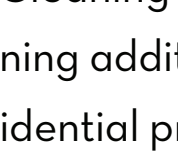




# Meaningful lives for people with disabilities



## 21 PLUS TIMES SUMMER 2024



### MESSAGE FROM 21 PLUS

Dear Family and Friends,

Our Adult Training Centers provide outstanding customer service with our 21 Plus Cleaning Services crew labor cleaning local offices and businesses and gaining additional Main Street Greens CSA hydroponic farm members. Our residential programs are in the community making the most of summer, enjoying all there is to offer in the great state of New Jersey.

We celebrated Neil Luli, who received statewide recognition as the NJACP 2024 Leadership Award recipient, a singular honor with over 65 providers throughout the state of New Jersey invited to submit a nominee.

Several of the individuals we support enjoyed traveling to Graceland or Disney and many others are planning trips for the remainder of the year.

#### Our leadership team:

**Nicole Bauer, Director of Quality Management - nbauer@21plus.org**

**Silvana Cantarini, Director of Residential Services - scantarini@21plus.org**

**Joanne Hanson, Finance Director - jhanson@21plus.org**

**Melanie McAteer, Director of Human Resources - mmcateer@21plus.org**

You can find 21 Plus in the community as active members of the Greater Toms River Chamber of Commerce as well as Southern New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, affording us the opportunity to form partnerships with other nonprofits, businesses, and legislators. We are eager to support other nonprofits and community organizations such as the Girls Scouts of Central and Southern New Jersey, Habitat for Humanity, Toms River Pride, Ocean's Harbor House, Jersey Shore Council Scouting America and RWJ Barnabas Health.

Our advocacy with legislators continues, attending meet and greets with legislators as well as the budget hearings at the state house in Trenton.

We are proud partners with Jersey Shore BlueClaws and you may have seen us at the July 5th game. 21 Plus was featured with promotional signs, videos, and slideshows throughout the stadium. Sarah G. threw out the first pitch and we were interviewed on their streaming platform at the top of the 3rd inning.

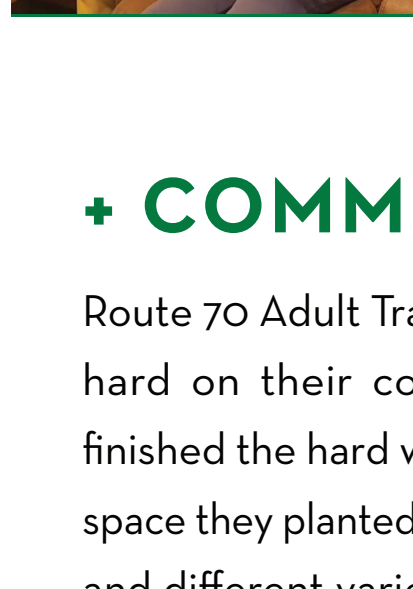
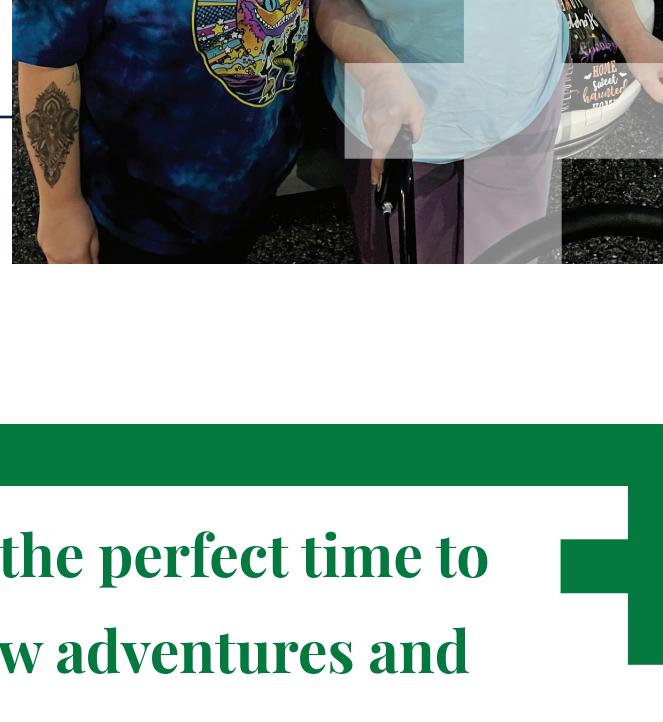
Our Board of Directors is engaged, attending events, and participating in board development opportunities such as the Grunin Foundation board retreat.

Our mission, to enable individuals with intellectual developmental disabilities to lead fulfilling lives in partnership with families and community, is in the forefront of our day-to-day thoughts, actions, and decisions. We strive to be mission first and people always; committed to a culture of excellence in the services we provide, finding opportunities for the people we support to engage in innovative programs, and creating a fun atmosphere in the workplace.

**We are one agency, one mission.**

Sincerely,

**Diane Hutton-Rose**  
Executive Director  
21 Plus, Inc.



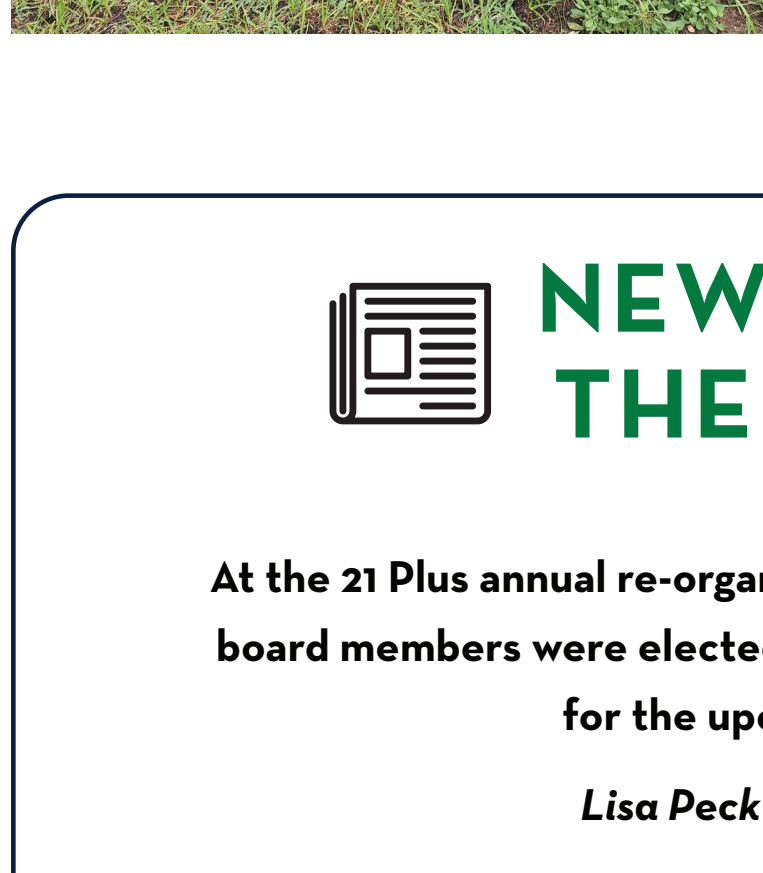
**“Summer is the perfect time to embrace new adventures and create lasting memories.”**



### + COMMUNITY GARDENING

Route 70 Adult Training Center has been working hard on their community garden. Once they finished the hard work of cleaning up their garden space they planted celery, cucumbers, cantaloupes, and different varieties of tomatoes and peppers. Everyone has been happy to go work in the garden, but Ronita and Antonio enjoy it the most.

The ATC participants are looking forward to eating what they harvest and sharing with their friends!



### NEWS FROM THE BOARD

**At the 21 Plus annual re-organization meeting, the following board members were elected to the Executive Committee for the upcoming year:**

**Lisa Peck - President**

**Jan Kirsten - Vice President**

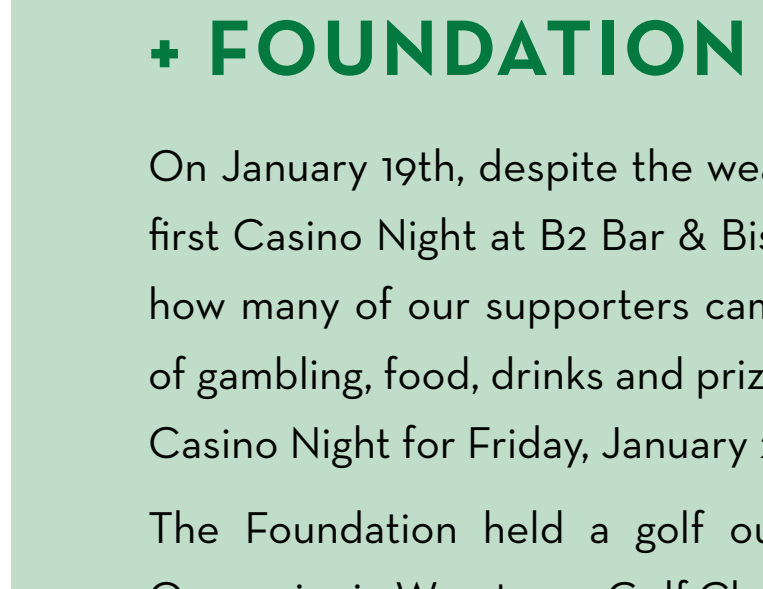
**Frank Orawiec - Treasurer**

**Dr. Teri Kubiel - Secretary**

Frank Orawiec, Christine Matus and Russ Corby were re-elected to the board of directors for a three-year term. New board members Frank Monetti and Dan Latini were elected to the board for three-year terms.

Liz Ritacco, longtime board member and support of 21 Plus retired from the board. We were sad to see her go and wish her well!

We appreciate the support and leadership of our board members. Thank you to everyone who volunteers their time to serve on the 21 Plus Board of Directors.



### + FOUNDATION UPDATE

On January 19th, despite the weather, 21 Plus Foundation hosted its first Casino Night at B2 Bar & Bistro in Bayville. We were thrilled by how many of our supporters came out in the snow to enjoy a night of gambling, food, drinks and prizes. We're already planning our 2025 Casino Night for Friday, January 24, 2025!

The Foundation held a golf outing on May 20th at Greenbriar Oceanaire in Waretown. Golf Chair and Foundation Vice-Chair Ethan Rosen was determined to make the outing our most successful ever, and he did! The weather was perfect and we're looking forward to planning next year's event.

Finally, the Foundation is hosting our 3rd Annual Fall Festival on Saturday, September 7th from noon to 4pm at Veteran's Park in Bayville, featuring a concert with Shorty Long & the Jersey Horns. Our family friendly event is open to all, with all kinds of activities for everyone. Mayhem Cornhole will have a cornhole tournament, we have children's activities, vendors, and food and beer trucks. Sponsorship opportunities are available for this wonderful community event.

**For more information feel free to contact us at 732-240-3118, or info@21plus.org.**

### + NJACP HERO AWARD

We are excited to announce that Onyx Drive resident Tuesday received the 2024 NJACP Star Award. Tuesday received the award at a watch party at her house on Tuesday, June 18th, surrounded by family and friends.

Tuesday received the award because of her ability to grow and make positive changes in her life. She faced many challenges during the last few years, including changing her program location and losing a housemate, which left her feeling down. To make a positive change, Tuesday decided to work on some things she could control, her health and her ability to have alone time in the community. She worked hard with her staff, making sure she followed her prescribed diet and making healthy choices. With support and encouragement from her staff, she worked diligently on her coping skills to obtain alone time. Through hard work and perseverance Tuesday was able to reach her goals.



21 Plus, Inc. is a non-profit organization that provides community-based programs for individuals over the age of 21 with developmental disabilities. Our mission is to enable individuals with disabilities to lead fulfilling lives working in partnership with families and communities.



Meaningful lives for people with disabilities

21Plus.org

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