



A Communication from Human Resources

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

May 2023

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Message from the CEO

Dear Fellow Employees,

Spring has sprung!

I hope that you are getting out and enjoying this great weather. The walking groups at Plainview and Brookville are in full blast. Each day your colleagues walk and talk with each other. What a healthy way to get to know each other while soaking in the sun and fresh air.

The last few months have been filled with much advocacy, with some of you traveling to Albany, writing letters, making phone calls, and engaging in the one-click campaigns to raise awareness that our staff deserves better pay and recognition for the challenging work they perform each day. Thanks to all of you for whatever you did to let your voices be heard on issues of importance to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, and your colleagues.

We concluded National Autism Awareness Month at the end of April. Celebrating the successes of people with ASD, their families, and the dedicated staff members who work with them is one way of promoting awareness. Throughout April, our family of organizations highlighted the achievements of individuals with ASD. Achievements can be defined in many ways; a new job, reaching a personal goal, doing something new, moving out of your comfort zone, etc. Success comes in all shapes and sizes, and we are honored to support hundreds of individuals with autism. Special thanks to our dedicated employees who find innovative and creative ways to ensure the success of people supported, including those with ASD.

Cinco de Mayo is a yearly celebration held on May 5th, which commemorates the anniversary of Mexico's victory over the Second French Empire at the Battle of Puebla in 1862, led by General Ignacio Zaragoza. Happy Cinco de Mayo!

Wheatley Farms has been serving Nassau County for over 20 years. We are known for a diverse American & International style menu created with old-world recipes and locally sourced plants, flowers, and vegetables grown at The Wheatley Farms Greenhouse. We are offering an extensive selection of plants and hanging baskets. Contact Nanette (nmuzante@AHRC.org) at Wheatley Farms to order your Spring plants, holiday wreaths, floral table decorations, and Spring planting. I order table displays each year, and I am never disappointed by the high-quality work performed by Nanette.

Wheatley Farms is pleased to serve you with high-quality catering services. Please use wheatleyfarmsli.com to order your desserts and catering services. We all know what an excellent job Chef Percival and his team do. Please do not forget our new line of soaps and candles, which make wonderful gifts, especially for birthdays, graduation, and anniversary gifts. Let us support our own businesses!

Thanks for all you do throughout the year to provide person-centered services to thousands of people on Long Island. We remain leaders in high-quality services because of each of you. I am proud to call you friends and colleagues.

As always, your feedback and comments are welcome.

Best,

Stanfort

Executive Appreciation

- Barry Donowitz, Chief Administrative Office, Nicky Faranda, Director of Employment Services and Social Enterprises, and Caesar Fuentes, Business Operations Manager, for their hard work in achieving the launch of our first commodities contract.
- Nicky Faranda, Director of Employment Services and Social Enterprises, Percival Aquino, Supervisor of Culinary Services, and the team for their excellent hosting and culinary presentation on all events hosted in the Brookville ballroom for the month of April.
- Dr. Hassan, VP of Talent Acquisition, Development, and Engagement; Denise Lamb, Employee Health Manager; Laura Betancurt, HR Specialist; and Jim Stock, Assistant Director of Talent Acquisition, on the successful hosting of the Employee of the Quarter luncheon at the Brookville Mansion
- Sylvester Naraine, VP of Finance for consistently working on the Workforce Stabilization Initiative and managing the Finance Department.
- Brian Wahl, Accounting Supervisor, for the successful management of the HUD audits.
- Sally Burgess, VP, and Shaun Weathers, VP, for their creditable management of the oversight of salaries in the Residential programs.



*A Huge Congratulations to the Outstanding
Employees chosen by their peers as*

“EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER”

First Quarter of 2023

Congratulations!



Bria Parker, Facilities and Maintenance Office Administrator, AHRC Admin

Vincent Cirillo, Maintenance Specialist, AHRC Admin

Louise Polito, Patient Rep Coordinator, Advantage Care

Suzann Doyle, Teacher Asst III, BCCS – BCW Woodbury

Heather Ferguson, Special Education Teacher II BCCS- Cissy Birnbaum

Craig McNeil DSP, Citizens Residential

Davie Prashad, Assistant House Manager, CLS

Candace Skeete, Assistant House Manager, BCCS - CRP

Robin Erhart, Program Coordinator, Day Hab

Kim Nistal, Assistant Farm Manager, Social Enterprises

Roselene Sylvestre, DSP, Helen Kaplan

Kristie Walter, LPN, Shoreham

Shayna Staton, House Manager, Shoreham

*Please join us in congratulating these employees on their
exceptional and outstanding work every day!*

Barbara C. Wilson



- The BCW Parents Association has arranged for a Petting Zoo to visit our program to reinforce our Creative Curriculum studies. The children will have the opportunity to meet, pet, and feed the animals.
- Our STAR trainers will be here in May to provide hands-on curriculum training to our 6:1:2 and 8:1:2 classroom teams.
- Our Parents Association will host a Staff Appreciation Luncheon to celebrate our staff. Date and time to be determined.

Congratulations to BCW employee Molly Bauer on passing her BCBA exam.



In appreciation of our CRP Managers



Shakur Davis, 28 Sea Spray; our newest manager. In the short time he has been here, he has shown himself to be a detail-oriented and quick learner. He has assimilated into CRP life, learning all he can about the staff as well as the children and their differing likes and needs. He is willing to share the knowledge and understanding from his many years of experience and is not afraid to reach out when he needs a hand. His calm demeanor puts all at ease, and we are pleased and fortunate to have him as part of our team.

Steven Johnson, 30 Sea Spray; for creating a positive environment for the children and staff at 26 Seaspray Dr. He has committed to a healthy lifestyle for the children by encouraging them to expand their mealtime choices and keep active. Steven is a natural when relating to the boys, not only those in house 30 but all the boys at Lido Beach. Steven's natural ability and skills learned as a DSP have shaped him into the manager he is today.

Prince Porter, 26 Sea Spray; for his professionalism and diligence in carrying out his duties as a manager. His dedication to the children in his care is clearly shown by the adaptations and changes made to meet the changing needs of the children.. Prince shows his strength as a manager by facing challenges head-on and with the determination to make things not only work but to be just. Prince is a valued employee and an asset to our program.

Cassie (Casandra) Bradshaw, Johnson Place - Wantagh; is known for her adaptability and willingness to change as the needs of the agency change. She manages her house with care because she really loves the support she gives. Cassie has always been one the biggest advocates for the kids in her house as well as her staff. She is always thinking with the mindset of what can be done instead of what can't be done. Cassie is the type of Manager who can tell you every detail about every child in her house. She brings a nurturing spirit to the house, which parents, staff, and the children recognize.



The Story Behind Our Shop

The One Stop Gift Shop values giving as a way to spread kindness throughout the world. That starts with how we're run. The One Stop Gift Shop offers people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities supported by AHRC Day Services an opportunity to participate fully in the running of the gift shop. People supported create and craft handmade items, answer the phone, take online orders, package and deliver merchandise, and keep track of inventory.

<https://one-stop-gift-shop.square.site/s/shop>

Use Code "ahrcn" at checkout to save an additional 15%



Internal Mobility Job Announcement



Saturday Counselor

Job Req #2022-3276

Schedule: Saturday 9:30a-3:00p

Program: BCCS

Location: Brookville BCCS Silver Building

Salary Range: \$15.00/hr

Job Profile:

We currently offer two Saturday recreation programs – one with a focus on recreation and the other with a focus on social skills for children with autism. All programs include a wide range of skill enhancement through music, arts and crafts, cooking, movement dance and indoor and outdoor play. Swimming in the outdoor pool is available during the summer months.

Primary duties and responsibilities include but not limited to:

Ensures that participants have structured activities planned and that activities are age and ability appropriate. Assists in being responsible for the well-being and safety of the participants.

Requirements:

Prior experience working with children with various diagnoses including Autism, ages 5-20yrs. Previous experience working with children with intellectual and other developmental disabilities preferred. Good organizational and supervisory skills necessary. Must be able to commit to every Saturday.

To be considered for a transfer, orientation must have been completed and you must be in good performance standing.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer, Proud of Workforce Diversity

Submit your application by going to:

ahrc.org/careers

Click the link for CURRENT EMPLOYEES



Brookville Center
for Children's Services



On behalf of the Employee Health & Wellness Team, we want to thank everyone who has participated in the IncentFit challenges thus far. For those who haven't had a chance to participate, there will be plenty more wellness contests to join. Please check your IncentFit account regularly for your progress and challenge updates.

Great job to the BCCS team members below for completing the IncentFit "250,000 Steps Challenge"

Alexandra Walter
Amanda Kinkel
Diane Ashley
Edward Hackimer
Jacqueline Lombardo
Jennifer O'brien
Joanne Cush
Katherine Joyce
Kerry Ann Peters
Liza Geonie
Marcia Forbes

Monique Tackling
Nancy Dattero
Nicole Michel
Pamela Sessoms
Paula Devita
Rachel Ryan
Rosanna Mendoza D'Abreau
Sean Stallings
Shaina Bills
Sukhwinder Kaur
Valentina Yanchak

Protect your loved ones with

Employee's Whole Life Insurance

We know why you work so hard!

When you purchase Employee's Whole Life Insurance, you'll receive these valuable benefits:

When you leave BCCS, it goes with you. You OWN it!

Life-long Coverage.

Since you own the policy, it remains with you regardless of where you work or even if you retire. Policy remains in force as long as premium is paid when due.

Guaranteed cash value.

Your permanent policy builds cash value, which you can access, to help pay for unexpected emergencies or any other reason.

Convenient payments.

Your premiums will be deducted from your paycheck.

No physical exam.

Only answer a few medical questions.

Expandable family coverage.

Your spouse/domestic partner, children, and even grandchildren (ages 15 days to 25 years) may be eligible for coverage.

Chronic Care Rider.

Optional rider for purchase that helps cover the costs associated with chronic care events.

Rates are guaranteed to never increase

For more information, please access the link below provided by New York Life and you will then be contacted by Lauri or Ellyn

Click
Here



The Company You Keep®

Or contact them directly:

Lauri LoQuercio

(516)507-4663

lloquercio@ft.newyorklife.com

Ellyn Campuzano

(516) 978-4025

ecampuzano@ft.newyorklife.com

Employee Assistance Program



LIFE HAPPENS.
WE UNDERSTAND.
YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

Even when we have our day planned out, life can sometimes take us by surprise. No matter what, it's always good to know you have support to help you move forward.

YOUR EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

24/7/365 access to EAP counseling services and online resources for you and your immediate family members.

- ✓ Mental health and wellbeing
- ✓ Child care, elder care, and family support
- ✓ Work and career growth
- ✓ Grief and addiction
- ✓ Legal and financial needs
- ✓ Pre-qualified referrals to providers, specialists, and resources



U: AHRC
PW: AHRC
www.nationaleap.com

Need Help?
TOLL-FREE: 1-800-624-2593
Just call or log on to get started