A COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE

I am pleased to share with you a story about a 3 year old who recently visited WIC and is now enrolled in your Happiness House New Friends Preschool Program in South Seneca. This boy, Brady, is extremely fortunate to have had two years at Happiness House. Since enrolling in your program, his language skills have skyrocketed. His communication skills are now well developed and he is able to express himself in a variety of ways, including through gestures, signing, and simple phrases. He has made tremendous progress in areas such as independence and social skills. His parents are overjoyed with the progress he has made and attribute it to the quality care and support provided by the staff at Happiness House.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the tremendous efforts of the staff at Happiness House. Their dedication and commitment to providing the best possible care to children like Brady is truly inspiring. The program at Happiness House is not just a place for children to learn and grow, but a place where they are loved and valued as individuals.

Thank you to all the dedicated staff members at Happiness House for their continued hard work and commitment to providing high-quality care and support for children like Brady. Your efforts make a significant difference in the lives of the children and families you serve.

Director of Psychological Services/Director of Adult Services/Director of Clinical Services
Mary Herlihy Gearan, Esq. - Vice Chair

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
Mary Walsh Bradtford, Chair
Christa A. Sollenne, Co-Chair
Valerie H. Walsh, Treasurer
Scott L. Schirurs, Secretary
Robert W. Sollenne, Immediate Past Chair
James H. King - President
Susan G. Spratt - Vice President

Finger Lakes Cerebral Palsy Association
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

OFFICE HOURS
Darrell Whitbeck
Quality Assurance
Sondra Scoins
Sales Coordinator
Terrie L. Meyn
Director of Operations
Patricia L. Cunningham
Director of Clinical Services

Patricia L. Cunningham
Director of Clinical Services
Lynn A. D’Amico
Director of Quality Assurance

The Happy House is a place where everybody likes you.

I just had a conversation with one of the children at the daycare program, Brady. Brady: "A place where everybody likes you." I think you will like the program too. As we prepare for the upcoming school year, we are excited to offer a variety of educational, residential, recreational, and family support services.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to ensuring that every child and family receives the care and support they need.

Director of Family Support

HAPPINESS HOUSE IS...

New York State (NYS) Licensed Child Care
NYS Home & Community Based Waivers: • Nursing Home Transition & Diversion • Physical, & Speech Therapy • Positive Behavioral Intervention & Support • Pre-Vocational Day Program • Psychiatric... Integration Counseling

A NEW SEASON - A NEW OPPORTUNITY

I am pleased to share with you that effective May 20, 2011 Happiness House/FLUCP, Inc. and CP Rochester have entered into an Executive Staffing Agreement regarding leadership at both agencies. This Executive Staffing Agreement is the result of discussions between the boards of Directors of Happiness House and CP Rochester.

I have assumed the role of President/CEO of CP Rochester, while continuing in my role as CEO of Happiness House. Brian Blakie will serve as executive advisor until his formal retirement in September 2013.

I recognize the immense value to be gained for both organizations with this agreement. It will enhance and strengthen the scope of high quality services to the more than 5,000 individuals and families we serve, provide a larger operational platform, leverage resources, and become even more cost-effective. Together, we will offer a comprehensive array of services including evaluation, habilitation, therapeutic, educational, residential, recreational, residential, and family support services.

Happiness House and CP Rochester welcome this collaboration of community providers who are working together to help define the future of services for individuals with disabilities who will reside in this home. “We are very fortunate, given the tremendous support of our program participants and their families, donors, team members, and others, we will continue to strive to earn your confidence by conducting our business with integrity, dependability, and commitment.

We appreciate and value the relationships we have with you. Because of our shared commitment to the individuals who receive services at Happiness House and CP Rochester, we will continue to be true to our missions to change lives.

Living Center (Cont.)

"Happiness House will provide residents with services based on their individual needs, including case management, individualized training for independent living, skills and wellness and money management education, pre-vocational training, assistance with job search, and direct care support," said Eileen Gage, Happiness House Board Chair and Vice President of Nursing at Finger Lakes Health.

Mary Walsh Bradtford, Happiness House CEO adds, "Happiness House will ensure quality care, compliance and will utilize various funding streams in serving all eligible individuals with disabilities who will reside in this home. We are very fortunate that the state of this opportunity to expand our services and we’re importer that we continue to look for alternative, cost effective ways to provide needed services in the future. Happiness House is committed to providing a safe environment with cost effective, integrated, lifelong opportunities for individuals with disabilities. These services will enhance their life skills, access public transportation to our community, as they strive toward increased independence.

Happiness House is pleased to announce a partnership with iCircle Services, a collaboration of community providers who are working together to help define a path to deliver the most diversified, robust, high quality services to people with developmental disabilities and their families in the Central New York Region. Learn more about iCircle at http://icirclefl.org.

A PLACE WHERE EVERYBODY LIKES YOU

Our mission is to provide services that enable and empower individuals with developmental disabilities to enhance their quality of life. Happiness House New Friends Preschool Program is a place where every child is loved and valued as an individual. The program is designed to meet the unique needs of each child, providing a safe and nurturing environment for them to learn and grow.

Thank you for your support and continued commitment to our mission.

Director of Universal Pre-Kindergarten

Eileen Gage - Chair

Cheryl L. Schaefer-Coppola
Finger Lakes Cerebral Palsy Association
Director of Clinical Services

Thank you!!

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Thank you for your support and continued commitment to our mission.

Director of Universal Pre-Kindergarten
A VOLUNTEER PERSPECTIVE: HANNAH HOOD

Hannah Hood began as a student volunteer at Happiness House in 2010. At that time, she didn’t realize the impact her volunteer experience in the preschool program would have on her career path and her desire to continue volunteering at Happiness House throughout her college years. Hannah’s first volunteer opportunity came in the fall of 2010 while taking children with Disabilities course at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. This class required students to work with a participating local organization. Hannah was able to work at Happiness House through the Blue Room at Happiness House under Luann Ryan, Special Education Teacher. She soon realized that the interactions she was having with the students she was working with were much more than she ever thought it could be. The following year, she continued volunteering there as she worked on her capstone project focused on inclusive early childhood practices that support the experiences that Happiness House students have.

Luann refers to Hannah as their “silent soldier.” “She arrives, hangs up her coat, and immediately interacts with the students. Her maturity and kindness towards the students with special needs are contagious and her presence is a pleasure having her in the Blue Room for the last three years. She will be missed and her empty chair will be felt.” She continues, “Hannah has a dry wit and a way of looking at things that are different because Peyton was born with a form of spina bifida called myelomeningocele. We were told that because Peyton was born with spina bifida he would have trouble walking, have incontinence issues, and possible learning disabilities. As Peyton grew older we learned that he was on the Autism spectrum.”

Hannah completed the Master of Arts Teaching program at HWS and graduated in May 2013 with dual certification in elementary education and teaching students with disabilities. Hannah has become a 2013 Tea for America (TFA) member in Washington, D.C., where she will spend the next two years teaching special education in a public school district in the south on the coast.

During her senior year at HWS, Hannah had a genuine love for her career choice as well as her embarks on her teaching career. She will be able to communicate her finds and share her education so that children can learn. We know she will, too, change lives forever.

THANK YOU, UNISYS

Unisys and Unisys Technical Services Employees offered support to Happiness House in June 2013 as part of their local community service work. The collaboration was to develop partnerships with The Rochester Technical Services, and the Rochester Unisys Technical Services employees at the program and show them around the building and mentor them by answering questions and guiding them through running a group during program. Ally is very willing to try anything, even if it is out of her comfort zone. Allyson Dorn is the 2012 recipient of the John P. Clary Award. She participates in multiple programs that made John such a special person. These characteristics include:

1. Consistently displays the characteristics that made John such a special person. These characteristics include:
   a. A sense of humor, being caring and a good listener, demonstrating a good work ethic,
   b. The ability to communicate and express ideas clearly and convincingly,
   c. The ability to provide cutting-edge technologies that help us learn. We appreciate their support.

At the age of two, we enrolled Peyton at Happiness House. He could barely walk, struggled to interact with other children, and barely spoke at all. The staff at Happiness House became part of our team in caring for Peyton, and the incredible head coach of our team is my wife, Becky. Becky has special medical needs that require attention even while he is in school. Nurse Amy at Happiness House is very special to us because she was quick to learn about Peyton’s disability and his day-to- day care needs. We've also seen Peyton begin to interact more with other children. For example, when Peyton heard Becky play the xylophone down the hallway was something we'll never forget. Peyton’s speech has also improved. He is now able to make sounds, and says ‘mama’ and ‘dada’. The staff at Happiness House have been amazing, we can't thank them enough. We look forward to the notes that are written in his notebook telling us each day what aides, therapists, and classmates at Happiness House have been amazing, we can’t thank them enough. We look forward to the notes that are written in his notebook telling us each day what aides, therapists, and classmates at Happiness House have been amazing, we can’t thank them enough.

Hannah and I met while I was a student at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. We were both committed to developing our professional, educational, and personal lives in a way that would make a difference in our lives and the lives of others. We are thankful for our shared values and our commitment to helping our students reach their full potential.

We are proud of “B’s” accomplishments since starting school with you all! Please consider coming to one of our Friday Night Events. Matt and I cannot thank you all enough for all that you do for our family. “It is doing great and brought his new wheelchair in to show his classmates last week. The kid laughed and we both told him it was awesome, which was...Awesome.” All of his teachers, one-to-one aides, and the nurses from Happiness House have been so special to him. We are forever grateful to them, not only for paving the way to success for him, but for their ability to make a difference in the life of our son. We are so proud of “B’s” accomplishments since starting school with you all! Please consider coming to one of our Friday Night Events.

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