SHAPING THE FUTURE
CEO Corner

Skip Pryce has been appointed Chief Executive Officer, upon resignation of Cathie Doyle who ably led our agency for 12 years. Mr. Pryce formerly served Greystone as Associate Executive Director, and Assistant Executive Director/Programs. As CEO, he oversees a staff of more than 350 and a budget of $14.6 million. He begins this year with an ambitious agenda. His message follows:

The dawn of a new year is a time of new beginnings, renewed commitment, and firm resolve. At Greystone Programs, that means a rededicated effort to serve our Individuals and families the best way possible and to best utilize staff strengths. To this resolve, we must maximize our resources to develop new projects, collaborate with others, and help our agency flourish. New developments will result in more jobs, greater opportunities for employees, and expanded services tailored to the needs of a broader base of individuals.

What's good for the organization is good for our staff and those we serve.

Houses and buildings are merely the framework in which Greystone operates. Greystone is really about our Individuals -- their unique needs, dreams, and potentials; and our staff -- their strengths, goals, and abilities. Our success has been in developing our human resources and understanding our social responsibility to serve the diverse needs of the Individuals whom we serve.

As the New York State Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) and the state Department of Health (DOH) move towards Managed Care, I sincerely hope the entire Greystone family will make a commitment to educate families, friends, and neighbors about the important and continued need for services for our most vulnerable population.

Onward & Upward,
Skip Pryce, CEO
**BREAKING RECORDS**

2014 Wine Event Most Successful Ever; Raises Funds for Meaningful Programs

For the fourth consecutive year, our International Wine Showcase & Auction was a record-breaking event - BOTH in terms of attendance AND dollars raised. Held Sept. 14 at The Grandview, in Poughkeepsie, the "Silver Celebration" honored Maggie & Bob Gephard who have chaired the event for a quarter century and raised more than $1 million for Greystone Programs. Maggie is retired Vice President and General Manager of Liquorama Wine Cellars in Hyde Park, NY, and is creator of the Kiss My Glass wine blog and Facebook group. Bob serves on the Boards of Directors of Greystone Programs, Inc. and Greystone Foundation, Inc.

Our 2014 event drew 241 guests and netted more than $50K to support life-enriching programs like Expressive Arts & Therapy. Through wine event proceeds, Greystone offers such things as music instrument, piano and chorus lessons; arts & crafts; movement classes like yoga and Zumba; and purchases Ipads and other innovative assistive communication technologies for nonverbal Individuals in our care. We also published a full color 2015 wall calendar featuring Individuals artwork.

We are grateful for support from our sponsors, especially Focused Wealth Management, our "Champagne & Caviar" major sponsor. Other sponsors included M&T Bank, Rose & Kiernan, Inc.; Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union; Irwin Siegel Agency, Inc.; BDO USA; CIA Security; Bottini Fuel; The Valley Table magazine; and Omnicare Pharmacy Services, and for photography donated by Jim Peppler.

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 20, 2015**

The tradition continues, through support of Mal & Jay Malkani, of Gartland Wines & Spirits, Poughkeepsie

**GIVING BACK**

Heart Warming Holiday Event Supports Local PTA

In December, we hosted our second annual Holiday Extravaganza, a public performance that featured songs and skits of the season while showcasing the musical talents of the amazing Individuals we serve.

Though New York State covers basic living and medical needs of our Individuals, it does not contribute to programs that help them THRIVE. It is through PRIVATE & CORPORATE DONATIONS, and fundraisers like our wine event, that we are able to offer programs like piano, chorus, and musical instrument lessons - as featured in our Holiday Extravaganza.

This heartwarming event was captured by Hudson Valley News Network in a video clip online. As part of our "Greystone Gives Back" initiative, event proceeds were donated to the Ralph R. Smith Elementary School PTA, where the performance was held. Pictured here, Pattiann LaVeglia, Greystone Clinical Services Director and Holiday Extravaganza organizer (left) presents a check to school PTA President Kerri Palermo, and her daughter.
TEACHING & TRAINING
Aquiring Skills for Job Placement & Productivity

Greystone Programs helps our Individuals become as independent as possible and works to find ways for them to feel valued in the community. We provide fun learning environments and on-site job training and placement services, through our Project FAME day habilitation program and our new job developer, Gina Zullo.

Pictured above left, Barry, of Project FAME, learns the essentials of office cleaning. Additionally, under direction of Residence Manager Annettemarie DiMuro, pictured above right with Stephen, of Staatsburg IRA, Greystone groups learn about healthy eating habits, food preparation, and cooking.

IMPROVING LIVES
Story of Success

Clyde H. lives in Greystone's Dancing Bear IRA in Stanfordville. Though his vocabulary is limited, Clyde has no difficulty communicating what he likes and wants. Clyde wants friends -- outside of Greystone.

As part of Greystone's commitment to person-centered planning and our agency's goal to achieve Council on Quality Leadership accreditation this year, an interview was held where Clyde expressed his interest to become more integrated in the community. Residence Manager Jonah Kreps is working hard to make that happen. Through Jonah’s forward thinking and initiative, Clyde is attending local pancake breakfasts, eating side by side with community members young and old. He is forging relationships and making new friends over a shared meals at the Milan Firehouse and the Pine Plains Fire House. Clyde is welcomed by compassionate firefighters who respect Clyde’s boundaries and are helping him to overcome his anxiety. Ultimately, the goal is for Clyde to assist firefighters with breakfast set up and cleanup, perhaps even serving pancakes and syrup. Clyde is walking his path to success, with Jonah, firefighters, and community neighbors by his side. He is valued and appreciated, a true Greystone Story of Success.
Thank you to Gregory Herd and the NY State Bridge Authority, for helping to spread Autism Awareness. At Greystone Programs’ request, the Mid Hudson Bridge will be illuminated entirely blue, joining us in the "Light it Up Blue Campaign" to "Shine a Light on Autism" on April 2, World Autism Awareness Day. Together, the M-H Bridge and 17 Greystone properties will join landmarks across the globe -- including Niagara Falls, the Empire State Building, the Great Pyramids in Egypt, the Great Buddha Statue in Japan, and the Sydney Opera House in Australia -- in this initiative. You can join us, too, by registering here online.

- Congratulations to the Greystone’s Warwick IRA team for a DEFICIENCY FREE audit!!! Way to go, Melissa Witte, Ethel Knox, Mary Burton, Linda Tripoli, Marc Harville, Roe Tawfik, Kathy Solitario, Anibal Scuadroni, Sean Dooley and Paul Flanz!

- Thank you to Marie Simmons and IBM employees for adopting 13 Greystone families and showering them with Christmas gifts. A truckload of bicycles, clothes and toys were delivered by volunteers Pete Nolan & Dwayne Christie from Clancy Moving Company. "As an unemployed single parent of five kids, some with special needs, and living with my mom, this means a lot to me," said one recipient. "My kids are blessed to have people like you in our lives. We are very thankful."

- A heartfelt "thank you" to Greystone employees who came in to work during winter storm Juno to ensure support and safety of our Individuals. Each of you are appreciated. Your commitment to our agency is what makes Greystone exceptional.

- Applause to former Greystone intern Marielle Campbell for her interview where she tells the Poughkeepsie Journal her internship helped land her a job after college....

- Kudos to President Barack Obama and Senators Bob Casey & Richard Burr for enacting the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act which will allow tax-free savings accounts to cover lifetime disability expenses. ABLE will allow individuals/families with disabilities to protect or qualify for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid by eliminating a $2,000 cap that now applies to conventional savings accounts. The legislation allows tax-free savings accounts to pay for qualified expenses that might include education, housing, transportation, obtaining and maintaining employment, health and wellness, and other personal support expenses. The federal government will determine eligible expenses before the accounts become available,
expected late in 2015.

- Thank you to Senator Susan Serino and Assemblypeople Didi Barrett and Kieran Michael Lalor for meeting with Greystone staff and Individuals on February 10 in the Capitol to hear our plea for better wages for our Direct Support Professionals. DSPs are the backbone of our agency, comprising two-thirds of our workforce. Their compassion for and dedication to our special needs Individuals must be recognized and rewarded.

### SERVING THE COMMUNITY

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 14</td>
<td>Weekend Respite - Orange County</td>
<td>(845) 469-3760</td>
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<td>March 14</td>
<td>Take a break! FREE program that offers parents &amp; caregivers a healthy place to leave their children with disAbilities, ages 6-21. Drop your kid with Greystone and use the time to complete chores, shopping, or enjoy a leisurely afternoon or special time with another family member. While with us, your child will participate in fun recreational activities that promote social interaction. <strong>Greystone Sugar Loaf Center</strong>, second Saturday, monthly, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Advance reservations and OPWDD eligibility required.</td>
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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 21</td>
<td>Weekend Respite - Dutchess County</td>
<td>(845) 297-3602 ext. 107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>Take a break! FREE program that offers parents &amp; caregivers a healthy place to leave children with disAbilities, ages 6-21. Drop your kid with Greystone and use the time to complete chores, shopping, or enjoy a leisurely afternoon or special time with another family member. While with us, your child participates in fun recreational activities that promote social interaction. <strong>Annette Heslin Community Center in Wappingers Falls</strong>, first and third Saturdays monthly (special exception in March to accommodate St. Patrick’s Day parade which passes by our building), 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Advance reservations and OPWDD eligibility required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 7</td>
<td><strong>Dutchess County Saint Patrick’s Day Parade</strong></td>
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<td>-- look for our float!</td>
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<td>Kickoff is at 1 p.m. The parade meanders down West and East Main Street and ends at Mesier Park.</td>
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FAREWELL, FRIEND
Patricia Cameron Remembered

There are no words to describe the void that will be left in our hearts by the passing of Patricia "Patty Cakes" Cameron. Though only with us a few years, Patty made her Orchard View IRA family whole.

Michelle Hathaway
Director of Development
845.452.5772 ext. 119

"We make a living by what we get.
We make a LIFE by what we GIVE."

CLICK HERE TO
Click here to support Greystone Programs with your tax deductible donation today!

Exceptional services and life-enriching opportunities for children, adults and families living with Autism and other developmental disAbilities.

Founded in 1979 by Marc W. Kelley, Greystone offered the FIRST privately-run group home in New York State for people living with Autism. This ground-breaking initiative was the first time people with Autism were taken out of traditional "institutions" and instead offered opportunities to live as neighbors in the community. Then, Greystone served seven men. Today our agency operates 14 group homes in three counties: Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster. We also offer a variety of home- and community-based services in Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Ulster, and Columbia Counties. These services include day habilitation, community habilitation, after school and school break programs, in home behavior therapy, respite, social skills training, Medicaid Service Coordination, and a Bridges to Health program for foster children with special needs.

www.GreystonePrograms.org
Greystone Programs, Inc.
36 Violet Avenue
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601