). Her passion for mobility and total communication have been driving forces behind the tireless advocacy for her students. Monica is always thinking of ways to strengthen each student's foundation so that they may reach their potential.

While not at CLC, Monica loves spending time with her family. Monica's father Lorenzo, whom she cares for, was also a teacher. She is the proud grandmother to Lorenzo and Olivia. Her daughter, Alyson and son-in law Emilio are also most dear to her heart. Monica has spent the past 20 years committed to caring for cats. A cat and dog lover at heart, that commitment wakes her up at 5 a.m. to feed 54 Ferrell cats throughout Freeport each day!

Monica, we are so fortunate to have you as part of the CLC family for the past 20 years. Thank you for the dedication to our students and the school.

Catherine McLoughlin, Day Hab Specialist Supervisor, Oceanside Day Habilitation

Cathy has held several positions since she began her employment with CP Nassau 20 years ago. They include Instructor and Senior Instructor in Adult Day Treatment; Day Habilitation Specialist in Site Based Day Habilitation and currently Day Habilitation Specialist/Site Supervisor in Oceanside Day Habilitation. Cathy is committed to the Oceanside Hub, and the Agency's mission to provide the highest quality of care. Cathy is well known for the love and compassion she has and shows towards the participants and has been heard saying, "They make coming to work daily a joy." Part of Cathy's job is advocating for the participants' wants and needs. This comes naturally to Cathy as this is something she is passionate about. Her first priority is ensuring that the participants' needs are being met.

Cathy is a devoted daughter, a loving mother to her daughter Erin and 109 pound pit bull and a caring wife to her husband of 14 years, Patrick. Cathy also loves to cook and especially travel to various places like Bar Harbor, Maine. She is very excited that she can resume her travels again. Next stop Disney!

Congratulations Cathy on your 20 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!

Meena Mohan, Medical Schedule Coordinator, Medical

Meena began her career at CP Nassau in November 2000. Over the last 20 years she has held a variety of positions including Adult Day Treatment, Club 380, Life Options, and the Article 16 and Medical Clinics. Regardless of her job title, Meena's dedication and commitment are demonstrated through her caring relationships with the consumers and their families. Her patience and trust with others makes her a powerful asset and resource in the Medical Department. Meena's compassion for the consumers is evident in her daily interactions. She has an innate ability to know exactly when and where she is needed and like the mystery novels she enjoys reading, Meena materializes at exactly the precise moment.

Perhaps growing up the 11th of 12 children in her family and caring for her siblings is what honed her multitasking skills and allows her to successfully juggle the medical schedule. Meena is also known for her green thumbs and can handle as many flower pots as daily appointments

We congratulate you and thank you for your 20 years of service!

Kathleen O'Hara, Teacher, Children's Learning Center

Kathleen is celebrating 20 years of service at CLC! Kathleen is a 2001 graduate from Molloy College where she received a Bachelor of Science degree. She began her journey at CLC as a Teacher Aide soon after becoming a Teaching Assistant and then moved her way up to becoming a Teacher. Kathleen provides her preschool students with the academic skills they need to be successful once they return to their home district. She often takes her students into the community on field trips so they can have real life experiences.

Kathleen was recently married to Billy Ziekmak in 2018. She has four step-daughters (triplets) Allie, Kiersten and Lindsey 17 years old, and Kaylee who is 10 years old. The triplets recently all got their licenses! In addition, Kathleen has 2 year old twin Bernadoodles, Shamrock and Maggie as well as a 4 year old Poodle mix named, Jasper. In her spare time she enjoys antiques, reading and spending time with her family.

Thank you Kathleen for your positive energy and dedication to our students!

Rose Pierre-Assad, Lead Direct Support Professional, CP Bayville

Rose began her career at CP Bayville 2001 as a DSP. Rose wanted to do more, she transferred to the Nursing Department and she became a full time AMAP in 2004, shortly after she was promoted to Medical Aide. Rose has always been flexible working different shifts to help out. In May 2020 Rose got promoted to Lead DSP on the overnight shift. Rose has taken her responsibility seriously, she comes in early, gets report from the evening and makes sure her shift is set up. Rose makes sure that when the morning shift arrive that their schedule is up to date, everyone is ready for program and she gives a report to the morning supervisors.

When Rose is not working she spends her free time with her husband Paul and her two beautiful daughters DJenann-Maliyah and Habygail-Maripzah Assad. Both girls keep Rose busy as Rose is a wonderful Mother to her girls.

Rose we really appreciate all that you do for the residents. We thank you for your 20 years of service to CP Bayville.

Pierre Prosper, Direct Support Professional, Adams Gate Residence

Pierre Prosper started his career employed by a Home Health Agency as a Personal Care Aide for the individuals living in Kagan residence when it opened in 1992. His support helped ease the transition of the three residents moving from their parent's house to a home of their own. In 1993, Pierre joined us again when the Diesman residence opened in 1993. Pierre remained at this residence assisting the individuals until 2001 when he became a permanent member of the CP Nassau Residential Services Department. Pierre is best known for the gentle, patient and compassionate approach that he brings to the job each day. In his current position at the Adams Gate residence, Pierre is the backbone of the daily operations and a stable employee through the pandemic.

Pierre is a proud father to his two sons, late daughter and grandfather to his grandson. Pierre is a man of faith and a lover of literature.

We would like to thank Pierre for his 20 years of services to our organization.

Danielle Raphael, Direct Support Professional, Heilbrunn Residence

Danielle is celebrating 20 years of dedicated services to CP Nassau. Over the years, she has worked in different departments, The Adult Day program, Bayville ICF, Oceanside, Arrow Lane IRA, and is currently providing community habilitation to the ladies that live in the Heilbrunn ISS. She is a very conscientious worker that can smoothly move from one task to another effortlessly. She loves to be stylish and offers her fashion tips to the ladies. She is committed, shares her ideas freely, and is the first to identify process problems others have missed. She is known for spurring others on to work harder. Danielle has passion for the individuals she works with and has a way of drawing out knowledge and skills leading them to discover their own answers.

She is completely devoted to her children, Maureen and Jeffery and her granddaughter, Coralie Mae is her heart in human form. She spends most of her time checking up on them.

Thank you Danielle for providing valuable services to our Agency.

Chyvonne Smith, Administrative Assistant Programmatic, Fundraising

If you were to look up positivity and kindness in the dictionary you would no doubt see a picture of Chyvonne. You would also find her picture under caring, sincerity and patience as well. For the past 20 years, Chyvonne has been the Administrative Assistant in the Development Department. She is always there with a smile and her positive "can do" attitude. You can see this especially when she is working with our staff, donors, constituents and individuals attending our events. You can also see this when she is speaking at new employee orientation and giving tours. Everyone knows Chyvonne and when they greet her, it's as if they are welcoming family and she greets them the same way in return. She is always there with a smile and genuinely listens and helps where she can.

When not at CP Nassau, Chyvonne enjoys movies, dining out, shopping and spending time with her son, Kaz, and her family and friends.

We are very fortunate to have Chyvonne in our department. We wouldn't know what to do without her! Congratulations!!

Samantha Verdi, Wrap Around Services Coordinator, Wrap Around Services

Samantha has been part of the CP Nassau team for 20 years. During that time she has held several different positions in the Residential program including Residence Manager, Program Supervisor, and Client Coordinator. In all of her positions Samantha gave 110%. That is why she was promoted again in 2017 to Coordinator for Wrap Around Services, a new department within the residential program that provides community habilitation and housing supports to individuals seeking an alternative to traditional group homes. Samantha has done an outstanding job steadily increasing the number of people the Agency supports through this program. She works tirelessly to ensure each individual has the staff person that best supports them in their interests and needs

Along the way, we shared in Samantha's joys as she married her husband, James, and later gave birth to her son, Josiah. She dedicates her time to her son by attending all school functions from sporting events to PTA meetings. Samantha is devoted to her church, where she enjoys singing and volunteering. Her free time is spent traveling throughout the world with her family.

Thank you Samantha for 20 years of unwavering dedication the mission of the Agency.



Staff Service Awards – 25 Years

Hortense Burke, Community Coach, Oceanside Day Habilitation

Hortense began her career at CP Nassau 25 years ago as a Program Assistant in Adult Day Treatment. She moved up to Assistant Program Instructor and is now a Community Coach-2 in the Oceanside Day Habilitation program where she is invaluable. Hortense helps out wherever she is needed.... When asked to transport she says “ok”, when asked to do Zoom classes she says, “sure”, when someone is needed to close the program she says, “I can stay!” She is depended on by her supervisors to take the lead in many situations. Hortense has also helped create a fun, creative and interesting atmosphere so all look forward to coming to program every day, staff and participants alike. Hortense is known throughout the Agency for her helpfulness, dedication, hard work, creativity and yes her fashion.

When Hortense is not at work she enjoys spending time with her 5 beautiful daughters and 14 grandchildren. In her spare time she loves cooking, shopping, interior and exterior designing, gardening, going to church, and visiting her mom in Georgia. Hortense loves to travel and is looking forward to do more in the near future.

Congratulations Hortense on your 25 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!

Lynn Manno, Clinical Coordinator, CP Bayville

In her role as the Clinical Coordinator, Lynn has affected the lives of everyone around. This has never been more evident than over the past year. Lynn jumped right into action as the pandemic affected the lives of residents, families and staff at CP Bayville. Day and night Lynn was on the phone with families reassuring them that their loved ones were in good hands. For families who had loved ones in the hospital, Lynn arranged video chats and calls with hospital staff and helped them navigate the healthcare system. At CP Bayville, she made sure residents had items that comforted them, like a favorite movie or blanket.

Lynn has been part of The Patricia H. Ladew Foundation for many years and helps with arranging cat adoptions. She works at the foundation’s house, which cares for over 50 cats and in the past many of the residents have gone to visit.

When Lynn is not volunteering, she spends time with her two sisters Adrienne and Laura, and her niece and nephew Sidney and Toby.

We thank you for 25 years of service to CP Bayville.

Milton “Troy” McPherson- Senior Community Coach, Community Based Day Habilitation & Assistant Head Coach of the Nassau “Thunderbolts”

Throughout Troy’s career at CP Nassau, he’s worked in CLC, Leisure Services and ADS. While working in ADS, he’s been no stranger to climbing the ladder. Due to his leadership skills, we are happy to celebrate his well deserved recent promotion to Senior Community Coach 2. Woohoo! Regardless, of Troy’s position, however, he demonstrates qualities of a great leader. He is caring, thoughtful and extremely dependable. Troy is known to be the glue that holds the hub together. When Troy is not working in day program, he can be found working as the Assistant Head Coach of the Nassau Thunderbolts. He continues to support the team with traveling all over the world to compete. Through COVID, Troy maintained a steady & consistently positive work ethic in all his different roles. We are honored to have him as part of our team in Community Based Day Habilitation.

Outside of work and sports, Troy is a dedicated husband to Olgarina and father to Leia & Andre- his pride and joys. He is known as a lover of Star Wars and Jazz music.

Congratulations Troy on your 25 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!

Sharon Rothstein, Director of Adult Day Programs

Congratulations and thank you for your 25 years of dedicated service. First our students in CLC benefited from Sharon’s involvement. Then, over 13 years ago, hard to believe, Sharon became the Director in Adult Day Services. Sharon’s reputation as a strong, intelligent, compassionate, hands-on leader and advocate is well deserved. Add her easy smile, infectious laugh and can-do attitude and you have a manager that staff want to follow. Although all of these traits have been evident for years, during this past year, Sharon’s talents shone. In the midst of a pandemic, Sharon produced a virtual day program, created a “Safe House” and reopened a day program. These were and continue to be extraordinary and challenging tasks. Sharon managed to balance working via Zoom, encouraging staff to return to work in one of the residential programs or the Center, delving through the myriad of regulatory changes, exploring all programmatic opportunities, keeping track of the billable services and, most importantly, prioritizing the needs of the program participants; all while maintaining her optimism and sense of humor.

Sharon keeps her family members involved in the Agency. Her son, Alex, is a Board Member of the Guardianship Foundation and volunteers on the Generosity 5K fundraiser. Elizabeth, Sharon’s daughter, can be seen as an active participant in all the Agency’s events. And, as soon as traveling opens again, we are sure Sharon will continue her traveling explorations around the world.

Sharon, you continue to make a significant difference and we thank you!

Barbara Russell, Senior Behavior Intervention Specialist, Site-Based Day Habilitation

In Barbara's 25 years here at CP Nassau, as a BIS and now Senior BIS, her caring and compassionate nature is seen daily in her work with the participants. These are not her only attributes however. Her quick wit and sense of humor is also loved by all! It is her quick wit along with her calm, nonchalant demeanor that adds to her great success in working with some of the most challenging situations in ADS. Barbara is very knowledgeable and whether it is dealing with difficult behaviors, getting to know an individual during the intake process, or being an excellent resource for staff she is a great asset to the Agency.

Barbara enjoys spending time with her recently retired husband Steve and their three children Megan, Erin and Tim of whom she is very proud. They have followed in her caring footsteps with Megan becoming a Special Ed teacher and Erin a Nurse. Anyone who knows Barbara knows she is a dog lover! She recently fostered a dog, Mack, who she eventually adopted to become buddies with her dog Spike.

Congratulations Barbara, on your 25 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!

Julie Signore, Clinic Coordinator, Article 28/16

Julie has been an asset to CP Nassau for 25 years. She began her employment part-time working in the social work and family support services department before quickly expanding her responsibilities to a full-time position. Several years later, Julie accepted the position of Rehab Clinic Coordinator for seating, orthotics, splint and physiatry services. Adept at managing multiple scheduling projects and multiple providers, Julie goes above and beyond to ensure the accurate provision of services for both the patients and clinicians. It is believed that she holds unique certification as a "chronic organization specialist". With such talent and skills, Julie played an integral role in the successful opening of our Article 16 clinic in 2009. She has always been a self-starter and extremely dedicated to the Agency.

In her spare time, Julie enjoys visiting her son John, his wife and grandchildren in West Virginia as well as her son Joseph who recently moved to New Jersey. He and his wife are expecting their first child.

Congratulations for 25 years of dedicated service and for making a difference.

John Zonin, Maintenance Mechanic, Physical Plant Operations

John began his career at CP Nassau in 1996 as a part time Maintenance Mechanic. He remained part time in the department until July of 2015, when he became a full time Mechanic. John is well known throughout these hallways and is often requested to help staff with set-ups. One of John's main roles here at the agency is opening the building every morning. He is here at 5am everyday making sure the building is open, safe, and ready for our staff and students to arrive.

John is a proud father to his son Cory and daughter Kylie. John is an easy going guy who enjoys being outdoors. He has become an avid bird watcher and in the warmer months you can find him taking walks on the beach collecting beach glass or other old stones. Also, another fact you might not know about John is that he is quite the history buff.

Congratulations and thank you for your 25 years of service to the Maintenance department and the organization.



Staff Service Awards – 30 Years

Deborah Epps, Billing Coordinator, Healthcare Finance Medical Department

In 1989, CP Nassau welcomed Deborah to the IT Department, her first of many positions within the Agency. From there, she relocated to the Accounting Department in 1994, billing the nursing home and school services. From accounting, Deb moved into the Healthcare Finance Department, becoming an integral member of the team. With a passion for teaching, Deb shares her vast knowledge of Healthcare Finance procedures with a warmth and compassion to those who wish to learn. Deb pays great attention to detail and loves a challenge; she is quite skillful in analyzing complex healthcare information leaving no question left unanswered.

Deborah's thirst for knowledge is unparalleled, and she can frequently be found enjoying practice State examinations at her leisure, in addition to solving riddles and Sudoku puzzles. Deborah is a devoted wife and mother, avid reader, and the number one elephant enthusiast. Deborah also deeply appreciates music, plays piano, and has been known to sing a song or two on special occasions.

We congratulate you on your 30 years of service and wish you many more.

Diana Forcina Occupational Therapist, Children's Learning Center

Diana Forcina is celebrating thirty years of dedicated service to the children in CLC. As a senior therapist, Diana does it all: she provides skilled therapy to her students, shares her clinical expertise with colleagues, and coordinates volunteers and OT students for the department. Diana is a caring, conscientious, and creative therapist. Diana's wheels are always spinning, whether to develop a new organizing strategy, adapt a toy or treatment session, or share her amazing observational powers to assess a child's needs. Diana is a team player and always puts others' needs first. Her work ethic is outstanding, exemplified by her positive and cheerful interactions.

When Diana is not working, she loves being with her two beautiful girls Carly and Briella and her wonderful husband Pasquale. She is constantly running around and supporting her daughters' activities, especially Carly and her dance competitions. Diana loves to center herself around her family, her home, and her friends.

Diana is truly an asset to the entire Agency. We congratulate Diana for 30 years of dedicated, professional, and amazing service.

Sonia Knight, Assistant Director of Residential Services

Sonia began her career at CP Nassau 30 years ago as a DSP at Bayville while attending college. Over the years she was promoted many times as a result of her hard work, dedication, and willingness to learn. Her latest promotion to Assistant Director of Residential occurred in 2016. Sonia is a true leader, coach, and mentor for the staff and residents. Sonia believes in helping others achieve their goals. She motivates staff through her work ethic and positive outlook to reach for more. She has contributed much to the success of the Residential program and CP Bayville. Sonia happily assists other departments whenever needed to ensure quality outcomes for the individuals we support.

When not at work Sonia's passion is her family. She loves to spend quality time with her three children Cody, Kiarah, and Keashima and her two grandchildren Major and Jawaun. She loves to plan weekend activities for all. From movies and dinner, to Broadway shows, and weekend getaways there is always fun to be had.

It is a privilege and pleasure to work with, learn from, and be encouraged by Sonia. If you need a definition of integrity just look up Sonia Knight. We are proud to celebrate her 30 years of outstanding and dedicated service to Residential Services Department and the entire CP Nassau family.

Mark Reeves, Assistant Coordinator, CP Bayville

Mark has been a member of the CP Bayville family for 30 years. He began his career as an ADL trainer. As the years progressed, Mark was promoted to many different positions such as Program Aide, Senior Program Aide and now an Assistant Coordinator. Mark took advantage of all trainings the Agency has offered. He participated in the mid management trainings and Mark now holds the title of an Assistant Coordinator. Over the years Mark has been involved in making sure the Bayville residents are taking care of. Mark's dedication throughout the years has made a difference in the lives of the individuals and their families and for that we give our thanks and appreciation. We hope that he continues to make great strides in his work in the years to come. Mark has been good natured, polite and supportive of both the residents and the staff. Mark is an easygoing and charming person and because of these characteristics he gets along with staff and families, but more importantly the residents that we serve..

Mark is proud of his family and a great Dad to his three boys, Kendell, Mark Jr., and Makhi.

Thank you Mark and congratulations!

Charles Tetro, Applied Behavior Specialist, Washington Avenue Residence

Charles joined CP Nassau in 1990 as the Behavior Specialist for the 387 Washington Avenue ICF, a position he has held for 30 years. Over the past 30 years, Charles has proven himself to be a valuable member of the 387 ICF team and we are thankful for all of his contributions. The individuals look forward to his visits each week. Charles ensures that all staff are trained on the behavioral needs of the individuals we serve. During this pandemic he has been a strong

support to everyone at the residence. His dedication to the job has been noticed and appreciated by the individuals and his co-workers.

Recently, there have been many new admissions to the residence and Charles has taken the time to identify each person's unique strengths, needs and interests in order to provide them with opportunities for individualized interactions.

In his spare time, Charles enjoys cooking and trying new recipes. He likes to travel and spend time with his mother and niece. We recognize and congratulate Charles, for his 30 years of service.

Maura Wachsberger, Teacher/Life Options

Maura began her employment with CP Nassau in 1990. She started as a Program Instructor in ADT and moved on to Activities Specialist, then Music Specialist. She is now a Teacher in Life Options and also facilitates Day Program's Self Advocacy Group. These roles have her traveling a lot, whether it is to Albany with staff and participants to speak to legislators on the budget cuts and the affects they are having on the participants' lives, or a singing gig with CREATION, Maura is always on the move! If not traveling with the guys she is assisting them with legislative visits and calls, making training and educational videos, or teaching a class. Maura has shown in a million ways how devoted she is to the individuals we serve and is truly an asset to the Agency.

In her spare time Maura loves to spend time with her husband, Larry, children Grace, Becky and Sean and her five grandchildren, Andrew, Jaime, Madison, Michael, and Myla (which is surely her second job!) She also loves to travel and spends a lot of time in Montauk!

Congratulations, Maura, on 30 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!



Staff Service Awards – 35 Years

Larry Davies, Director of HR & IT, Human Resources

Larry Davies has been an integral part of our Agency for 35 years. His initial role was in the Work Center, and then a psychologist in ADT, 387 Washington Avenue, UCP Bayview and Bayville. Larry has had a direct impact on our consumers' lives. In 1988 he was promoted to the position of Director of Bayville. His next promotion to Coordinator of Residential Services was timely as he led the development of several small residences and helped create the blueprint for further development. After much success, Larry was again promoted to the Director of Residential Services. Larry's intelligence, work ethic and analytical ability make a difference in the Agency's success. In 1998 Larry again switched hats and took over the management of both the IT and Human Resources Department.

In 2003 his personal life made a monumental change as his daughter Jessica was born. Larry beams as he speaks about Jessica's interests, knowledge, talent and accomplishments. Clearly, his favorite activities are those that Jessica is involved in.

Larry has been a key leader in our management team for many years. Fulfilling the responsibilities of two Directors' administrative responsibilities is an enormous task and requires Larry's terrific organizational talents as well as his significant analytical skills. While our IT needs and resources have expanded, the HR component of an Agency our size has also become complicated and diverse. Larry manages both areas expertly and we are appreciative and thankful for his contributions.

Doris Davis, Coordinator of Transportation & Cafeteria, Adult Day Services

Doris began her career at CP Nassau as a Prevocational Aide in The Work Center 35 years ago. She has held many positions in the Agency since then such as Job Coach, Production Manager, Assistant Coordinator of Life Options and now Coordinator of Transportation and Cafeteria! Being responsible for both of those very fast paced and prominent departments that service the whole Agency is no easy feat but there is no one better for the job than Doris! She is constantly assessing the workings of those departments and implementing new systems to ensure that they are serving the Agency, Program Participants and CLC Students in the best way possible. Doris' devotion and dedication to CP Nassau has not wavered in the least in her 35 years here!

There is one thing, however, that comes before CP Nassau for Doris and that is her family! She is very proud of her husband Antoine, and two beautiful daughters, Adaysia and Ashe. They are

well known at CP Nassau as well. Adaysia and Ashe have worked in several departments in the Agency and proved to be as much of an asset as their mother.

Congratulations Doris on 35 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!

Barbara Mercer, Lead Teacher, Children's Learning Center

If you have spent any time at CLC, then for sure you know Barbara! Barbara has been with CLC for 35 years! She began her career at CLC as a school age classroom teacher working with students who exhibited behavioral challenges. Approximately 10 years ago, Barbara transitioned to the IEP Coordinator position to be able to assist with tracking and maintaining current IEPs for CLC students. Barbara began a Boy Scout and Girl Scout troop for the students and also was a Chairperson for the Games for the Physically Challenged.

Barbara has been married to her husband Jim for 40 years. They have two adult children together, Julie and Brian. Armin is Barbara's son-in-law and Stella is her granddaughter. Stella is the apple of her eye and she can often be heard talking about Stella's milestones. Barbara loves spending time with Stella, her three cats, reading mystery books and taking pictures.

Thank you Barbara for your 35 years of service! You have touched the lives of so many and we are forever grateful.

Susan Olsen Mulder, Incident Review Committee Chairperson, Quality Assurance

Susan Olsen Mulder's career at CP Nassau began in 1982 as a High School volunteer in the Leisure Services program. In 1985 Susan became the Assistant Director at CP Nassau's Residential Camp program, where she met her husband Marco. In 1994 Susan became the Coordinator of Leisure Services and in 2000 she joined the Agency's Incident Review Committee, becoming IRC Chairperson in 2006. While funding cuts resulted in the elimination of the Leisure Services program, Susan continues to serve as the IRC Chairperson.

Susan enjoys spending time with her husband, Marco, and her three daughters Lauren, Danielle and Madison. Susan and her family all enjoy spending time with their dog Joy. Susan enjoys having the company of family and friends at her home. Martha Stewart could take lessons from Susan on cooking, entertaining and decorating.

If you are lucky enough to know Susan, you know that she is a caring and loyal person with a great sense of humor. It is heartwarming to see so many individuals at CP Nassau express their affection for Susan.

Congratulations Susan for 35 years of service and thank you for making a difference.

Ellen Naidus, Director of Clinical Services, Medical

Congratulations to Ellen Naidus for 35 years!! Wow!! Did Ellen realize the significant impact she would have on so many facets when she began her first position as an ADT Program Instructor? Since that time, Ellen has had six promotions and has been the Clinic Director for over a decade. Ellen is the expert in the clinic as her knowledge encompasses a wide range of complicated, challenging and ever-changing regulatory and technical topics; this feat is no small accomplishment. Ellen tackled an EMR system, new ICD-11 codes, Medicare and Medicaid constant changes, e-scribing, not to mention staffing shortages, patient no shows, audits and keeping a financial eye on the bottom line. She has trained the staff, ordered the equipment, and scheduled the patients without a hitch. Then COVID-19 hit and Ellen again, was all about action and her no problem attitude with Telemedicine, opening up the clinics and distribution of COVID-19 vaccinations in our Agency. Ellen is a consummate professional and a team player; being territorial is not in her vocabulary. She is always ready and able to volunteer to assist wherever she can. There are few people who can juggle the amount of work that Ellen manages and, most of the time, she makes it appear seamless

While at work, Ellen is “all work” so it is easy to understand why she enjoys her days off to unwind, relax and enjoy her beverages with family and friends whether she is in New York or Florida!

Congratulations and thank you Ellen for your 35 years of dedicated services to CP Nassau!

Delores Wyche, Lead Assistant Community Coach, Site Based Day Habilitation

Delores began her career at CP Nassau in 1986 as a Program Aide. Thirty Five years later, she is as committed and dedicated as ever working as a Lead Assistant Community Coach. When the pandemic hit, Delores showed her dedication by volunteering to work in a participant's home because she knew how important it was for our participants to continue to receive services. She did this for several months and when it came time to return to the Center, she was happy to step back into that roll as well. Since her return to the Center, Delores continues to create an environment in which the individuals learn through their senses, in a calm, clean, and safe environment. As the Lead ACC, Delores is responsible for making sure the bathrooms are well stocked and everyone has the supplies they need. Delores takes this job very seriously so don't try to put one over on her and ask for extras without having a very good reason!

When Delores is not at work she enjoys planting flowers and vegetables in her garden and enjoys cooking.

Congratulations Delores for your 35 years of service to CP Nassau and thank you for making a difference!