Quarter Four 2024 A Quarterly Newsletter for Employees











A Communication from Human Resources

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#### IMPORTANT RETIREMENT PLAN CHANGE IMPACTING ALL EMPLOYEES









#### MEMORANDUM

All Employees

From: Jason Persan, Human Resources Director for Employee Services

Date: December 27, 2024

REMINDER - RETIREMENT PLAN CHANGES ARE COMING! Re:

Please be reminded that if you are not currently deferring at least 3% of your pay to your retirement plan, then changes to our Plan will impact you beginning January 1, 2025.

You are affected by this change if you are deferring less than 3% of your pay, even if you already have elected to defer a flat dollar amount that equates to less than 3% of your current pay.

There is nothing you need to do to benefit from these changes which are intended to help employees save for retirement and include - Auto-enrollment and Auto-increases of deferrals. It is important to remember that 100% of the money you defer from your pay to your retirement account is yours from the day you defer it - There is no vesting period for money that you defer.

#### WHAT EXACTLY IS CHANGING?

- If you are not currently enrolled in our 403(b) Retirement Plan, you will be automatically enrolled in the Plan and will defer 3% of your pay to the Plan each pay period unless you opt-out before 11:59 pm on Wednesday, January 1, 2025.
- If you are currently enrolled in our 403(b) Retirement Plan and deferring less than 3% of your pay to the Plan, then your deferral amount will be automatically increased to 3% of your pay each pay period unless you opt-out before 11:59 pm on Wednesday, January 1, 2025.
- On January 1st, 2026, all employees who have been automatically enrolled at 3% will have their deferral amount automatically increased by 1% to a deferral rate of 4%. This will continue to occur every January 1st thereafter until your deferral amount is 6%. No automatic increases will occur after your deferral amount reaches 6%, though employees may choose to increase their deferral rate beyond 6% and may opt out of automatic increases at any time.

#### WHAT IF I ALREADY ELECTED TO HAVE A FLAT AMOUNT DEFERRED INSTEAD OF A PERCENTAGE?

- If you previously elected to have a flat dollar amount deferred that is equal to or greater than 3% of your pay, then your deferral amount will not change.
- If you previously elected to have a flat dollar amount deferred that is less than 3% of your pay, then your deferral amount will be automatically increased to 3% of your pay each pay period unless you opt-out before 11:59 pm on Wednesday, January 1, 2025.













## Message from the CEO



Dear Colleagues,

As we approach the holiday season, I want to take a moment to extend my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for the exceptional care, dedication, and compassion you've shown throughout the year. It's because of your hard work and commitment that we've been able to not only meet but exceed the challenges of audits, regulations, and the expectations of the individuals and families we serve. Your efforts have made a meaningful difference in the lives of so many, and our collective success is a direct reflection of your tireless work and unwavering dedication.

A special thank you goes out to our Direct Support Professionals (DSPs)—the true backbone of our agency. You are the heart of our legacy, ensuring that our programs and services remain strong, compassionate, and responsive to the needs of those we support. Your daily commitment to providing excellent care doesn't go unnoticed, and we are incredibly fortunate to have you as part of our team. Whether you're working directly with individuals, collaborating with colleagues, or supporting our agency's overall mission, your impact is immeasurable.

As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, I want to express my warmest wishes to you and your families for a joyful, peaceful holiday season. May this time of year bring you moments of rest and rejuvenation, and may you be surrounded by love and gratitude. We are so proud of everything we've achieved together, and we look forward to continuing our work alongside you in the year ahead.

Thank you for all that you do, and happy holidays!

As always, your feedback and comments are welcome.

Best,

**Stanfort** 





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#### The EMT expressed thank you to the following:

- Will Derr, CFO expressed thanks to Sylvester Naraine, VP of the Finance Department for the careful planning of the transition and training related to Sage Intaact.
- Thank you to Theresa Pergola for sharing feedback and pictures of the services received from the Wheatley Farms Catering and Brookville Mansion team for her recent wedding at the Brookville Mansion. Thank you, also, for sharing your photos for us to use in our future promotions.
- Thank you to Mary McNamara and the AHRC Foundation Walk team and captains and co-captains for hosting one of our most successful AHRC Walks to date; we raised over \$100,000.
- Joanna Kilkenny and her team for completing the Brookville Center fiscal 2024-year audit and the timely completion of the CFRs.
- Cassie Bradshaw, Johnson Place Manager for hosting Thanksgiving dinner.
- Wheatley Farms Catering for providing the well-received catered meals for the Finance Department Holiday party.
- Willard Derr and Sylvester Naraine hosting the Finance Department Holiday party
- Finance Planning Analysis Team (Vicky Pan, Donte Payne, and Brandon Rivas) and AHRC Program Directors for the 2025 Budget collaboration.







## **Welcome New Team Members**

Pictures from our weekly New Hire Orientation

## COMEABOARD!









## The DSP Connection

The everything DSP connection with DSP only programs, advice and special events



For more information on the NADSP E-badge program please send an email to:

nadspbadgeinfo@ahrc.org



For more information on the DSP Microcredential program please contact:

Michael Cannet 516-293-2016, ext. 5362 mcannet@ahrc.org





## 2023 Milestone's Event

#### A Toast to Dedication: Celebrating Milestones!



This year's milestone anniversary event was a memorable celebration of our employees' remarkable dedication. Held at the elegant mansion, we honored those reaching significant service milestones in 2023, from 20 to an incredible 45 years!

The cocktail-themed evening featured live piano music, delicious mocktails, and a delightful array of hors d'oeuvres and finger foods. The atmosphere was one of relaxed sophistication, with colleagues connecting, sharing stories, and celebrating together.

This event was a true testament to the value we place on our employees and their unwavering commitment. Congratulations to all our milestone honorees! We deeply appreciate your contributions and are proud to have you on our team.

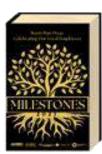








View full list of Milestones: Click Journal Below





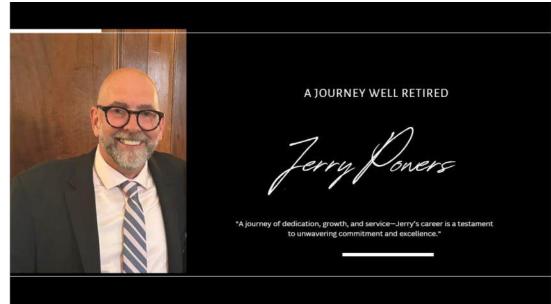


## **Happy Retirement Jerry Powers**

#### Citizens Bids Farwell to Jerry Powers, Director of Citizens

As we bid farewell to one of our most respected leaders, we reflect on the incredible impact he has had on our team, the people we support, and the agency as a whole. At Jerry's recent retirement celebration, his heartfelt words reminded us why we all do what we do. His unwavering commitment to serving the needs of the I/DD community has been a beacon of inspiration, and his leadership has touched us all in profound ways. He has been more than a supervisor—he has been a mentor, a guide, and an advocate who has embodied the very spirit of our mission. His ability to lead with compassion and purpose has not only strengthened our team but has also enriched the lives of the individuals we serve. While we are sad to see him go, we are deeply grateful for the legacy he leaves behind. His dedication, wisdom, and kindness will continue to guide us as we carry forward the important work we do together. As he steps into retirement, we wish him all the best in this next chapter of his life. May it be filled with well-deserved rest, joy, and new adventures.

- The Citizens Team



Click above to view Jerry Powers' tribute video



# Best of Lucki Nappy Retirement







## Wear Pink Day

#### **Beyond the Pink: Taking Action**

On Thursday, October 17th, our company transformed into a sea of pink as we proudly participated in Wear Pink Day. This initiative, championed by Denise Lamb, our Health & Wellness Manager, was a powerful way to raise awareness for Breast Cancer Awareness Month and show our unwavering support for those affected by this disease.

Denise's company-wide e-blast resonated deeply, reminding us that no one stands alone in this fight. By wearing pink, we not only honored those battling breast cancer but also extended a helping hand and offered our collective strength.

The day was a resounding success, with employees across all departments donning various shades of pink. From vibrant fuchsia to delicate pastel, our attire reflected the diversity of our support and the unity of our purpose.

Wear Pink Day was not just a symbolic gesture; it was a call to action. It served as a reminder that we can all play a role in supporting those affected by breast cancer. Whether it's through volunteering, donating, or simply offering a listening ear, we can make a difference.

Let us carry the spirit of Wear Pink Day beyond October and continue to support and uplift those impacted by breast cancer. Together, we can make a lasting impact.

#### A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

Below are snapshots capturing the spirit of the day, showcasing the enthusiastic participation. Each smile, each pink accessory, and each shared moment reinforced the message that together, we are stronger.



CLS Showing their support



Lynbrook Day Program hub-site showing



Linda Nolan (top) & Connie Buckhannon (below) both looking sporty in pink.







## **DEI—Grateful Gatherings 2024**

Another Grateful Gatherings in the books, and it was a resounding success! Huge thanks to the DEI Culture committee and all the amazing volunteers who poured their hearts into making this event so special. The atmosphere was buzzing with positive energy, and everyone enjoyed a truly bountiful feast! From delicious dishes to warm connections, it was a beautiful celebration of community and togetherness.













## Health & Wellness











For any questions regarding Health & Wellness programs please contact:

Denise Lamb

Employee Health Manager

516-293-2016, ext. 5642

dlamb@ahrc.org





## **Learning & Professional Development**

#### **Training Schedules, Relias Trainings & Tuition Reimbursement**



For any questions regarding training or Relias please contact Michael Cannet:

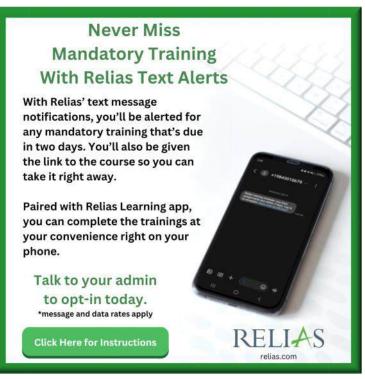
Email: mcannet@AHRC.org

Tel: 516-293-2016, ext. 5145

For more information on Tuition Reimbursements please email:

tuition@ahrc.org











## Winter Pathways Career Fair 2024

The Winter Pathways Career Fair 2024 was a resounding success! Attendees enjoyed raffle prizes, a hot chocolate bar, and valuable interactions with our program representatives and HR team. Many applicants connected directly with hiring managers, leading to on-the-spot interviews and even job offers.









### **INTERNAL JOB OPENINGS**

A FRESH START & A NEW PERSPECTIVE AT A NEW JOB DOESN'T ALWAYS MEAN LEAVING. CHECK OUT OUR EXCITING INTERNAL JOB OPENINGS.

Want to explore any of the exciting opportunities listed below? Simply click on the job title to access the posting and find out more about it. These are just a handful of the incredible open positions available. To discover more opportunities, click on the company logo and you'll be directed to the Career page.

AHRC	
Positions	Location(s)
Assistant Director CLS	Plainview
Assistant Manager CLS	Multiple locations
Assistant Site Manager—Day Hab	Oceanside &
Behavior Intervention Specialist CLS	Freeport
Custodian	Freeport
Director—Facilities Projects &	Plainview
DSP 1:1 for Complex Behaviors	Freeport
Grounds Maintenance Worker	Brookville
Program Coordinator	Freeport
Registered Nurse—Day Hab	Plainview
Site Manager / Behavior Intervention	Freeport
Team Leader Commercial Services	Freeport
Team Leader Landscaping	Freeport
Vocational Coach per diem	Freeport

For any questions about openings please reach out to our Talent Acquisition Team at:

Recruiting@ahrc.org

CadvantageCare HEALTH CENTERS	
Positions	Location(s)
Sr. HR Generalist	Brookville
<u>Patient Rep</u>	Brookville & Freeport
Psychiatrist (P/T)	Brookville & Freeport
BC Brookville Center for Children's Services	·
Assistant House Manager-CLS	Lido Beach
Behavior Support Staff	Brookville
Physical Therapist (per diem)	Brookville
Registered Behavior Technician	All Locations
Special Education Teacher	All Locations
Teachers Aide	All Locations
<u>Transition Specialist</u>	Brookville
Citizens Options Unlimited	
Assistant Director—Residential	Plainview
DSP	Syosset
DSP ONA—Non-Diver	Plainview
House Manager	Medford



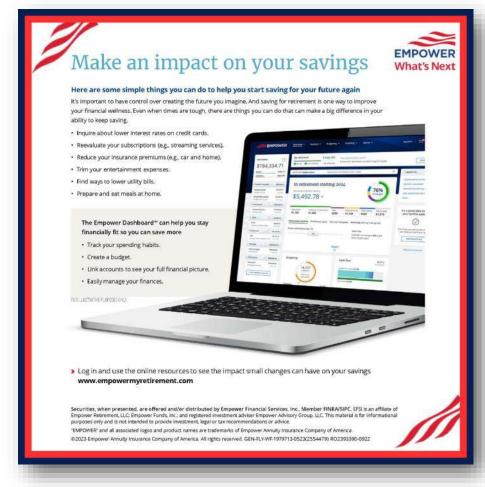




## **Retirement & Compensation**

It's never too early to plan for the future.

Find out about the many financial opportunities available to you.









If you have questions regarding:

Sign on Bonus, Referral Bonus, and Retirement Plans (financial only), 401k, 401b

Contact: Jason Persan Human Resources Director for Employee Services

516-293-2016, Ext. 5363 Email: jpersan@ahrc.org







## **Dinning & Shopping**







Check out our very own shopping and dining at your fingertips.

We have so many beautiful gifts and delicious foods to order.

Click on any of the ads to see what amazing surprises await you.

Not only do you get discounts and free delivery to your work location, but you are supporting our amazing programs too.



## **Upcoming Events & Celebrations**

Holiday/Festival

Awareness

Other

#### **JANUARY CELEBRATION MONTHS**

CERVICAL HEALTH AWARENESS, NAT'L GLAUCOMA AWARENESS, NAT'L BIRTH DEFECT AWARENESS/PREVENTION, NAT'L BLOOD DONOR

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26	27	28	29	30	31			

NEW YEAR'S DAY
WORLD BRAILLE DAY
FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY, NAT'L TRIVIA DAY
NAT'L THANK YOU DAY, HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY
LOHRI (SIKH)
MAKAR SANKRANTI (HINDU & BUDDHIST)
MAHAYANA NEW YEAR (BUDDHIST)
NAT'L HAT DAY
WORLD RELIGION DAY
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY
THANK YOUR MENTOR DAY
NAT'L COMPLIMENT DAY
INT'L HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY
CHINESE NEW YEAR
NAT'L FUN AT WORK DAY

#### **FEBRUARY CELEBRATION MONTHS**

BLACK HISTORY, AMERICAN HEART, BLACK HIV/AIDS AWAREMENSS, LOW VISION AWARENESS, TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS

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FEB 4	WORLD CANCER DAY, ROSA PARKS DAY
FEB 7	WEAR RED DAY (AMERICAN HEART MONTH)
FEB 9	SUPER BOWL SUNDAY, NAT'L PIZZA DAY
FEB 10	INT'L EPILEPSY DAY
FEB 11	DAY OF WOMEN & GIRLS IN SCIENCE
FEB 14	VALENTINE'S DAY
FEB 17	PRESIDENT'S DAY, RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS DAY
FEB 20	LOVE YOUR PET DAY, WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE
FEB 21	RAMADAN BEGINS (MUSLIM)

#### **MARCH CELEBRATION MONTHS**

**MAR 31** 

HEALTH AWARENESS, DISABILITY AWARENESS, GENDER EQUIALITY,

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MAR 1	INT'L WHEELCHAIR DAY
MAR 4	MARDI GRAS
MAR 8	INT'L WOMEN'S DAY
MAR 7	EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DAY
<b>MAR 14</b>	HOLI (HINDU)
<b>MAR 17</b>	ST. PATRICK'S DAY
<b>MAR 20</b>	INT'L DAY OF HAPPINESS
MAR 20	INT'L DAY OF ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
<b>MAR 22</b>	WORLD WATER DAY
<b>MAR 23</b>	NAT'L PUPPY DAY
MAR 24	INT'I DAY OF ACHIEVERS

INT'L TRANSGENDER VISIBILITY DAY



