

ABILITIES

March, 2017

The Catholic Charities Disabilities Services Community Supports Newsletter

Volume 155

Professional of the Month

Congratulations Mary Greschak!

Mary Greschak has been with the agency as a CSP for about three years. She is an asset to both the agency as well as the individuals she provides services to.

Mary works with several people throughout the week and gives endless hours of positive supports to all. Each person she works with has their own unique needs and she is able to assist them in person centered ways. She has great insight for the likes and dislikes of everyone. She works very diligently to find activities that will be of interest to each person she works with.

Mary is always very bright and cheery and ready to go each day. Mary is positive, a great role model, friendly and provides great services to all.

We are very fortunate to have Mary as part of our Community Supports Team and we look forward to the years ahead.

Mary is positive, a great role model, friendly and provides great services to all.

Time at CCDS: Three Years

CSP Honor Roll!

Nichole Calhoun, Deb Collins, Edith Desorbe, Jacqueline Doherty, Clifford Fuller, Colleen Garbarini, Cynthia Garcia, Mary Greschak, Carrie James, Jesse McAndrews, Kathleen Miller, T. Alan Perry, Brenda Stoddard, David Utter, Emily Corbett, Nureni Abijako, Katherine Agard, Carol Bluhm, Laura Draiss, Anca Feier, Virginia Gajewski, Sara Growick, Brenda Harrison, Ann Jeffrey, John Leclerc, Jill Macdonald, Ericka Miles, Karen Mixson, Charles Monson, Jacquelin Morris, Amanda Nolan, John Pagano, Candace Ruland, Jessica Steinbach, Linda Thatcher, Paula Willard, Wioletta Winter, Gregory Zaloom, Betsey Bartley, Catherine Chillemi, Max Clayton, Geryl Dritz, Kelly Ennis, Soad Fahim, Joe Furlong, Caitlin Lenio, Anthonya Major, Sarah Martin, Sarah Morrell, Kristina Mortenson, Leslie Osta, Emily Pierce, Dan Shanahan, Elizabeth Thibault



LOOK OUT!

On-Call Phone Number Change!



*"Turning disabilities into capabilities;
providing quality services with
integrity, compassion and respect."*

Happy Anniversary

Congratulations to all the Community Supports Professionals who are celebrating service anniversaries in March.

4 Years: Jessica Steinbach

8 Years: Wioletta Winter &
T. Allan Perry

11 Years: Ryan Bombard

17 Years: Santina Mancini

Thank you for your hard work and dedication!

TUESDAY APRIL 18th
4:00 - 6:00pm

Activities Include:

- * facepainting
- * balloon animals
- * games
- * music
- * arts & crafts & more!

LOCATION: Hibernian Hall
375 Ontario St, Albany, NY

Open to people (ages 18 and under) who receive CCDS services, & their family & friends



Community Corner

ALBANY COUNTY

Bounce to the Albany Capital Center

When: March 4, 2017 at 10am

Where: Albany City Hall

Free Event! Welcoming local children to dribble basketballs from the steps of Albany City Hall to the entrance of the Albany Capital Center. The first 200 participants will receive a free MAAC basketball and the first 500 participants will receive a voucher redeemable for a free ticket to the MAAC Women's Quarterfinals at noon on Saturday.

RENSSELAER COUNTY

Capital District Garden & Flower Show

When: March 24th-26th

Fri. March 24th: 10am-8pm

Sat. March 25th: 9am-7pm

Sun. March 26th: 10am - 5pm

Where: HVCC

Free Event! Plant society and educational booths, lectures, workshops, and flower demonstrations. tips and trends. A Play land for youngsters. A Garden Café.

SARATOGA COUNTY

Community Purim Carnival

When: Sun. Mar. 12th: 2pm-4pm

Where: Gavin Park's Christopher Dailey Gym, Saratoga Springs

Free Event! Featuring more than 15 interactive games and 2 huge bouncy bounces. For More Information Call: 518-584-8730

WARREN COUNTY

St Patrick's Day Parade

When: March 11th: 11am-4pm

Where: Maine St. Chestertown, NY

Free Event! Come and cheer for the bag pipers, musicians, public servants, community volunteers, town services, fire trucks, road crews and have lots of spring-time fun too.

GREEN COUNTY

Moonlit Walk

When: March 10th: 6:30pm-9pm

Where: Schodack Landing

Free Event! Please call the Park at (518) 732-1087 to register for this guided walk. Refreshments will follow with a campfire.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Annual Irish Ceili Dance

When: March 15th: 7pm-9pm

Where: Cambridge School Auditorium

Free Event! Come and celebrate St. Patrick's Day with traditional Irish dance. Bring friends or family members, anyone who'd like to watch some Irish dancing, or try it. A "ceili" is like an Irish square dance, where dances are taught and anyone can participate or watch.

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Update your contacts list! Our CS on-call phone is now called the Community On-Call phone and can be reached at:
(518) 369-2234.

Swimming Safety Reminders!

Here are a few points from our Agency Standard on Swimming and Water Safety. Be sure to check out the full standard on the Staff Portal.

- CS supports can only take individuals swimming in areas when there is a Certified Lifeguard on active duty. (Some gyms do not have certified lifeguards on duty so be sure to check!)
- Prior to swimming, each individual must have a swimming plan that includes a swim assessment performed by a certified lifeguard or written parent information regarding swimming abilities, as well as written levels of supervision in the water and other health and safety parameters identified. Be sure to check with your supervisor before going swimming with an individual you are working with!
- CSP must be in the water at all times with the individual for whom they are responsible.
- CSP must be within arm's length when near a shoreline, dock or boat.