

# The Good News Initiative

**WINTER 2023** 

## **BOWLING LEAGUE**

### striking out the competition!

The Spectrum for Living Bowling League is back in action. Our clients hit the lanes working on their spares and strikes alongside all of their teammates and friends.



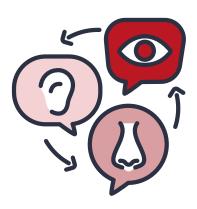








# SENSORY STORY TIME



Clients gathered at the Westwood Library for their pilot program "Sensory Story Time for Adults" using stories and activities to explore the senses.

We read through short stories together and played games that ignited our visual, tactile, and auditory senses.

View more photos by following us on Facebook and Instagram!





@SpectrumforLiving











Our clients had a wonderful time visiting the Passaic County Arts Center for their Texture in Nature exhibit.

Clients learned about the significance of textural painting with experimental uses of paint, form, decorative motifs, and materials that glamorize the beauty of nature. We ended the day with a picnic outside the Center, complete with sandwiches, cookies, and conversations about the beautiful pieces exhibited.

View more photos by following us on Facebook and Instagram!





@SpectrumforLiving





















# **EMPLOYEE SATISFACTION SURVEYS**



## Way to go Hillsdale!

Spectrum for Living's **Human Resources Team** celebrated the completion of our annual Employee Satisfaction Survey with staff members at our Hillsdale Group Home, which had the highest percentage of employees completing the survey. Our staff members were treated to a catered meal of their choosing, and our President & CEO, Christopher Perry, was on hand to personally thank them for their participation in the survey.



## **SANTA'S WORKSHOP**

Thanks to our generous community donors and Sibling Group, clients shopped through mountains of presents in Santa's Workshop. The day was filled with music, face painting, and fun - featuring a special guest appearance from Santa himself!





















**WINTER WONDERLAND** 

Ending the holiday season on a high note, our Adult Training Centers (ATCs) and Closter ICF faced off in a Winter Wonderland Competition, where staff and clients created wintry holiday scenes to be judged by the Central Recreation Team. In the end, our Carver ATC took home the win with their version of Santa's Workshop, complete with Santa's sleigh, life size gingerbread houses, a hot chocolate corner, wood burning fire place, and more!

























Building Bright Futures Together!

We had the privilege of honoring an influential leader at our annual gala on October 28, 2022, who goes above and beyond in his service to Spectrum for Living and the 1000+ clients in our care.

Our Honoree, SFL Trustee, Randy Csik, continuously demonstrates his commitment to bettering the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities through his time, care, and concern for our mission.

Thank you to Randy and all of our attendees, sponsors, contributors, and volunteers who made our gala such a success!

View more photos on Facebook and Instagram!



@SpectrumforLiving

7













### **STAFF NEWS**

NEW HIRES (\*) AND PROMOTIONS (+)

#### **Closter Apartments**

Perpignan Dorceus \*
Kimberly Rasberry \*

#### Closter ICF

Merle Oliver +

#### **Edison Condos**

Nivia Harris \*
Winifred Ngari \*

#### **Edison Adult Training Center**

Glenda Diaz-Ramlal \*
Bertram McIntosh \*
Shukriyyah Muhammad \*
Rachel Rosalva \*

#### Edison Group Home #100

Dinette Beauzil \*

#### <u>Highwood Group Home</u>

Eyanna Vazquez \*

#### **Maywood Group Home**

Abigaelle Germinal \*

Marie Museau \*

Wanda Toney \*

#### Paramus Group Home

Janaijah Price \*

#### Rivervale Apartments

Mireille Cange Chicoye \*
Wisline Francois +
Luis Gonzales \*
Jala Hagans \*
Dureste Louissaint +

#### **River Vale Corporate Office**

Mario Goods + Serin Mathew +

#### **Westwood Group Home**

Richarlot Amazan \*
Tamara Brown +
Lynell McKay +
Carol Tay \*



View current job opportunities on our Indeed and LinkedIn pages!

### **ALEX AWARDS**

In honor of Spectrum for Living's founding parent, Alexander Gallione, the Alex Awards highlight Spectrum employees who go above and beyond in service to our mission. From October 2022 through December 2022, the following employees received an Alex Award.

Platinum

Bruce Block
Garry Breithaupt
Melita Kerr
Nickalina Napolitano
Jean Nicolas
Gale Saracinello
Carol Wilson

Gold

Tyler Czubachowski
Pierre Fenelon
Camie Guerrier
Jashon Jackson
Sharon Johnson
Susan Oriwa
Wilner Richard
Tracey Stradford
Kaiesha Williams

Silver

**Quinice Anthony** Elizabeth Boyajian Deborah Brown Jennifer Charles De La Brousse Donna Dolphin **Eugina Evans Amanda Garrity** Yvonne Hinds Tiffany Lafayette Joseph Pierre Louis Jaime Martina Serin Mathew Jean Merisma Maxine Reid Stefanie Rendine Elvira Reves Patricia Silas Mack

Josephine Wade

Lakysha Winston

Bronze

Nilda Alicea
Samantha Black
Benita Boutin
Linnette Burrell
Joseph Denis
Glenda Diaz-Ramial
Pierre Mose Dorvilier
Dennis Duffy
Chikamara Emeka-Onyenacho
Gerard Francois
Barbara Herbert Boyd
Elizabeth Hoppe
Brandon James
Josaphat Jean Louis

Serin Mathew
Calvins Odhiambo
Olivia Okello
Migueline Paul
Jacques Previlon
Marlene Reid
Arabicasia Rollins
Rachel Rosalva
Danny Rosario
Keyonna Taylor
Jemy Thomas
Edward Trinkleback
Raphael Yuen

Rhonda Mangan





## **ALEX AWARD WINNERS**





























































### PROFILES IN COMPASSION

# Meet Alex Awards Platinum Winner: Nickalina Napolitano

Over the past 7 years,

Nickalina (Nicky) Napolitano has been supporting Spectrum for Living clients as a Recreation Therapist,

Assistant Director of Central Recreation, and now, Director of Central Recreation.

When asked what working at Spectrum for Living has taught her, Nicky shared,

"Spectrum for Living has taught me the value of patience, compassion, and empathy. I cherish the connections I continue to build with our clients that has allowed our relationships to grow. I take pride in spending time with each of our clients individually to learn about their hopes, goals, and future aspirations. I use these important moments to create programs that excite and entice our clients to join our recreation events."

Nicky's favorite part about working with our clients revolves around orchestrating new special events. She finds gratitude in seeing the excitement on their faces when her team creates the opportunity for our clients to try a new activity or attend an event.

Nicky concluded, "I am honored to be chosen as a Platinum Alex Award recipient. I value being recognized for my work by my colleagues and take pride in knowing they support me as much as I support them."



Learn more about Nicky and our other award winners on social media by searching for our #TeamMemberTuesday posts!



## **VOLUNTEERING WITH SPECTRUM**



### TD Bank

Thank you to TD Bank for spending the day with our clients and helping them build custom robots out of recycled materials. The day was full of fun, friendship, and funky robots!

Your volunteerism continues to be selfless and we appreciate this ever growing relationship!

### Meadowlands Chamber

## of Commerce

Thank you to our friends at the Meadowlands Chamber for donating Thanksgiving baskets to our group homes. Our clients were overjoyed to be recipients of turkeys, pies, stuffing, and more to complete their Thanksgiving Tables!





### Knights of Columbus

Thank you to our friends at the Knights of Columbus for inviting us to take photos with Santa. Our clients had a wonderful time meeting Santa and letting him know everything on their Christmas list!

ELIZABETH BOYAJIAN I (201) 358-8081 I EBOYAJIAN@SPECTRUMFORLIVING.ORG

### SPECTRUM FOR LIVING'S SIBLING GROUP

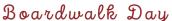
Brothers, Sisters, Cousins, and more!

Do you have a brother or sister at Spectrum for Living?

Are you searching for a new way to make an impact for them and all of their friends in their program?

Connect with a variety of likeminded individuals who can offer support, perspective, and a helping hand. By joining the Sibling Group, you will help Spectrum for Living clients benefit from the events we plan and programs we fundraise for!







Flea Market



Santa's Workshop

To learn more about the Sibling Group, contact Nancy Rapuzzi at 201-218-6248 or nrapuzzi@optonline.net.

ISELIN, NEW JERSEY 08830

## WALL OF LYVE

Support Spectrum for Living this February by adding a heart to our Wall of Love.

Donation amounts begin at \$20 and there is no maximum capacity on how many hearts one can purchase. Donors can elect to contribute in memory or in honor of a loved one and supply Spectrum for Living with a commemorative photo and/or loving inscription to be featured on the Wall of Love housed in the River Vale Corporate Office throughout 2023.







After claiming your heart, all photo submissions can be e-mailed to Stefanie at srendine@spectrumforliving.org with your name and "Wall of Love" in the subject line.

If you have questions or want to donate offline, please contact Elizabeth at (201) 358-8081.

## **2023 UPDATES**

# Save the Date!

5K, Walk, & Doggie Dash April 22, 2023

> Golf Classic June 26, 2023

**Dinner Gala**October 12, 2023



# We're on Venmo!





