



The Good News Initiative

WINTER 2026

WINTER SPECTACULAR

A Wonderland of Lights, Music, and Memories



Our clients had a wonderful time at the Winter Spectacular, where they dressed up in their finest fashion and danced the night away! Thank you to our Spectrum for Living Sibling Group and Recreation Team for coordinating a memorable night for our clients!





EMPLOYEE SATISFACTION SURVEYS

Way to go Elmwood Park & Bergenfield!

Spectrum for Living's Human Resources Team celebrated the completion of our annual Employee Satisfaction Survey with staff members at our Elmwood Park and Bergenfield Group Homes, 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 Chief of Human Resources, Joan Garcia, was on hand to personally thank them for their participation in the survey.





MASTERING HEALTHY COOKING

Sleighting healthy choices this holiday season

We welcomed Chef Heidi to our Recreation program, where she helped clients prepare a healthy meal from start to finish. The meals added a festive touch while teaching clients how to maintain healthy habits throughout the holiday season. The experience was fun, interactive, and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

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

View more photos by following us on Facebook and Instagram!



@SpectrumforLiving



SANTA'S WORKSHOP

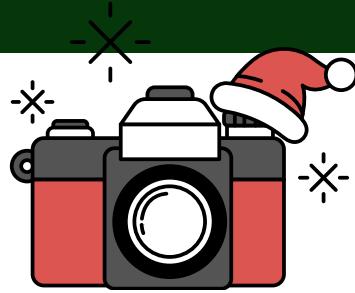


Thanks to our generous community donors and the Sibling Group, clients enjoyed a festive shopping experience at Santa's Workshop, browsing through an abundance of gifts. The day was filled with music, laughter, and holiday cheer!



PICTURES WITH SANTA

Smiles and Santa selfies!



Thank you to our friends at the Knights of Columbus Westwood for inviting us to take photos with Santa.

Our clients had a wonderful time meeting Santa, sharing everything on their Christmas lists, and enjoying a festive day filled with music, laughter, and delicious treats. From smiling for photos to soaking in the joyful holiday atmosphere, it was a memorable celebration for everyone.

View more photos by following us on Facebook and Instagram!

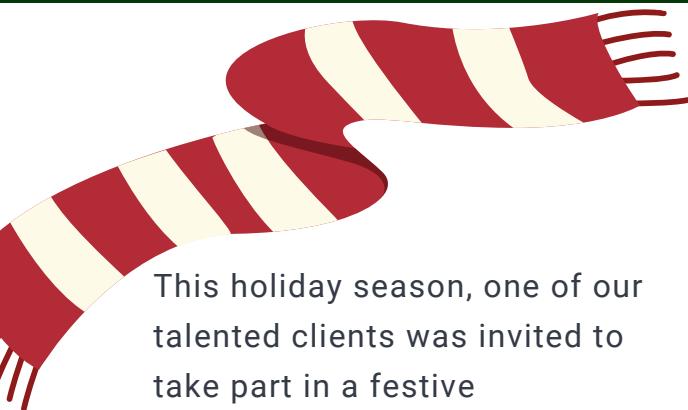


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OUR SUNSHINE CLUB BRINGS THE CHEER AND SLEIGHS THE SEASON!

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!





THE 60 FOOT SCARF

Made with love, one stitch at a time!

This holiday season, one of our talented clients was invited to take part in a festive community project for the Township of River Vale. She was asked to knit a 40-foot, candy-cane-striped scarf to help decorate a Christmas tree for the Van Saun Park holiday decorating contest.

With the River Vale's Social & Cultural Affairs assembling the tree, she enthusiastically got to work—and in just two weeks, exceeded expectations by creating an incredible 60-foot scarf to wrap the tree in holiday cheer!

We are grateful to our friends at River Vale's Social & Cultural Affairs for selecting Spectrum for Living as a collaborator on this project.

View more photos by following us on Facebook and Instagram!



@SpectrumforLiving



STAFF NEWS

NEW HIRES (*) AND PROMOTIONS (+)

Closter Intermediate Care Facility

Maya-Camille Burks *
Samantha Smith *
Leo Pestano +

Edison Adult Training Center

Janay Gallemore *
Marcia Jolo *
Shipra Dutta *
Tionnah Kitchen *
Vin Lombardi *

Edison Condos

Blessing Ofunim *
Gene'e Freeman *
Jay Ham +

Edison Group Home #100

Al-Wahdoo Phillips *
Carlito Rosemond *
Keisha Powell-Bivins *
Anthony Bobbitt-Howell +

Edison Group Home #300

Mirlande Dorsainvil *
Shayla Derrell *
Aminata Israel +

Glen Rock Group Home

Desheha Waring *

Guttenberg Group Home

Brittany Williams-Lawson *
Yazhe' Milligan *
Nasjae Brown +

Haworth Group Home

Ava Fraser *

Highwood Group Home

Harmony Edwin *
Clarissa Thomas *
Bedegine Dieudonne +

Hillsdale Group Home

Kiana Hardison *

Maywood Group Home

Brenda Jones *
Natasha Gross *

North Haledon Adult

Training Center
James McIver *
Nia Gaskins *

Norwood Group Home

Mandela Wion *

Ringwood Adult Training Center

Annabelle Remonet *
Tyanna Nembhard Peters *

Ringwood Apartments

Dion Fynes *
Mia McPherson *
Mina Fujii *
Robyn Sheridan *
Rutchelle Vil *
Kemario Christian +

River Vale Apartments

Angel Rosario *
D-Bancuff Bazile *
Gesmanie Darisme *
Jarissa Enchautegui *
Quadirria Williams *

Rockleigh Apartments

Elizabeth Declue *
Elsina Nikocevic *
Matthew Peter *

Teaneck Adult Training Center

Alannah Bartalone *
Benoit Patrick Tovar *
Mariah Ortega *

Wayne Group Home

Kilame-Cayah Johnson *



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 2025 to December 2025, the following employees received an Alex Award.

Platinum

Eugina Evans
Wisline Francois
Charles Ithau
Susan Kerrigan
Raquel Martinez
Junia Maurice
James Nandi
Nickalina Napolitano
Maxine Reid
Valdhi Sainvilus
Walter Sang
Carol Tay
Shontae White

Gold

Domingo Angeles, Jr.
Dwight Beeston
Wilmann Chancy
Kathleen Hennessy
Christine Huysers
Aminata Israel
Walter Sang
Hugh Sutherland
Troy Thompson
Syheemia Williams

Silver

Quinice Anthony
Monet Carolina
Patrick French
Kathryn Haray
Shelly Herd-Garcia
Geraldine LaParle
Calvins Mak'amayo
Donna Reid
Juliette Rene
Gale Saracinello

Bronze

Marquetta Anderson
Guerda Baptiste-Rene
Mark Bastidas-Hille
Stefanie Bonilla
Peter Ceccon
Jasmine Cranston-Sethi

Danielle Hall
Briana Harris
Melissa Henry
Elizabeth Hoppe
Nasheema Leak
Calvins Mak'amayo
Susan Mancuso

Mariah Ortega
Dorceus Perpignan
Julia Pfleging
Jean Pierre-Louis
Janaya Shayland
Diamond Smith

*Congratulations
Winners!*



ALEX AWARD WINNERS



PROFILES IN COMPASSION

Valdhi Sainvilus



Learn More About Valdhi:

1. Valdhi loves horror movies.
2. Valdhi enjoys traveling to foreign countries.
3. Valdhi has two favorite colors, which are black and pink.

Valdhi Sainvilus has been with Spectrum for Living for 1.5 years and is currently serving as the Coordinator of Staff Training & Quality Assurance.

Valdhi enjoys working at Spectrum for Living because of the opportunities she's had to build authentic and meaningful connections. She feels the most connected to our clients when someone learns a new skill, makes a breakthrough, or lights up with pride.

Valdhi shared, **"Those moments remind me that progress isn't measured by speed but by the heart behind it."** Helping her clients advocate for themselves has been one of the most meaningful parts of her work. It allows her to support them in finding their voice, understanding their rights, and building confidence to express their needs and preferences.

Working at Spectrum for Living has taught Valdhi that she is more patient, compassionate, and adaptable than she ever realized. She's learned how important it is to listen deeply by using not only your ears but your heart. Valdhi shared, **"It has taught me humility - recognizing that everyone has strengths, everyone faces challenges and everyone deserves respect and dignity."**

Honored to receive the Platinum Alex Award, Valdhi shared, **"I am honored to know that the hard work I put in is recognized, and it motivates me to keep growing and doing my best."**

SPECTRUM FOR SERVICE



Columbia Bank

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

Crafting Connections

Thank you to our volunteers from Crafting Connections. Their winter crafting kit, "Winter Windows" was a great hit with our clients at the Closter ICF. They assisted with painting a joyful and peaceful winter scene that represented togetherness, comfort, and the season!

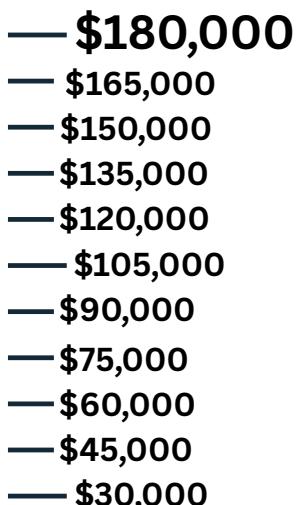
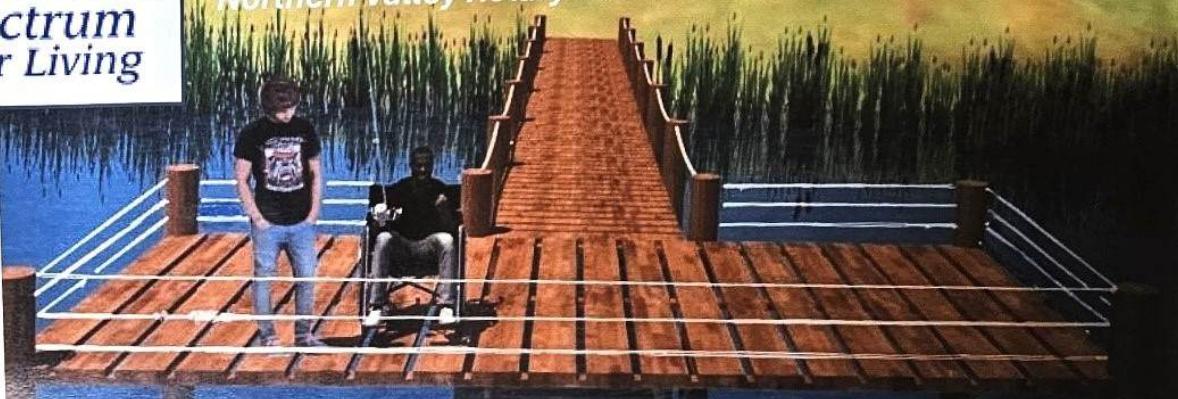


SPECTRUM FISHING PIER



Spectrum Fishing Pier

A joint initiative of the Hudson River Fishermen's Association, Northern Valley Rotary Club and Hackensack Riverkeeper.



Support the Hudson River Fishermen's Association and partners in creating an ADA-compliant, environmentally responsible fishing pier at the Oradell Reservoir in Closter, NJ. Replacing the old, unsafe wooden pier, this new aluminum pier will offer safe, accessible recreation for all – especially the residents of Spectrum for Living.



Donate
Here!



WALL OF LOVE

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 2026.



[WWW.GIVINGGRID.COM/KEDHYL/](https://www.givinggrid.com/kedhyl/)

After claiming your heart, all photo submissions can be e-mailed to Stefanie at sbonilla@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.

SAVE THE DATE!



Poker Night

Knights of Columbus Council 943
Butler, NJ

March 2026

5K, Walk, & Doggie Dash

Overpeck Park
Ridgefield Park, NJ

April 2026



Sipping for Spectrum

Hoboken, NJ

May 2026