

## Rae-minders

If you want to get involved, donate, volunteer, have questions or ideas, her door is always open. Please reach out to Rae D. Baldino, Director of Communications and Development, at (570)347-3357, ext.33 or (570) 589-7414 or r.baldino@ucpnepa.org.

### BOSCOV'S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS \$5 SHOPPING PASS FUNDRAISER

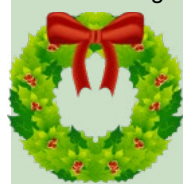
Stop by to pick up your 25% OFF Boscov's Coupon for \$5 and support UCP of NEPA for the Friends Helping Friends Fundraiser!

Coupons are good for October 20, 2021 only, in-store per Boscov's rules. For coupons & details, contact Rae.



### HOLIDAY WREATHS & MORE

At the start of November, we will once again be having our holiday wreath sale, offering two style of wreaths and centerpieces as well as window swags and door charms. **Order forms will be available at our Scranton and Clarks Summit offices as well as online.** Please contact Rae for more.



### HOLIDAY GIFT WRAPPING STAND

We will be back in action this year at the Viewmont Mall to host our **40th Holiday Gift Wrapping Stand**. We will have safety precautions (masks, hand sanitizer, etc.).

If you and your group would like to volunteer please contact Rae.

This event can be compressed.



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instagram.com/ucpnepa  
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PLEASE PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO OUR SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS FOR UPDATES AS COVID PANDEMIC GUIDELINES CAN EFFECT OUR ABILITY TO HOST FUTURE EVENTS.



425 Wyoming Ave  
Scranton, PA 18503

phone: 570.347.3357  
fax: 570.341.5308  
website: www.ucpnepa.org



FOR ALL AGES AND DISABILITIES

## FREE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO ALL PA RESIDENTS AT UCP'S ATRC

**Assistive Technology (AT) Lending Library-** Free AT devices to borrow for 9 weeks for every area of disability, shipped straight to you by UPS. Try out the device you are thinking of buying to see how it works for you or your loved one.

**Telecommunication Device Distribution Program-** Free adaptive phones for low income individuals with disabilities. This program offers landline phones as well as cell phone options or tablets.

**Pass AT ON-** Reused equipment program provides free, donated and cleaned equipment for everyone in need. Most often donated items include canes, walkers, wheelchairs, bedside commodes, shower chairs, and phones.

**DON'T FORGET device demonstrations** include our assistive technology specialist showing individuals several devices to meet their needs that will aid them to be more independent in the tasks they are trying to accomplish.

Call 1-877-UCP-TECH or email [ATRC@UCPNEPA.ORG](mailto:ATRC@UCPNEPA.ORG) to speak to our AT Specialist now!

Want your newsletter emailed to you instead? Just let us know by emailing us at [info@ucpnepa.org](mailto:info@ucpnepa.org)

UCP OF NEPA

# Limitless

Life without limits for people with disabilities



SUMMER/FALL 2021 NEWSLETTER

## SAFELY REOPENING



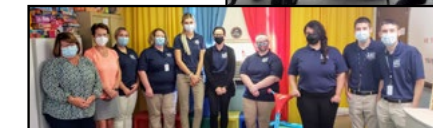
The past few months have been ones of change, as we continue to see COVID restrictions ease.

We have been able to reopen our Adult Day Program on a part-time basis, and resume community outings for our residents as well. In addition, the administrative team has returned to full capacity working in the office and the Assistive Technology Resource Center (ATRC) has started accepting and distributing PASS AT ON donations by appointment only.

Our Children's Center has also been able to resume Compuplay Camps and in-person Lekotek sessions with clients and families.

As we move into the winter months, we will remain vigilant, monitoring and working our way through this pandemic together, making adjustments as needed, to continue to keep the the safety of our consumers, residents, staff, and community paramount.

We want to take thank our staff for all their hard work and dedication and perseverance.



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President

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Secretary

BARBARA PARTYKA  
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Chief Executive Officer

RAE D. BALDINO  
Director of Communications & Development

CHERYL A. BURGER  
Director of Children's Services

KAREN A. HIMCHAK  
Director of Residential Services

RAANIA R. ISMAIL  
Director of Finance

SARA PETRINI  
Director of Adult Day Program

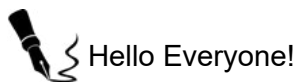
## UCP GOLF TOURNAMENT RAISES \$8K FOR EARLY INTERVENTION

GOLD SPONSORS			
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			DAN CARDELL'S WINDSOR INN
			Tim & Linda McHugh
			ROBERT JONES JR. CONSTRUCTION CO.

Our annual golf tournament was held on August 27, 2021 at Stone Hedge Golf Course in Tunkhannock. The event raised over \$8,000 for our Early Intevention services and will help infants and children with disabilities and developmental delays. Thank you to all our sponors and to the golfers who came out to support UCP.

We would like to thank all our sponsors (listed on left) as well as *Two Matress Men* and *Woodloch Springs* for their generosity. A huge thank you to recent UCP retiree Tim McHugh for chairing the tournament with special thanks to Bridget Wheeler and Sarah Drob for assisting with the event.





## LETTER FROM THE CEO

I hope you, your family, friends and loved ones are safe and well and enjoying the transition into Fall weather!

We've had some exciting things happen since the spring! We were able to reopen our facility based Adult Day Program! Although we are operating on a part time basis, it is joyous to have people we support back in the building! And based on their responses, I think they are just as happy!

Tim Mc Hugh our Chief Operating Officer and Kathy Sloneker, our Speech Therapist in our Early Intervention Program retired. Both Tim and Kathy dedicated their professional lives to supporting the people we serve and UCP. We miss them greatly, but wish them all the best in their new adventures!

Our first year participating in NEPA Gives on June 4, 2021 was a big success! Through this one day online gift giving even we raised over \$14,000. Thank you all for your continued support and generosity!

As the summer ends and we move into the fall and continued uncertain times, we are doing everything we can to keep the people we support, their families and each other safe and healthy. We ask that you join us as we diligently work to keep each other safe and healthy and finally put an end to this pandemic. Stay safe, smart and healthy!

Sarah A. Drob  
Chief Executive Officer

## ANNUAL MEETING AND EMPLOYEE MILESTONES

The UCP of NEPA Annual Meeting was held virtually on June 29, 2021, celebrating 68 years of service to the community. There were staff and board members present for the Zoom meeting. At the Annual Meeting, 2021-2022 Board of Directors nominations and election were conducted and approved, and employee retirements and anniversaries were recognized. We also remembered those friends who were no longer with us including consumers Donald Butler, Dorene Morse, Ken Mathis, employee Tom Davies, and long-time board member John Darcy. The board extended their thanks to all employees for their dedication and commitment to UCP of NEPA during the pandemic noting the tremendous leadership of CEO, Sarah Drob throughout as well.

### President

Marilyn Vitali

### Treasurer

Edward Karpovich

### Immediate Past President

Barbara Partyka

### Vice President

Robert Jones, Jr.

### Secretary

Linda Gable

### 5 Years of Service

Sarah Bowen, Residential Services DSP  
Joan Gruss, Residential Services DSP  
Josiah Lawrence, Residential Services DSP  
Thomas Lord (6 years), Residential Services DSP  
Robert Woodall, Residential Services DSP

### 10 Years of Service

Sara Petrini, Director of Adult Services  
Karen Morales, Residential Services DSP

### 15 Years of Service

Thomas Brunton, Adult Services DSP

### 20 Years of Service

Janet Burton, Home Services Nurse  
Sarah A. Drob, CEO  
Kenneth Keib, Financial Assistant  
Jennifer Malak, Children's Physical Therapist

### 25 Years of Service

Michael McAndrew, Receptionist

### 35 Years of Service

Cheryl A. Burger, Director of Children's Services

*Thank you for  
all you do!*



## TIM McHUGH: RETIRING AFTER 42 YEARS OF SERVICE

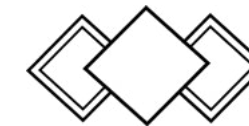
Tim McHugh started working for UCP of NEPA, then referred to as United Cerebral Palsy of Lackawanna County, on June 19, 1979. Oddly enough, Tim came to work for UCP in an interesting turn of events. "A friend was offered the job but didn't take it. So I interviewed for the job... and the whole thing just fell together for me." At that time, special education was starting to be integrated into the schools, which was the focus of Tim's studies at Marywood University. He accepted his first position (of many) with UCP as a children's services support worker in the classroom. As he became more aligned with the mission and work of UCP, "the business end of things really started to peak my interest." Tim took college courses that led to a new role, Transportation Coordinator, helping with the day-to-day vehicle transport and maintenance needs, serving the entire UCP organization. Tim only continued to take on more responsibility and accepted the role of Property Manager at UCP where he helped oversee the purchasing of five new group homes in Lackawanna County. His role became even more infused with the UCP mission and in 2003 Tim accepted the position of Director of Operations. His added duties included the human resources component, which is an essential part of the organization. He remained in this role until 2019, when the organization promoted him to Chief Operating Officer.

Tim looks back on his career and has great memories, from working with different leadership to making sure consumers needs were met to welcoming new personnel, saying, "it was fulfilling and so much more than a paycheck." Some of his favorite memories though came with the purchase of the new community living homes as UCP of NEPA expanded throughout the years. "I will always remember when our consumers were moving into the new houses. They would be so excited to move in and pick out their rooms and furniture. It was just the best."

After 42 years, Tim says one thing has always remained the same. "Our goal never changed. We do the best we can and make sure that the needs of our consumers' are met," noting it was true when he started and still holds true to today's mission of working together as a team for the common good. It's something that makes Tim proud to say that he was part of UCP of NEPA and the services we provide.

While Tim will miss his colleagues and consumers and every day happenings, he looks forward to retirement and spending time with his wife, Linda, and family. Of course, there will be lots of relaxing, golfing and traveling too with no set schedules.

He would like to acknowledge the Mrs. Lydia Coulter for her wisdom during the time they worked together; UCP CEO Sarah Drob for her continued support, entrusting him as the Director of Operations and COO; and thanks the long term employees for being committed to the agency.



## KATHY SLONEKER: SAYING FAREWELL AFTER 27 YEARS

Kathy Sloneker started working for the UCP Children's Center 1994. Her son went to daycare at UCP, a service previously offered within the Children's Center programming, where she inquired about open positions, applying for a job at the daycare. As fate would have it, there was a need for a Speech Therapist, a perfect match for Kathy's background. "I was hired as a [part-time] Speech Therapist and gradually worked my way up to full time."

Kathy saw the importance of helping others first-hand in the work her sisters did and wanted an impactful career too, saying, "My sisters influenced me. One is a social worker and the other was an adult special needs teacher. They both worked so hard for their clients/students." And throughout her time with UCP of NEPA Kathy did just that, helping many children with a wide range of speech-related disabilities and their families, holding true to the mission. "I think what has remained the same throughout is the commitment of the staff to try to do their best to help the people we serve."

Kathy says the best advice she learned over the years was that there are two sides to every story. "Everyone has their own story and we need to respect that." It's something Children's Services Director Cheryl Burger would remind her of too.

Kathy would like to thank Cheryl, the Children's Services team, and all the UCP staff members for all their support.

"I am most proud of always trying to do the best for each child and family I could, no matter what the circumstances."



## OUR DONORS

### January 1, 2021 - June 31, 2021

#### UCP VISIONARIES (\$75,500+)

Ruth L. Mattis Trust

#### UCP GREEN CIRCLE (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Scranton Area Foundation\*

#### UCP BELIEVERS (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Paul & Anne Falzett Charitable Fund  
The Hawk Family Foundation\*  
Irene Matto Trust  
PNC Bank  
Network for Good  
Scranton Kiwanis Foundation  
Marilyn Vitali\*

#### FRIENDS OF UCP (\$500 - \$999)

Tony Cardell\*  
Anna Cavellio  
Rae D. Baldino\*  
Sarah A. Drob\*  
Network for Good

#### PATRONS OF UCP (\$250 - \$499)

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#### SUPPORTERS OF UCP (Up to \$249)

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Shareen Zaghoul\*  
Chelsea Zimmerman\*  
Doug Zupko\*  
10+ Anonymous Donors

### \*NEPA GIVES SHATTERS \$10K GOAL



UCP of NEPA participated in NEPA Gives for the first time this past June, shattering the goal of \$10,000, raising over \$14,000. Funds raised during the one-day, NEPA-wide, online fundraising event benefitted UCP of NEPA's specialized services for infants and children with disabilities or developmental delays. We would like to sincerely thank our matching sponsors, the Moses Taylor Foundation and the Hawk Family Foundation, as well as our business donors Cipriani & Werner, Flagship Packaged Products, FNCB Bank, Peoples Security Bank, Community Bank, N.A., Lingua LLC, ElectriTEK LLC, NET Credit Union, Matt Burne Honda, and PDQ Print & Fulfillment. Additionally, thank you to those who gave to our fundraiser's campaigns too! We are grateful to the Scranton Area Community Foundation, the host sponsors and all participating sponsors for the opportunity to be part of the NEPA Gives fundraiser. (\*Indicates NEPA Gives 2021 donations.)



### MAKE SURE YOU HELP US (AMAZON) SMILE

Don't forget when you shop Amazon, to select UCP of NEPA as your charity of choice! Thank you to those that have shared their smiles with us, totalling over **\$28.00!**



### SCRANTON KIWANIS FOUNDATION DONATES \$1K TO UCP

Thank you to the Kiwanis Club of Scranton for their generous donation to UCP of NEPA of \$1,000 to support our Early Intervention and Lekotek program. Their donation was presented by Kate Holod (pictured on left) to CEO Sarah Drob on June 15, 2021. We truly appreciate the Scranton Kiwanis's support and commitment to UCP of NEPA.

### MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM JANUARY 1, 2021 - June 31, 2021

*In Memory of Beryl J. Astolfi*  
GARY & MARIAN GOLDSTEIN BECKHORN  
SARAH A. DROB  
CYNTHIA GILLOTTI  
MARK & LISA GOLDEN  
MICHAEL & KAREN KANE  
SALLY McCULLON  
BARBIE HENSHAW & GEORGE PHILLIPS  
CAROLE SURRIDGE  
ROSS & MARY VENTRE  
WILLIAM & GAYLE WILLIAMS

*In Memory of Paul E. Burman, Jr.*  
MARILYN VITALI  
CARL \* & TESSIE BAUER

*In Memory of Thomas J. Davies*  
CARL & TESSIE BAUER  
MICHAEL & JEAN MARIE McHUGH

*In Memory of Mary Katherine Flaherty*  
MICHAEL FLAHERTY

*In Memory of John Galli*  
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*In Memory of Paul Guzzi*  
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*In Memory of Natalie Henkleman*  
DORIS A. LINDSLEY

*In Memory of Gene Himchak*  
KAREN HIMCHAK

*In Memory of David Kepple*  
MARTYANN GUTIERREZ  
MARY HIESTER HUMMEL  
RUSSEL KINSEY

*In Memory of Fred Klevinsky*  
DORIS A. LINDSLEY

*In Memory of Barry Klonoski*  
JOHN & SUSAN KLONOSKI  
SALLY & JOE McCULLON

*In Memory of Maureen O'Hara*  
BARBARA BURKHUSE

*In Memory of Arlene Scavo*  
DORIS A. LINDSLEY

*In Memory of Arlene Schwartz*  
CARL & TESSIE BAUER  
PETER & PAULA GETZIE

*In Memory of Mark E. Smith*  
REBECCA BRIA

## Introducing...



We would like to introduce you to Regina Savage who has been participating in UCP of NEPA's Adult Day Training Program located in Scranton for 33 years! That makes her the longest participant at UCP!

Regina really enjoys being part of conversations, especially with her female friends. Regina expresses herself through her facial expressions, using very little words. And, she always lets us know what she is thinking!

Regina loves pastel colors flowers of all different varieties. Her favorite flower is a marigold.

But be careful if you play a game of BINGO with Regina. She is the BINGO Queen of UCP!

Regina's sister, Nancy, says UCP's Adult Day Training program is her favorite. "Regina loves going to program. Everyone is always so helpful with everything she's been through. It's been a great experience for her."

We are all lucky to have Regina as a friend here at UCP.

