



# The Good News Initiative

SPRING 2025

## MICHAEL B. CARPENTER MEMORIAL FAMILY 5K, WALK, AND DOGGIE DASH!

Spectrum for Living hosted our Michael B. Carpenter Memorial Family 5K, Walk, and Doggie Dash at Overpeck Park on April 26, 2025. Clients, friends, and families came together to walk, run, roll, and stroll in support of Spectrum for Living and to honor our beloved former Board Trustee and Spectrum family member, Michael B. Carpenter. A special thank you to the Knights of Columbus Council #2188 for generously providing lunch, Baron Financial for the delicious ice cream treats, and the Spectrum for Living Endowment for its leadership as our top sponsor. We are incredibly grateful to all our supporters for making this another record-breaking year!



# INCLUSION ACROSS THE SPECTRUM

*“Include us, don’t exclude us.”*

Over the past two years, Spectrum for Living clients have prepared to serve on Bergen County Advisory Committees through a program called Inclusion Across the Spectrum. Participants joined various boards, including the Human Services Advisory Board, Human Relations Committee, Disability Services Board, Historic Preservation Advisory Board, Commission on the Status of Women, Mental Health Board, Community Transportation Advisory Board, and Senior Services Advisory Council.

To prepare, clients crafted resumes, attended county-led informational sessions, and received specialized training focused on civic engagement. County officials also participated in inclusive communication training delivered by our team to ensure a supportive environment. This program empowers individuals with disabilities to participate in local government, influence policy, and advocate for themselves and their communities.

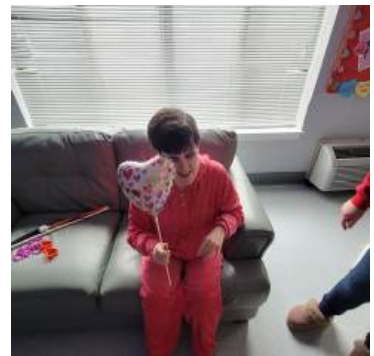




# VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY



Our clients celebrated the season of love with a special Valentine's Day Party, complete with dancing, face-painting, temporary tattoos, card-making, and a photo booth!





# SPECTRUM SPIRIT WEEK

## SPECTRUM!

Spectrum for Living held our annual Disability Awareness Week, March 3rd through the 7th to coincide with National Disability Awareness Month. Clients, staff, and Spectrum for Living friends and families participated in a week-long celebration consisting of theme days, special events, dance parties, and more. We had a blast celebrating disability awareness, self-empowerment, and client appreciation!



# TEXAS HOLD'EM FOR SPECTRUM FOR LIVING



Thank you to all who attended our Poker Event on March 30, 2025 and helped contribute to it's success!

We were fortunate enough to have our event space donated by the Butler Knights of Columbus and the entire event orchestrated by Jimenez Landscaping!

View more photos on  
Facebook and Instagram!  
[@SpectrumforLiving](#)





# EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS LUNCHEON

On April 24th, we honored Spectrum for Living employees who achieved significant milestones in their careers during our Employee Service Awards Luncheon at the Old Tappan Manor.

Spectrum for Living's Board of Trustees and Executive Team came together to present the awards, celebrating employees for their long-standing dedication to their roles, unwavering commitment to Spectrum for Living, loyalty to our clients, and steadfast support in advancing our mission and vision.





# BOOK FAIR

*Read. Explore. Discover.*

Our clients enjoyed exploring new titles, discovering fresh authors, and engaging in lively conversations at the book fair.







# SPRING LUAU

*~Tropical Vibes Only~*

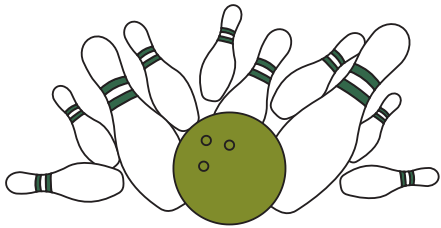
Our clients celebrated the start of Spring with a luau, featuring dinner, dancing, face-painting, and tropical mocktails.





# STRIKES FOR SPECTRUM

*Let the good  
times roll!*



Our clients had an unforgettable time bowling at Bowler City, where the atmosphere was electric with excitement and friendly competition. The group embraced the challenge of knocking down pins, with strikes and spares adding to the thrill of the experience. Laughter and cheers echoed throughout the bowling alley as they celebrated each perfect roll and playful competition.

View more photos on  
Facebook and Instagram!  
@SpectrumforLiving



# STAFF NEWS

NEW HIRES (\*) AND PROMOTIONS (+)

## Bergenfield Group Home

Edner Smith \*

## Carver Adult Training Center

Destiny Brown\*

Brian Chae \*

Jasmine Cranston-Sethi \*

## Closter Apartments

Suze Devalis \*

Sabine Pagenel \*

Emily Tzathas \*

## Closter Intermediate

### Care Facility

Dwayne Allen \*

Patrick French \*

## Edison Adult Training Center

Raushanah Billups \*

Robert Johnston \*

## Edison Condos

Ayyanna Council \*

Tigidankay Mansaray \*

Edward Ricker \*

Teresia Mullandi +

## Edison Group Home #300

Jahnिया Harris \*

Karen Simon-Callender \*

## Glen Rock Group Home

Calynda Jones \*

Fantasha Robinson \*

Sharonda Johnson +

## Guttenberg Group Home

Christian Warren \*

Dorcia Fyffe +

## Haworth Group Home

Bryan Cacique \*

## Highwood Group Home

Ebony Harris \*

Shakirah Stewart \*

## Maywood Group Home

Kya Gay \*

Adalgisa Martinez \*

## North Haledon

### Adult Training Center

Maleek Wilson \*

## Northvale Group Home

Iveline Souffrant \*

## Norwood Group Home

Nerry Bien-Aime \*

## Paramus Group Home

Eugenia Afari \*

Ebony Brabson \*

Widline Pauliscard \*

Sakkiyah Peterkin \*

## Ringwood Adult

### Training Center

Sylvie Colin \*

Mecollson Louis-Aime \*

Ketia Miceus \*

## Ringwood Apartments

Marie Adelson \*

Alexia Blair \*

Angeline Pierre \*

Chevaneese Roberts \*

## River Vale Apartments

Iy'lasia Barnes \*

Tracey Buchert \*

Nimitha Jacob \*

Maria Pagulayan \*

Jenilyns Quinones +

## River Vale Corporate Office

Anthony Wu \*

## Rockleigh Apartments

Rose Avril \*

Samantha Bradley \*

Anne Gabriel \*

Sydney Numa \*

## Wayne Group Home

Kevin Simms +





# 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 January through March 2025, the following employees received an Alex Award.

## Platinum

Samantha Alexis  
Melissa Henry  
Joseph Morency  
Kimberly Rasberry  
Earl Russell  
Mitchell Thompson  
Brett Tiedens  
Carol Wilson

## Gold

Jhoa DeLeon Castillo  
Maumoume Charles  
Rosemary Earl  
Aubrey Frazer  
Emile Hsu  
Sharonda Johnson  
Jaqueline Jones  
Linda Kerbs  
Joseph Pierre Louis  
Jasmine Marshall  
Jaime Martina  
Dana McCain  
Casey McGuinness  
James Nandi  
Constantine Rochester  
Miriam Rodriguez  
Diane Stewart  
Marilyn Urena  
Raphael Yuen

## Silver

Deborah Brown  
Nasjae Brown  
Denise Carter  
Maria Contreras  
Joanna Marcinkiewicz  
Mienrina Mulholland  
Leo Pestano  
Hugh Sutherland  
Johana Weatherborn-Aguas  
Cynthia Wells  
Elizabeth Zawaski

## Bronze

Brayden Berry  
Brendan Cancian  
Monet Carolina  
Kemario Christian  
Ketia Clerina  
Bianca Contreras

Kate Estrada  
Elizabeth Haffa  
Marvin Lewis  
Tara McDonough

Tylisha Mitchell  
Mordecai Onsongo  
Melissa Perry  
Sakkiyah Peterkin  
Walter Sang  
Christina Tamburri

# ALEX AWARD WINNERS





# PROFILES IN COMPASSION

## Carol Wilson



### Learn More About Carol

1. Carol loves cooking for her family and sharing meals with them.
2. She describes herself as silly and always looks for a chance to laugh.
3. She is passionate about preaching the gospel.

**Carol Wilson** has been with Spectrum for Living since 2010, holding positions as the Assistant Program Director and now Program Director. Throughout her time with Spectrum, **Carol** has demonstrated unwavering dedication and commitment to the organization's mission, consistently working to provide exceptional care and support to our clients.

**Carol** finds joy in helping her clients, whether it's providing support in their day-to-day needs or advocating on their behalf. **Carol** is particularly proud of the moments when she can connect with her clients on a deeper level, offering both practical assistance and emotional support.

One of her most noteworthy memories is from the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, when her team worked tirelessly to ensure clients received care, even at personal risk. This experience cemented her belief in the power of teamwork and selfless dedication to others.

**Carol's** hard work and dedication were recently recognized when she was honored with the Platinum Alex Award, an achievement that left her feeling both humbled and grateful. For **Carol**, the award is a reminder that no matter what challenges arise, she must continue to push forward and give her best each day. Her experiences at Spectrum have taught her important lessons about patience, perseverance, and the value of serving a purpose greater than her.

# SPECTRUM FOR SERVICE



## *M&T Bank*

Thank you to the amazing volunteers from M&T Bank for joining us in celebrating Spectrum Spirit Week and for striking up a fun-filled day of bowling with our clients. Your support helped us roll out an unforgettable experience!

## *Provident Bank*

Thank you to our friends at Provident Bank for joining us in celebrating Spectrum Spirit Week. Your volunteerism made our Sports-themed Paint and Sip unforgettable by handing out refreshments and assisting our clients, ensuring they left with a masterpiece!



## *Veolia*

Thank you to the team at Veolia Water North Jersey for volunteering your time to help stuff envelopes for our Annual Appeal. Your dedication helps us go further—thank you for being a valuable community partner!





# ANNUAL APPEAL

*“You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.”*

-John Bunyan

## Dear Friend,

To carry forward on our past successes and ensure that we continue to provide enriching opportunities to our many clients, I would ask that you **please make a donation today** to our 2025 Annual Appeal. Your continued support is vital to our ability to carry out our Mission and **make a positive difference** in the lives of the many people that rely upon us for their continued sustenance and support. While we may face many uncertainties to come, the certainty of your unwavering support will enable us to confidently address any challenges that the future may bring.

Thank you for all that you do to keep our Mission alive.



Very truly yours,

Christopher L. Perry  
President & CEO

*Donate Here!*



Your support makes the following possible:

Our **Cluster Intermediate Care Facility** provides 24-7 care for our most medically fragile residents.

Our **Community Residential Housing** provides supported living with private rooms to more than 170 adults.

Our five **Adult Training Centers** serve to maximize the individual potential of each of our day program participants by providing them with a variety of stimulating programs, including socialization, sensory integration, computer skills, fine and gross motor skills, as well as music and art therapy.

Our **Psychological & Behavioral Services** help to address the overall mental health of our clients to ensure that the needs of the whole individual are met.

Our **Recreational Programming** provides a broad array of community-integrated social events and activities to all of our clients, which keeps their minds and bodies active and affords them the opportunity to experience the full richness that life has to offer.

<http://weblink.donorperfect.com/SFLAnnualAppeal2025>

# SAVE THE DATE!



## *Sipping for Spectrum*

**Hoboken, NJ**

**May 17, 2025**

**REGISTER BY  
MAY 1ST TO  
GUARANTEE  
YOUR SIPPING  
FOR SPECTRUM  
T-SHIRT!**

**REGISTER  
ONLINE!**



**Michelle Capazzi | [michellecapazzi@gmail.com](mailto:michellecapazzi@gmail.com)**





**Spectrum  
for Living**

*Night at Bacari*

SPECTRUM FOR LIVING'S  
SIBLING GROUP  
FUNDRAISING DINNER

June 10, 2025  
6:30 PM

Bacari Grill  
800 Ridgewood Road  
Township of Washington  
NJ 07676

**\$100 / Ticket**  
*Space is Limited*

Buffet  
Dinner,  
Carving  
Stations, &  
Cash Bar

50/50

Raffle  
Prizes  
*Valued  
at \$100+*

Giving  
Tree

[HTTP://WEBLINK.DONORPERFECT.COM/SFLNIGHTATBACARI](http://weblink.donorperfect.com/sflnightatbacari)

STEFANIE BONILLA | 201-358-8000 X3006

# SAVE THE DATE!

# 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC



## Monday, September 8, 2025

Edgewood Country Club  
River Vale, New Jersey

[www.spectrumforliving.org](http://www.spectrumforliving.org)

