

**GEORGIAN COURT
UNIVERSITY VOLUNTEERS
MAKE A DIFFERENCE**



Student Volunteers from Georgian Court University have been volunteering at 21 Plus group homes for a number of years. The volunteers do spring and fall cleanups, weeding, raking leaves, and making the outside of 21 Plus group homes visually appealing. Thanks to their efforts, 21 Plus is able to use money that would otherwise go to landscaping bills to improve the lives of the individuals served in these group homes.

In exchange for their hard work, the student volunteers are hosted by the residents of these group homes, always with refreshments, many times with opportunities to visit, and sometimes play a board game. In fact, the students who volunteered at our Sylvan group home were surprised and happy to discover that the guys have a pool table, and the students and residents enjoyed an afternoon of shooting pool.

This is an opportunity for the college students to meet and connect with the individuals who live in the group home, which is not likely to happen randomly in a social situation. College students meeting, helping, and chatting with individuals with developmental disabilities breaks down attitudinal barriers. The group home residents are looking forward to the students coming back again.



GCU cleanup at Wayne Ave.



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Message from 21 Plus Foundation, Inc.

The 21 Plus Foundation was formed in 2000 with its mission dedicated solely to assisting with those needs unmet through other financial resources at 21 Plus, Inc. In 2017, the Foundation was able to grant \$412,000 in support to 21 Plus towards staffing, home and program maintenance and improvements, and technology.

The Foundation revenue primarily comes from solicitation and fund raising. In 2017, we solicited friends and supporters through two letter appeals, and a first-time Lip Sync War event held in September. Other sources of revenue include bequests, miscellaneous donations, service groups, and grants. The total revenue for last year was \$287,555 thanks to the many friends who continue to believe in the mission of 21 Plus.

How can you help? Donate whatever you can afford when you receive an appeal. Volunteer to help with an event. And lastly, include the Foundation in your will. The Foundation goal is to reach \$2 million in assets in order to continue providing assistance to 21 Plus programs.

On behalf of all those who benefit, thank you to the Foundation Board of Trustees, the new and repeat donors, the programs, staff and Board of Directors at 21 Plus, the local community of people who care about the people who live and work at 21 Plus and Mary Norman, Finance Director, and Wendy Lubrecht, Executive Assistant.

Sheila A. Melore, Executive Director
21 Plus Foundation, Inc.
732-240-3118 x310 or smelore@21plus.org

Volunteer Board of Directors, 21 Plus, Inc.

Christine L. Matus, President
Richard Askoff, Treasurer
Adrienne Socha, Secretary
Russell Corby, Carol Frankman, Ed Frankman, Warren Heiss, Carol Jones, Anne Kraljic, Richard Mingoia, Frank Orawiec, Elizabeth Ritacco, Zev Rosen, Michael York

Board of Trustees, 21 Plus Foundation, Inc.

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Patricia A. Christopher, Trustee Peter Draper, Trustee
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Richard Pallamary, Trustee

MEANINGFUL LIVES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



**21
plus**
2017
ANNUAL REPORT

VISION STATEMENT

21 Plus, Inc. will continue to make lives meaningful for people with disabilities.

MISSION STATEMENT

21 Plus, Inc. will provide diversified opportunities to enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities through a strategic plan.

VALUE STATEMENT

All services will ensure dignity and respect for the rights of individuals served.

All services will promote optimal physical and mental well-being as well as personal growth for individuals served.

All services will be designed based on individual needs.

All employees will be dedicated to the mission of 21 Plus, Inc. and provide professional and compassionate care.

All volunteers will demonstrate a commitment to the vision, mission, and values of 21 Plus.

21 Plus, Inc. will continue to build relationships within the community.

RESIDENTIAL

- Apartments
- Group Homes

VOCATIONAL

- Adult Training Centers
- Supported Employment

REPORT FROM DIANE HUTTON-ROSE, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The one constant in life is change. 2017 was no different nor will 2018 be without change and transition. In 2017 we began transitioning from Contract Reimbursement Funding to Fee For Service. The funding for Fee For Service is a partnership between state and Federal Medicaid dollars and requires that service recipients are Medicaid eligible, receive a service by staff qualified, and that service documented. 21 Plus, Inc. has invested in an Electronic Care Record (ECR) to facilitate effective and efficient claims filing to capture revenue for services we provide. This took a tremendous effort of a multidepartment team to customize the ECR, to suit 21 Plus specific needs. The build was followed by an agency wide training program to ensure every staff person was trained and ready to go. The staff embraced the change and presented a can-do attitude throughout.

What hasn't changed in 2017 is we can't do the work we do without the efforts of the many service groups who volunteer their time and talent. Old friends continue to support us; Habitat for Humanity/Brush with Kindness, The United Way, Blue Thong Society, Georgian Court University Track Team, and Kiwanis group. New friends who supported us in 2017 include One Voice Grace and Peace Church, Boy Scout Troop 100, Rowan University Chapter Alpha Chi Ro Fraternity, and Georgian Court University Lacrosse Team.

We are eternally grateful for the volunteer board of directors for their tireless leadership in a year of flux. Their leadership and expert guidance through cutting costs, moving offices, relocating an adult training center, and ever changing roles is invaluable. It has never been more apparent the value of and how much we appreciate our 21 Plus Foundation. The foundation continues to support the unmet needs of the agency and offers stability during this period of conversion.

21 Plus staff have been amazing human beings and the agency wouldn't exist without their dedication to the people we serve. They are the driving force in facilitating meaningful lives for people with disabilities. New Jersey Association of Community Providers reports Direct Support Professional turnover rate to be 44% statewide based upon their last survey done in conjunction with Rutgers University. 21 Plus was not immune to this turnover. The staff provided services consistently, working extra hours to provide safe, quality services. It was not always easy and we have begun to see a stabilization of our workforce. We have put practices in place to ensure a strong foundation of training. Mentoring is occurring from time of hire, and robust ongoing professional development provided.

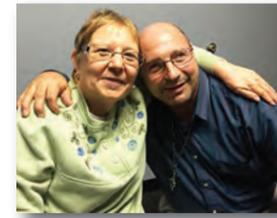
A united team exemplifying one agency, one mission, has been a theme. We have seen staff put the wellbeing of people we serve before their personal lives during the holidays, ensuring each of our individuals served had a lovely holiday. Staff worked tirelessly to ensure dignity and respect, particularly working with hospice to assist a peaceful end of life, coming in outside their typical schedule specifically to ensure individuals got out into the community and attended their religious services of choice. Staff have been flexible in changing their work assignments to ensure all individuals served had adequately trained staff at each location. Supervisors have worked collaboratively across the agency as a team sharing tips, advice, and resources.

It has been humbling and inspiring to work with a group of people that will not capitulate to challenge, that are determined, not deterred when an obstacle is presented. It is a new year, with new beginnings for 21 Plus, Inc. We are ready, we are willing, and we are positive.

"Out of difficulties grow miracles."

– Jean De La Bruyere


Diane Hutton-Rose



Lance and Linda

SIBLINGS FIND ONE ANOTHER

Lance moved into our Sylvan Drive group home in 2017 as an emergency referral, after he and his father lost their home during Superstorm Sandy. Lance has his own bedroom, where he plays Xbox on his computer. He enjoys cooking, cleaning and helping out any way that he can. A true believer in the "silver lining," he tries to find the positive in any situation. Lance has made a family with his housemates and staff. He attends the ARC Employment Center 5 days a week and likes his routine.

Recently Lance was telling a story to the staff members at his employment center. They realized the story was very familiar, in fact, it was exactly the same story they had heard from another participant. It didn't take long before everyone realized they were siblings! Lance found his sister, Linda. Lance and Linda were excited to reconnect and Linda talked about all of Lance's uncles. It turns out that Linda lives nearby in a sponsor home in Toms River. The long lost siblings are making plans to get together for dinner.



Left to right: Bob Batta, Deputy Grand Knight, Sheila Melore, 21 Plus Foundation Director, Maria Leschinski, AMIB Program Coordinator, and SK John J. Bowes JR, K of C God's Special Children Fund Raising Chairman. Jan 16, 2018.



Dallas guys doing yard work

New Year's eve at our supervised apartments

21 PLUS, INC. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION & STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

2016 Statement of Financial Position

	2016	2015
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	126,528	132,413
Grants receivable	153,489	320,516
Accounts receivable	41,268	22,379
Prepaid expenses	90,000	46,821
Total current assets	411,285	522,129
Property and equipment, net	2,314,914	2,147,935
Other assets	23,666	23,469
Total assets	2,749,865	2,693,533

Liabilities & net assets expenses

Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	205,776	141,330
Accrued expenses	214,450	238,450
Due to clients	616	5,695
Due to grantor	31,403	94,847
Deferred revenue	7,260	-
Line of credit	203,704	265,466
Current portion of long term debt	22,784	14,517
Total current liabilities	685,993	760,305
Long term debt, excluding current portion	291,802	181,178
Net assets, unrestricted	1,772,070	1,752,050
Total liabilities & net assets	2,749,865	2,693,533

*The above financial information is supported by the audited financial statements of 21 Plus for 2016 and 2015.

2016 Statement of Activities

	2016	2015
Revenue & support		
Grants	6,730,051	6,707,475
Contributions	160,651	60,526
Supported employment/subcontract	33,655	25,877
Interest revenue	47	58
Miscellaneous revenue	88,284	125,073
Capital grants	47,159	70,212
Dues	200	285
Total revenue & support	7,060,047	6,989,506

Expenses

Program services:		
Residential programs	4,912,396	4,899,280
Day training programs	1,263,187	1,214,901
Family support & other programs	197,113	213,903
Management & general	667,331	783,978
Total expenses	7,040,027	7,112,062
Increase in unrestricted net assets	20,020	(122,556)
Net assets, beginning of year	1,752,050	1,874,606
Net assets, end of year	1,772,070	1,752,050

2016 Use of Funds

- Total Programs 90%
- Management & General 10%

