



We've Moved!

Our new administrative office is located at:

New Horizons Resources, Inc.
123 West Road
Pleasant Valley, NY 12569
845-473-3000



It's an exciting time at New Horizons! After nearly three months of major renovations, staff plan with great anticipation to move into training and administrative building in Pleasant Valley on January 10th. The agency has quickly outgrown its present office space in Poughkeepsie, where it moved in 1992. While many are saddened to leave our old home on Van Wagner Road behind, the excitement to have more space and upgraded technology is contagious. A grant from the Dyson Foundation helped finance computer technology to equip our training center.

Our new Administrative Office and Professional Development Center will enable New Horizons Resources not only to continue, but expand its efforts in workforce development. This building will also further facilitate our mission to serve people with developmental disabilities. Our new location features a total of 18,000 square feet and parking for 100 vehicles. Over 3,000 square feet alone is for training and development conference rooms in which we are dedicated to building a highly-trained direct support workforce. This space combined with upgraded technology will help increase the education our direct support staff and that of our sister agencies.

A special thanks to everyone who helped make this move possible. We hope that you will stop by to visit us at our new location.



Pictured to the right: Brendon McGahan (Human Resources) and Vicki Kaan (IT Coordinator) work to install cable in early December.

A Note From the Executive Director....

NHR 2007 Highlights

2007 was a successful year, marked with achievements and changes. I wish to thank all the people we serve, our staff, families of clientele, and the many supporters of New Horizons.

Here are some of the highlights.

- In the beginning of the year, NYS-OPTS (Options for People Through Services) had a robust beginning at New Horizons. By October, the Commissioner of OMRDD declared that OPTS is retiring. OPTS had a very short life. Luckily, NHR is in contract under OPTS to develop services for 84 people: 73 to be either relocated from Sinpatch Road or downsized in Ulster County; 6 men at Angelo Blvd.; 4 from the NYS-Cares list; and 1 in his apartment in Kingston.
- On 07/07/07, 50 Angelo Blvd. in the town of LaGrange opened its doors for six young men who lived with their families in local communities.
- On 8/1/07, five of the residents of Deer Run (Wallkill) group residence moved to new quarters.
- On 11/1/07 8 five of the men at NHR's home in Wassaic (Orchard) happily re-located to Albrecht Lane in Pleasant Valley.
- In January, 47 Round Hill Road in the Town of Poughkeepsie will be a new home for five ladies from our Spruce home in Wassaic.
- The site selection process for 20 Thornwood Road in the City of Poughkeepsie—a plan to accommodate the Riverview residents from Wassaic—led to formal opposition by the City of Poughkeepsie which, in turn, triggered a Commissioner's Hearing on December 7th.
- NHR purchased 283 Seaman Road in Stormville (East Fishkill) which will become home for the remaining five men, currently living in our Orchard home in Wassaic, sometime in February 2008.
- Employees of the Month that have been honored from November 2006 to October 2007 are:
 - Rachel Smith, Residential Habilitation
 - Michele Tiffany, Pleasant Valley
 - Mae Smith, Dutchess Administration
 - Winsome Hope Badroe, Tyrrel Road
 - Vicki Kaan, Van Wagner IT
 - Lori Ortiz, Mountain View
 - Alison Kunkel, Jansen Road
 - Dottie DeNunzio, Van Wagner



The NHR Newsletter is a quarterly publication produced by the agency to keep our friends informed about NHR's current activities.

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Regis Obijiski, *Executive Director*

Please address comments about the newsletter to Beth Cookinham at:

New Horizons Resources, Inc.
123 West Road
Pleasant Valley, NY 12569
email: bcookinham@nhrny.org

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- Monica Robinson, Angelo Blvd.
 - Sam Laganaro, Van Wagner
 - Susan Greenidge, Deer Run
 - Linda Milroy, Van Wagner
 - Kristin Fox, Deer Run
 - Jennifer Hall
- Teams of the Quarter who have been honored from the 4th quarter of 2006 to the 3rd quarter of 2007 are:

- Clinical and Administrative Team
- Poughquag Team
- Briggs Farm Day Habilitation Team
- Clintondale IRA Team

Precision Care electronic data collection for services was launched.

- Beverly Kaufman was selected at the 2007 recipient of NHR's most distinguished honor: The Goldman Memorial Award. Beverly was given this award for her indefatigable work with self-advocates in the Mid-Hudson region and across the state.
- Property improvement grants were awarded by the state to: Poughquag, Miller-ton, Unionvale, Deer Run
- Brendon McGahan was honored by the Southern Dutchess Chamber of Commerce as one of 40 under 40 exceptional professionals in the Hudson Valley.

John Clausson was accepted into the Leadership Dutchess Program

- NHR was honored to receive a commendation for its excellent Limited Fiscal Review performed by an independent audit company from Brooklyn: Wei Wei & Co. The full-month audit covered Medicaid Service Coordination, IRA Residential Habilitation, Day Habilitation, Respite, governance, criminal background checks and billing.
- NHR received a "squeaky clean" review from the NYS-Commission on Quality of Care for their review of our board oversight, reasonable executive compensation and tight fiscal practices.

- NHR's employee census is 400.
- New Horizons Foundation (NHF) Leadership Breakfast honored Ellie and Martin Charwat, Tim Dean and Marie Tarver.
- NHF's Annual Fashion Show had over 25 models and 250 participants.
- DSPs Hope Badroe and Stacey Alexander were invited by national trade association AN-COR to address administrators in Washington DC about education and credentialing.
- NHR's MCS department is piloting AAIDD's Supports Intensity Scale nationally.
- NHR will sell 21 Van Wagner Road, Poughkeepsie—our administrative office building—on January 15, 2008
- NHR will purchase 123 West Road as a Professional Development and Support Center on January 9, 2008 and move the contents of 21 Van Wagner Road on January 10th and 11th.
- In Memoriam:
 - Gary Coelho of 81 Tyrrel Road, Pleasant Valley
 - Arnold Lipins of Canal Path at 23 La Fera Lane in High Falls
 - James Pratico of 196 Overlook Road in LaGrange

Staff Appreciation: The Mystery Is Solved by Ellen Devorsetz

On October 26, very appreciated employees of NHR gathered at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel to solve the mystery of "Who Hacked Precision Care and Killed Tom McCluskey".



15 and 20 year anniversaries!
From left to right: Regis Obijiski, Denise Wood, Cami Heiser, and Mike Wheatley

Good food, good companionship and good laughs were all part of the day as staff members were "sworn in" as law enforcement officers. A luckily riotous skit ensued in which some of our bravest colleagues took the plunge to become comic actors in an ad lib laden comedy script.

AROUND THE AGENCY NEWS

Albrecht Lane Opens! *by Nancy Howell*



NHR has opened its newest home on Albrecht Lane in the Town of Pleasant Valley. Five men from Orchard spent their first night in their new home on November 1st. Chris Farias, George Saris, Sam Natal, John Clarke and Chris Turton enjoy their new home. Chris T. likes being able to sit next to the fireplace in the evening. Sam decorated his room with sports and all of his Co-ca Cola memorabilia. Chris F. has enjoyed putting everything in his Sci-Fi collection out on the built-in shelves in his room. George's room is decorated with Elvis Presley. Even though he was friends with all of his roommates at Orchard, John appreciates that he has his own room – it is just nice to have a spot that is all your own. The guys love having full size beds and spacious rooms. Instrumental in the opening were the staff at Orchard who prepared the men for their move and Jen Hall who stepped up as the Residence Coordinator while Nicole was on maternity leave. Not to mention all the members of the Albrecht staff who did everything and anything to get the house ready for the guys to move in. And, of course, everyone else who helped prepare the home, the paperwork, and all the trimmings. Congratulations to all!



Above: Staff member Chris Fillhart helping to assemble some electronics



Above: Sam's impressive collection of Co-co-Cola memorabilia!



Pictured above, standing from left to right: Sam Natal, John Clarke
Sitting from left to right: George Saris, Chris Turton, and Chris Farias



From left to right: Administrative staff members Barbara Mika, Bill Beattie, Pat Moran, Nancy Howell, Jennifer Hall, Andrea Pollack
Kneeling: Contractor Patrick Towne

AROUND THE AGENCY NEWS

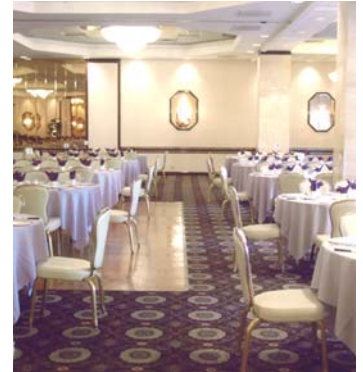
4th Annual *Fall Into Fashion Show* A Hit!

The New Horizons Foundation enjoyed another Fashion Show success! The fourth annual event was held on Thursday October 11, 2007 at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel. The show was sold out, drawing nearly 100 more attendees this year. Over 25 models, including new guest models, Kimberly Kay and Michelle Taylor of Clear Channel Radio and Cathy Temple of R&C Cleaning showed onlookers both every day and evening fashions of the fall with clothing provided by Coldwater Creek, Crystal's Closet, Madina Park, Scruples, Surviving Sisters and Talbots. Those who attended enjoyed a great show, a buffet dinner, goody bags and the chance to win great raffle prizes donated by an array of local businesses.

Sponsors included Maria C. Ingrassia, Betty Kirchhoff, Lightning G. Horseman's Shop, Inc., LoBiondo Law Offices, McCabe & Mack LLP, R&C Cleaning, Relph Agency, Retirement Asset Management, Rhinebeck Savings Bank, Royal Carting, Stephanie and Manny Saris, SEIU 200 United, Pat & Jay Sherlach and Zolz Entertainment.

Commentary provided by Lisa Morris, music provided by Zolz Entertainment and hair and makeup from David and his staff from Davide' in Wappingers Falls all returned for this special evening.

Special thanks to all the sponsors and volunteers who made this successful night possible and we hope to see you next year! The 2008 Fall Into Fashion Show is already scheduled for October 9, 2008 at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel.



The Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel. Photo by FJS Photography



Pictured above Linda Sofka. Photo by FJS Photography



Pictured above Vicki Kaan and Jennifer Suato

Below Models *from left to right*: Vicki Lucarini, Tami Finerow, Kristin Tompkins, Vickie Fitzpatrick, and Belinda Brown



AROUND THE AGENCY NEWS

The 2007 NYS Self-Advocacy Conference *by Beverly Kauffman*

This year's 2007 Self-Advocacy Conference was held again at the Albany Marriott Sept.6-8. Once again, many people from New Horizons attended including residents and staff from Pinewood, Morehouse, Spruce, Tyrrel, and Overlook. The highlight of this year's conference was a live video connection between NYS self-advocates and a group of people with disabilities in Mali, Africa. Self-advocacy has been helping the group in Mali with small cash donations which the group is giving as loans so that people with disabilities can start their own micro enterprises and thus support themselves. In Mali, people with disabilities receive no government support. Commissioner Diana Jones Ritter conducted two forums to hear input from self-advocates and parents, and also was quite self-disclosing in the keynote interview at lunch on Friday. The 1033 group had a display and generated much interest from others around New York State in the cemetery project. Other workshops topics included, dating and relationships, preventing and recognizing sexual abuse, self-advocacy 101, person centered planning with Beth Mount, and learning to run your own ISP meeting. The banquet dinner was on Friday night followed by dancing and more dancing!



Above: Sylvia Goldman

Below: Sharon Gyurits



Below: Sharon Wong



Above: Jennifer Sucato



John LeBlanc wins Direct Support Professional Award

John LeBlanc was the winner of the 1st annual Direct Support Professional Award at the 2007 Self-Advocacy Conference Sept. 6-8 at the Albany Marriott. John was given the award because of his long-time commitment to self-advocacy and for his support of the men who live at New Horizons' Overlook IRA. The award recognized John's integrity, his respect for people with disabilities, and his commitment to helping the people he supports be successful. For those of you who don't know John, he is personable and kind, and extends himself in many ways for the men that he supports. He is very calm and non-intrusive. John is also a person who tends to stay in the background and doesn't seek recognition or attention for the good work that he does. He was very honored and totally surprised to receive this award.

Please congratulate him when you see him!



Pictured above, from left to right: John LeBlanc, Jesse Edmonds, Matt Fischer

AROUND THE AGENCY NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS GERRY!

Congratulations to Gerry DePorres who was the recipient of the 2007 Marist College President's Award along with Clara Lou Gould and Richard A. Mitchell on October 19th.



Pictured Above : Gerry DePorres with Marist College President Dennis Murray

"Each recipient personifies the Marist ideals of commitment to excellence in education, dedication to the principle of service, and understanding the importance of community," said Marist College President Dennis J. Murray. "Each has made the Hud-

Beverly Kaufman Named Recipient of the Goldman Award by Ellen Devorsetz



She's quiet. She's cultured. She's unassuming. She's compassionate. She's emotionally available. She's always the one you go to for comfort advice or just plain friendship. Now she's the winner of the 3rd Annual Goldman Award.

Beverly Kaufman is known to us as the kind and knowledgeable social worker who helps consumers through rough times or changes. She's known within the greater Developmental Disabilities Community as a strong advocate and advisor to our state-wide self-advocacy group. She was instrumental in the augmentation of the cemetery recovery program and has long been a comforting hand and listening ear to family members who are concerned for their loved ones who live in NHR residences.

Beverly was a good friend to Israel Goldman during his life. She continues to embody the ideals by which he lived. May we all follow her lead.

Congratulations Beverly!

The New Horizons Foundation welcomes two new Board members.

Bob Bazargan joined Key Bank in April as a Vice President. Bob holds a B.S. in Marketing and an M.B.A in Finance from SUNY New Paltz.

Janna Whearty currently serves as the Executive Director for the Dutchess County Bar Association. Janna earned her B.A in Public Relations and M.P.A from Marist College.



New Horizons Foundation Annual Appeal 2008

The New Horizons Foundation Annual Appeal 2008 is currently underway. If you would like to contribute, please complete this form and return it with your tax-deductible donation payable to the New Horizons Foundation. We at NHR greatly appreciate your commitment to improving the quality of life for people with developmental disabilities.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Phone _____

Check enclosed

"Hope is a state of mind, not of the world. Hope, in this deep and powerful sense, is not the same as joy that things are going well, or willingness to invest in enterprises that are obviously heading for success, but rather an ability to work for something because it is good."

-Vaclav Havel

Make checks payable to: *The New Horizons Foundation*, and mail to:
123 West Road, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569
Donations to the Fund are fully tax deductible.



New
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News from the Foundation Office Beth Cookinham, Foundation Director

Please save the date for two great events to benefit the
New Horizons Foundation coming this spring!

**25th Anniversary
Golf Tournament**



Monday, May 12, 2008
Dutchess Golf & Country Club

For more information, contact Beth Cookinham
at 473-3000 x 322 or bcookinham@nhrny.org
Sponsorships welcome.

**Spring Into Summer
Craft Show
Vendors &
Volunteers Needed**



*Featuring over 40 Hudson Valley
Handcrafted Artists to benefit
New Horizons*

June 7 & 8, 2008
McCann Center, Marist College

A joint effort between New Horizons and the
Hudson Valley Artisans Guild. Contact Beth for an
application at 473-3000 x 322 or bcookin-
ham@nhrny.org. Applications are due on