

The Good News Initiative

WINTER 2024

40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Happy Birthday Spectrum!



In celebration of our Closter Intermediate Care Facility opening 40 years ago, our ICF clients and staff had a special anniversary party. Clients enjoyed cake, music, and quality time with their friends!



















EMPLOYEE SATISFACTION SURVEYS

Way to go Hillsdale & Rockleigh!

Spectrum for Living's Human Resources Team celebrated the completion of our annual Employee Satisfaction Survey with staff members at our Hillsdale Group Home and Rockleigh Supervised Apartments, which both 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.











MASTERING HEALTHY COOKING

An On-Site Nutritional Training Program

Over the past several months, Chef Heidi has been on a Residential Program Food Tour, providing on-site nutritional training and demonstration for Spectrum staff and residents.



- · Apple, Bean, and Beet Salad
- Brown Rice Rotini
- Butternut Squash
- Pumpkin Coconut Cookies
- Roasted Brussel Sprouts
- Spinach and Pumpkin Pesto
- Quinoa

Thank you to Chef Heidi for expanding our culinary palettes and minds to new recipes our staff and clients can now enjoy in their everyday lives!

View more photos by following us on Facebook and Instagram!



@SpectrumforLiving

















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!





















OUR SUNSHINE CLUB SLEIGHS THE HOLIDAYS!

Thank you to our friends from the Sunshine Club, who delivered dozens of presents off of Santa's sleigh to our ICF clients. From sensory toys to new winter apparel, and everything in between, our Sunshine Club's gift-giving program always puts a smile on our clients' faces!









































GETTING READY...



In preparation for our annual talent show, our clients practiced their musical numbers, dance routines, and drum solos.

With renditions of Britney Spears, Celine Dion, Bruno Mars, and Whitney Houston everyone had the opportunity to showcase their talents.

We cannot wait to see their performances at Spectrum's Got Talent this Spring!

View more photos by following us on Facebook and Instagram!



@SpectrumforLiving

STAFF NEWS

NEW HIRES (*) AND PROMOTIONS (+)

Closter Apartments

Exsivence Toussaint *

Irvin Pastor *

Closter ICF

Megan Perez *

Edison Condos

Madison Cataldo *

Edison Adult Training Center

Briara Lee *

Edison Group Home #100

Myllene Ponce *
Katherine Waller *
Christian Diaz *
Miyahna Robinson *

Glen Rock Group Home

Kedijah Shayland *
Minouche Vague *

Guttenberg Group Home

Philisea Burrell *
Dorcia Fyffe *

Hillsdale Group Home

Kathryn Haray +

Highwood Group Home

Deandrea Vaughan *

Maywood Group Home

Watsherly Louis Jean *

North Haledon Adult

Training Center

Adasia McLeod *

Northvale Group Home

Kempes Edmond *
Sharon Saglimbene *

Norwood Group Home

Lifaite Jean Pierre *

Paramus Group Home

Cathy Capers *
Marlene Reid *

Ringwood Adult Training Center

Elizabeth Haffa *
Monique Williams *
Jocelyne Bonneau *

Ringwood Apartments

Chrisna Fenelon *
Marci Gilmore *

River Vale Apartments

William Alexis *
Marie Remy *
Teone Brown *

River Vale Corporate Office

Dominique Bell *
Luisa Espinal Gonzalez *
Sean Fallon *
Nydasia Nero *

Rockleigh Apartments

Sean Frielink *

Teaneck Adult Training Center

Carolyn Denuto *
Casey McGuinness *
Imyrrah Rousseau *
Beverly Durant *



ALEX AWARDS

In honor of Spectrum for Living founding parent Alexander Gallione, the Alex Awards highlight Spectrum employees who go above and beyond in service to our mission. From October 2023 to December 2023, the following employees received an Alex Award.

Platinum

Deborah Brown Marie Compere Dana McCain Tarpeh Wleh

Gold

Elizabeth Boyajian
Leslie Castro
Rony Charles-Pierre
Maria Contreras
Donna Dolphin
Hubert Etienne
Kathryn Haray
Melissa Henry
Jassica James
Jaccim Jean-Francois
Brandi Johnson
Susan Mancuso
Rhonda Mangan
Kathleen Memoli
Tamiko Miles

Olivia Okello Reem Salem

Silver

Mercy Antwi Jeneen Artis Dominique Bell Jhoa De Leon Castillo Tracy Douglas Ashley Gallagher **Christine Huysers** Edeline Jean-Pierre Sharonda Johnson Lydiah Kiruri Sheereen Moraca Winifred Ngari Calvins Odhiambo Keyonna Taylor **Edward Trinkleback** Anthony Yankowski

Bronze

William Alexis Dominique Bell Danielle Brown **Rodrigue Charles** Rajinder Chopra Bernardo Daan Rasheed Davidson Kavita Isaacs Aminata Israel Jackie Jones Mariette Fede Millien Julie Moran-Finkle Jean Nicolas Anita Novoa-Baggett Latoya Oyugi Rooby Pierre Carol Stephens Carol Tay Gabriela Valenzuela



ALEX AWARD WINNERS



PROFILES IN COMPASSION

Meet Alex Awards Platinum Winner:

Deborah Brown

Over the past **33** years, **Deborah Brown** has actively supported Spectrum for Living clients as the Northvale Group Home Supervisor.

When asked what working at Spectrum for Living has taught her, Deborah shared, "My years at Spectrum have taught me the importance of patience, gratitude, and respect. I have a fantastic relationship with our staff, upper management, clients, and clients' families. We work together to ensure everyone is well-taken care of, living happy and healthy lives."

Deborah recalled trips to Las Vegas and Disney World with the Northvale Group Home, sharing how close she's grown to her clients traveling and seeing the world together. In addition, she spoke about many trips down the shore and playfully added, "Does anyone remember those big yellow buses going down the parkway with our blue vans following?"

Deborah expressed a deep admiration for those who nominated her when asked how it felt to be selected as a Platinum Award Winner. She shared the warm feelings she has towards her colleagues, clients, and client-families, who took the time to acknowledge her dedication to Spectrum for Living.

Deborah concluded, "I look forward to coming into work each day, greeted with a big hug from our clients. Whether reading a book or finishing a puzzle, as long as we are together, I am happy and all is well at the Northvale Group Home."



Meet more of our Alex Awards Winners on social media by searching for our Alex Awards posts!



VOLUNTEERING WITH SPECTRUM



Columbia Bank

Thank you to our friends at Columbia Bank for hosting a day of cupcakes and crafting with our Recreation Team! Columbia Bank volunteers assisted clients with crafting holiday décor, creating custom bracelets, and decorating cupcakes. Our clients had a wonderful time connecting with the Columbia Bank Team!

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 sharing everything on their Christmas list!





M&T Bank

Thank you to our friends at M&T Bank for participating in a fall clean up and home beautification project at our Rockleigh Apartments. From window washing to leaf removal and welcome sign crafting, your volunteerism ensured our clients have beautiful welcome signs and outdoor spaces to come home to.

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

WALL OF LVE

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

Donation amounts begin at \$25 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 2024.





WWW.GIVINGGRID.COM/EWQAZR

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.