



2013 ANNUAL REPORT



www.rackercenters.org

FROM DAN'S DESK

Great things happened in 2013 for the people with disabilities and their families that we support! You will see in this annual report just a few of the MANY success stories.

In February 2013, we received notification from Governor Cuomo about a proposed \$1 million dollar cut to our budget that would directly impact our ability to support people with disabilities and their families. We asked people with disabilities, their families, staff and friends to help us advocate for restoration of the proposed cut; I was humbled by the response. We heard from Assemblyperson Lifton's office that they received more letters and phone calls on restoring the proposed cut than on any issue in the past ten years. This grassroots advocacy campaign resulted in a complete restoration of the proposed cut. Every Senator and Assemblyperson voted for full restoration independent of their party affiliation.



Dan Brown, Executive Director

The following note from a Racker Staff person* sums up the grassroots advocacy campaign: *"It's a very good feeling to know that mistakes can be corrected, even when they are made by those in positions of power and authority. The kind of grassroots rallying taken up by so many Racker employees, demonstrates just how empowered we can be simply by getting the truth out there, and if we sometimes feel small in comparison to those who are in positions of power and authority, we've now proved that many individual voices, when combined, make one big voice, impossible to ignore."*

I've always known that our dedicated staff are key to the success of Racker Centers as an organization. During 2013 I was able to gain helpful insight by meeting with staff throughout all three counties. I look forward to continuing this and to more opportunities to learn from staff so that we can best support people with disabilities.

Looking forward, we will emphasize that community connections are crucial in helping people with disabilities and their families lead fulfilling lives. We continue to rely on the community's support to help everyone feel included and valued. Thank you very much for your support in 2013.



Please take a moment to watch ► my video interview to learn a little more about our successes during 2013.

Dan

*Special thanks to staff member John Westbrook for sharing his thoughts and inclusion of his quote above

SUCCESS

Marcus

Marcus, now age 5, came to our Early Childhood Services program as a toddler with severe cognitive and developmental disabilities. When we first met him he was unable to walk, use language, sit up by himself, or eat food other than baby food. Staff can't believe the changes he has made in just three short years. Marcus now walks independently, feeds himself, and can ask his teachers to read him stories. If you visit him on a Wednesday (Ithaca College swim bus day) he will proudly announce, "I am going swimming today!" Family and staff, working together, have helped Marcus make the great progress we see today!



Kelley

Thirty-eight year-old Kelley had always lived at home with her mom and dreamed of living in her own apartment. She and her family worked with Racker staff to develop a plan that could make her dream a reality. The process involved much discussion with members of her "Circle of Support," a group of peers and support staff that Kelley relies on for feedback and guidance. After a year of preparation she was ready to make the move. Kelley had already asked 49 year-old Marybeth if she would be interested in sharing an apartment. The two women had been friends for years, and Kelley knew that Marybeth was interested in moving from her home in the Residential program into her own apartment. Together, with their friends and family and help from Racker staff, they recently moved into their own apartment! Kelley and Marybeth are ecstatic and love their new home and appreciate all the support from their families and Racker staff.



Click Play ► to watch Kelley and Marybeth's excitement as they move into their first independent home together!



Our Special Friends who, by their thoughtful actions and planned giving, have helped to build and sustain Racker Centers for future generations.

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Judith K. Leavitt	

**deceased*



Giving to the Centers

We feel fortunate to have so many friends who support us with their time, talents, and resources. Our FRIENDS of the Centers list includes those who made gifts, pledges, or gifts-in-kind. We owe a special thank you to those on our Racker Fellows and Business Partners lists for their donations of \$1,000 or more. Gifts to Racker Centers help us fill funding gaps and address areas of greatest concern. With your help, we can continue providing innovative services for people with disabilities in our community, helping them have happy, productive lives. We are grateful for the ongoing support of our many friends.

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2013 FINANCIAL REPORT

Franziska Racker Centers had a great year programmatically, serving almost 3,000 people in 2013 with an annual budget of approximately \$29 million. Operating revenues, combined with public support, exceeded operating expenses resulting in a small surplus. We rely upon your strong support, which enables us to provide opportunities for our participants that would not otherwise be possible.

PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE

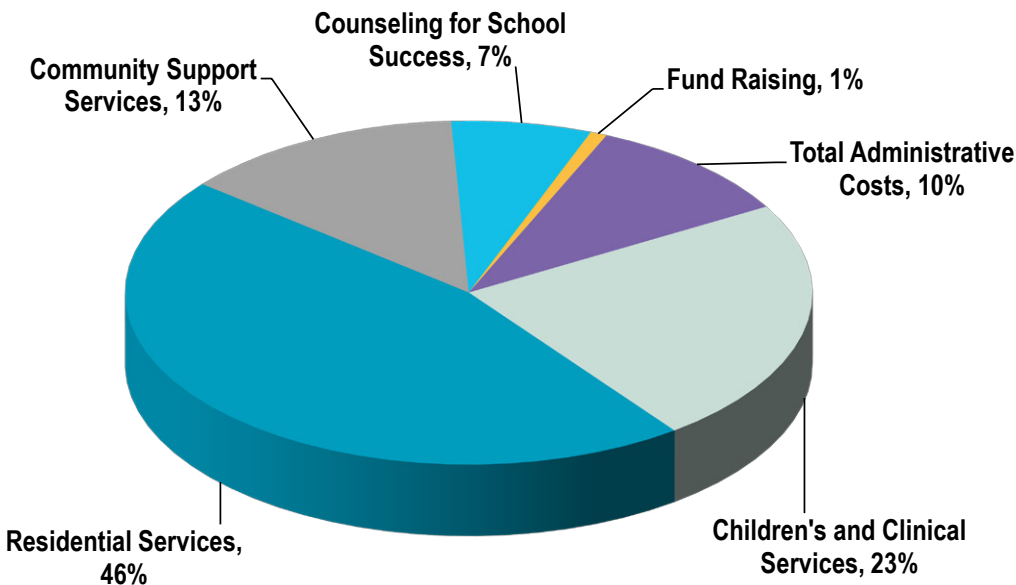
Children’s and Clinical Services	\$7,349,913	25%
Residential Services	\$14,163,371	49%
Community Support Services	\$4,418,457	15%
Counseling for School Success	\$2,582,549	9%
Fund Raising	\$342,886	1%
Other	\$272,615	1%
.....		

Total Public Support and Revenues \$29,129,791 100%

EXPENSES

Children’s and Clinical Services	23%
Residential Services	46%
Community Support Services	13%
Counseling for School Success	7%
Fund Raising	1%
.....	
Administrative Costs	10%

Total Expenses 100%



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In Honor of: Niccolo Antenucci
Ugo and Julie Antenucci

In Memory of: Shelley Baker
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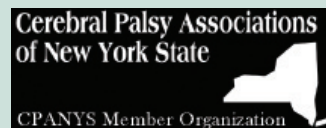
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MISSION

We are dedicated to helping people with special needs and their families have good lives, with opportunities to learn, to be responsible, to feel cared for, to share, to be connected to others. We are committed to creating a culture of inclusion in our community, celebrating the richness that diversity and interdependence bring.

VISION

We are inspired by the vision of our founding families: that all people with disabilities will be valued members of a welcoming and supportive community.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.rackercenters.org | info@rackercenters.org | Tel: 607-272-5891 | 1-800-336-1660

Cortland County Sites

Preschool Program, Community
& Residential Services
882 NYS Route 13
Cortland, NY 13045
Tel: 607.753.9375

Counseling Programs at

OCM BOCES
1710 NYS Route 13
Cortland, NY 13045
Tel: 607.758.5100

Tioga County Sites

Preschool Programs &
Community Services
1277 Taylor Rd.
Owego, NY 13827
Tel: 607.687.8929

Tompkins County Sites

Administrative Building,
Margaret Gibson Preschool,
Community & Residential Services
3226 Wilkins Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850
Tel: 607.272.5891

Clinic

1001 W. Seneca St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
Tel: 607.277.8020

Counseling Programs at TST BOCES

Smith School
555 Warren Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850
Tel: 607.257.2353

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