

Resilience is all about being able to overcome the unexpected.

+ MESSAGE FROM 21 PLUS FOUNDATION, INC.

The 21 Plus Foundation was formed in 2000, with its mission dedicated to generating financial support to enhance the programs and mission of 21 Plus, Inc., while balancing those needs with the long-term preservation of capital for the future.

In 2021, the Foundation supported the ongoing 21 Plus marketing strategy as well as traditional employee recognition gifts and events. We were proud to fund replacing dining room furniture for three group homes as well as the full interior painting of one of 21 Plus's larger group homes, ensuring that the individuals who live there have inviting and updated homes that they can be proud of.

Along with our customary written fundraising appeals, the Foundation hosted a 9 & Dine at Toms River Country Club, and a cocktail party at Martell's Water's Edge in Bayville. The golfers who played in our outing enjoyed the shortened format so much that we are going to do it again in 2022! We are also planning a fall festival for September 2022. Stay tuned for more information about this exciting new event.

The Foundation was fortunate to have Community Event Sponsors – Zev & Fran Rosen; Jay & Linda Grunin Foundation; Terrence O'Grady; Richard Askoff & Lisa McComsey; Garden State Trust; Good Friend Electric; Novins, York, Jacobus & Dooley; and Mike & Tracey Riccardi. These longtime supporters of the Foundation were the backbone of our 2021 fundraising efforts.

In 2022, 21 Plus Foundation will continue working closely with 21 Plus, Inc. to meet the needs of individuals receiving services. How can you help? Donate whatever you can afford, volunteer to help and include the Foundation in your will.

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, Inc., and the local community of people who care about the people who live and work at 21 Plus.

– Richard Frankman, *Foundation Chair*



Please note that all 2020 figures in this article are unaudited.



Meaningful lives for people with disabilities

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2021
ANNUAL
REPORT



+ VISION

Meaningful lives for people with disabilities

+ MISSION

To enable individuals with disabilities to lead fulfilling lives working in partnership with families and communities

+ PROGRAMS

RESIDENTIAL

- Apartments
- Group homes

VOCATIONAL

- Adult training centers
- Supported employment

+ MANAGEMENT TEAM

DIANE HUTTON-ROSE

Executive Director

NICOLE BAUER

Residential Services Director

JOANNE HANSON

Finance Director

JOCELYN ARMSTRONG

Human Resources Director

PATRICIA RUSSO

Quality Management Director

+ VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 21 PLUS, INC.

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Diane Hutton-Rose

Diane Hutton-Rose

“With love and patience, nothing is impossible.”

- Daisaku Ikeda

As 2021 began, rather than making a New Year’s resolution, I chose a word to guide me through the year. My word was “patience”, believing that the worst of COVID-19 was over and that we would soon return to normal, and that I needed patience to see that belief become reality.

21 Plus has made great strides towards the return to normal. When access to COVID-19 vaccines and tests became widely available, we were able to safeguard the people we serve, our employees and families. Our Adult Training Centers reopened with gradual increases in capacity. We added new customers to our 21 Plus Cleaning Services and began volunteering at JBJ Soul Kitchen’s Toms River location. In our residential programs, one look at our Facebook or Instagram page shows that our folk were out in the community, going to boardwalks, parks, Atlantic City, and Philadelphia, just to name a few. The people we serve explored their inner chef, creating gourmet meals and baking tasty creations. We celebrated milestone birthdays, holiday gatherings, and welcomed people back home and back to program.

21 Plus is a member of New Jersey Association of Community Providers, a nonprofit organization that represents over 60 provider organizations across New Jersey who serve people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. In 2021, Robin A., who lives in Annex group home and attends Main Street Adult Training Center, received the NJACP Community Star award, which was celebrated virtually. Her staff planned a viewing party so we could celebrate Robin’s achievements with her. Neil L., program administrator at Sapling group home, received the NJACP DSP Hero award. I am proud to announce that I have been elected to the NJACP Board of Directors.

We are grateful for the volunteer service groups who we can always count on to come out and do yard cleanups for our group homes. The volunteers from Wellspring Church, Jackson

Kiwanis, RWJ Barnabas Health and Kearny Bank Women’s Build, OceanFirst WaveMakers, and Habitat for Humanity work hard to make our homes look beautiful and appealing.

Ralph Wolff and Jersey Coast Appliance received our 2021 Community Partner award for their outstanding service and compassion. Jersey Coast Appliance is a 21 Plus Cleaning Services customer, and they refer our services to other businesses.

The staff and individuals served at 21 Plus are proud to participate in fellow nonprofit events. In 2021, we “Walked to Build” with Habitat for Humanity, helped raise autism awareness with the POAC Walk, and walked with HOPE Sheds Light in their Celebration of HOPE Walk. We are members of the Chamber of Commerce for Southern New Jersey and The Greater Toms River Chamber of Commerce, where I serve as an ambassador to new members.

Our single greatest challenge is staffing. We continue to advocate to legislators on both the state and federal level for adequate funding for our direct support professionals. We routinely celebrate our staff as heroes and amplify their voices of why they love working here and having a career with purpose.

We have come a long way from the beginning of 2020, and still have a long way to go. Patience was an appropriate word for 2021, and for 2022 my word is Bold.

We will be bold in delivering the positive message of the meaningful work we do. We will be bold in our ideas for innovation and initiatives in the programs we offer. We will be bold in engaging staff, we will be bold in pursuit of equity diversity and inclusion, and we will be bold in our vision for the future.

+ 2021 ANNUAL REPORT Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activities

2020 Statement of Financial Position

	2020	2019
ASSETS		
Current Assets:		
Cash	3,231,367	1,355,137
Investments	-	250,059
Accounts Receivable	415,756	426,781
Prepaid Expenses	143,211	122,741
Total Current Assets	3,790,334	2,154,718
Property and Equipment, Net	2,107,629	2,239,451
Restricted Cash	133,612	61,084
Other Assets	21,961	21,840
Total Assets	6,053,536	4,477,093

LIABILITY AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities:

Accounts Payable	177,514	94,350
Accrued Expenses	248,424	155,755
Due to Clients	34,261	19,236
Due to Grantor	59,653	58,792
Deferred Revenue	123,625	22,714
Current Portion of Long Term Debt	114,026	19,534
Total Current Liabilities	757,503	370,381
Long Term Debt, Excluding Current Portion	104,382	218,525
Net Assets, Unrestricted	5,191,651	3,888,187
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	6,053,536	4,477,093

2020 Statement of Activities

	2020	2019
REVENUE AND SUPPORT		
Grants	88,960	123,999
Contributions	85,992	44,867
Supported Employment/ Subcontract	6,387	25,800
Medicaid Revenue	8,552,569	7,364,161
Contribution to Care Income	399,631	392,385
Rental Income	421,785	420,729
Interest Revenue	4,803	1,008
Unrealized Gain	-	21
Miscellaneous Revenue	119,534	2,410
Total Revenue and Support	9,679,661	8,375,380

EXPENSES

Program Services:

Residential Programs	6,862,362	5,613,661
Day Training Programs	784,012	1,088,763
Management and General	729,823	727,175
Total Expenses	8,376,197	7,429,599
Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets	1,303,464	945,781
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	3,888,187	2,942,406
Net Assets, End of Year	5,191,651	3,888,187



+ WE MAKE IT POSSIBLE

In summarizing 2020, we reported on adapting to the changes a global pandemic made in our lives and making the best of them. While it is wonderful to read a story about a special outing, a step someone has made towards independence, or a person overcoming an obstacle, it would be an incomplete depiction of 2021. It would be a disservice to everyone if we didn’t acknowledge just how difficult this year has been. What we have been through, facing challenge after heartbreaking challenge is a testament to what this agency, this family, does best. In 2021 we proved we endure. That we have the endurance to persevere through even the most challenging times.

Sometimes even getting through the day feels impossible, but then we make it possible. Together, our team. We find the hope and the joy in the little victories, however small they may be and it gives us the strength to make it through. We never, ever forget there are people who count on us, who need us. As the smallest steps are taken back towards what life used to be, we adopt an attitude of gratitude for them. Returning to day program, even for just a few days a week, seeing a doctor in person instead of on a video chat, or going out to dinner. Just two years ago we wouldn’t have given them a thought. Today, this is considered a huge win! We must appreciate these victories when they present themselves, no matter how small.

And we did have wins in 2021!

Tricia, who lives in our Annex group home, returned to her home after spending most of 2020 with her family in North Carolina. Her housemates and staff welcomed her home with open arms and a big celebration.

The gentlemen who live at Sylvan group home discovered how much their neighborhood has to offer, going to parties and barbecues at their homeowner’s association beach, and making friends with neighbors.

+ NOWHERE TO GO BUT UP

After COVID-19 struck in 2020, we had nowhere to go but up in 2021. Following the mandated shut down of our Adult Training Centers we were finally permitted to reopen, albeit incrementally, on April 28, 2021. 10 individuals were able to come to our programs 4 days per week, while virtual programming was offered for everyone else.

As more individuals were coming back to program in person, more staff returned to their day program jobs from helping out in Residential sites. Soon, transportation began again. Our reopening came with ups and downs, especially as more people were added to the mix. A positive COVID-19 test would mean everyone being tested, and sometimes the day program would close for a few days in order to sanitize with a deep cleaning.

Coming back to program meant adjustments for everyone. Some individuals came back and jumped right back into their normal routine, happy to see their friends and staff, while others had to adjust. Seeing faces light up the first day they walked through the door, saying “It’s about time we are back,” was priceless. Our ATC’s settled into their new routine, gaining speed each month, and by the end of 2021 we were able to not only return to work but we were able to return to a little fun and hold annual holiday parties.

Watching everyone get back out into the community with their friends and staff was wonderful. The folks who attend our day programs love to be out in the community. They enjoyed going out to local libraries, nature centers, and parks. Our pre-vocational and supported employment services were up and running, and we even added some new crew labor jobs, including the American Legion, thanks to a reference from Ralph Wolff at Jersey Coast Appliance. Our folks were able to go back to volunteering in the community, most notably volunteering at JBJ Soul Kitchen in Toms River.

The individuals who attend MSATC participated in the Riverwood Community Garden, a project led by the Toms River Green Team. They love going there to plant and harvest vegetables and herbs, bringing home what they’ve picked to share with housemates and staff.

In 2021, Main Street Adult Training Center began laying the groundwork for a new social enterprise - Main Street Greens - a sustainable hydroponic farm where the individuals who attend MSATC will grow and sell their produce. Be on the lookout this spring for the Main Street Greens produce stand at a farmers market near you!

en·dur·ance

noun

1. the fact or power of enduring an unpleasant or difficult process or situation without giving way.



Longboat group home took home cooking to the next level, trying out new recipes, baking, and creative grilling when their grill broke. They walked off those extra calories trying out almost every park in Ocean County.

Once again our group homes were able to get together for Halloween parties and to celebrate Thanksgiving. After more than a year of doing things in their own homes, gathering together to enjoy each other’s company and just have a good time was a big win.

We are so grateful for the dedicated and compassionate staff who have endured this year. They have not only persevered through the darker days, but have been a beacon of hope and light of the brighter days ahead. We will continue to lean on each other and work together to provide meaningful lives for the people we serve. We are hopeful for the next steps and ready to take them together, never giving way.

*The above financial information is supported by the audited financial statements of 21 Plus for 2020 and 2019.

