



THE CENTER FOR
DISCOVERY®

ANNUAL
2021
REPORT

**IT HAS BEEN
A YEAR OF...**

...hope

...compassion

...achievement

...perseverance

...courage

...growth

Letter from The Center for Discovery CEO **PATRICK H. DOLLARD**

Dear Friends,

It has been a year of incredible strength and constant grace here at The Center for Discovery®. We have been mapping a grand vision of the future, and at the same time, remained vigorously focused on the present.

We have known since the start of the pandemic that how we respond now will help shape plans to safeguard our community from any threats to the health of those we care at The Center for Discovery. Our care for the present and eye on the future has made us not only the gold standard of care and education for complex children and adults in the state, but across the nation and perhaps the world.

This year our residents, students, and staff stayed safe and healthy. We instituted an extensive vaccination program and careful safety protocols. But, we also lived life to the fullest. We never stopped learning. Exploring. Innovating. Creating. We simply didn't stop - and all of this led us to moments of true wonder.

I have always felt that we have the best, most intelligent, giving staff anywhere. Yet, I am astounded more and more every day by what I see across our campus. The depth of the benevolence and dedication of the 1,700 teachers, associates, clinicians, psychologists, nurses, music and art therapists, farmers, nutritionists and so many more professionals who work here is simply remarkable.

To keep our core - our staff - truly well, we have been actively and creatively adding to our large benefits portfolio, as well as focusing on recruitment and retention in new and innovative ways. We have a new Development and Endowment Committee seeking out potential donors to support our staff in more profound ways - and convincing them to help us create a robust Center for Discovery of the future - particularly when we are seeing new levels of complexity at even younger ages.

This year we also realized our dream to build a one-of-its-kind Children's Specialty Hospital where the world's best doctors, nurses, clinicians, and educators will come together to develop treatment plans for the most difficult and complex cases that will help families put their lives back together again. It is our dream to see the end of protracted hospital stays for these individuals. We know how to help them.

This year we saw this dream begin to rise out of the ground in Rock Hill, New York. There couldn't be a better time. It is a symbol of our hope. Our optimism. And our promise to our community to never stop working to enrich the lives of those who need us most.

Ciao,
Patrick H. Dollard



“

The magic that happens here is because we see the individuals we care for as unique people that have remarkable energy. You just have to find it. You don't contain it. It's that kind of genius we have with our staff.

”

CEO, Patrick H. Dollard

TABLE OF CONTENTS

01

Letter from Center for Discovery CEO, Patrick H. Dollard

05

Letter from Center for Discovery President, Dr. Theresa Hamlin

07

Board of Directors

PROGRAM UPDATES

10

Children's Specialty Hospital

11

Education

12

Adult Residential

13

Pediatric Residential

14

Discovery Health Center

15

Occupational Therapy

16

Physical Therapy

17

Speech Therapy

18

Animal Assisted Intervention and Education

20

Food Exploration and Discovery

21

Assistive Technology

22

Nursing

23

Integrated Arts

24

Psychology

25

Dept. of Nourishment Arts

26

Farming Operations

27

Life Safety, Security, Transportation, and Earthcare

28

Admissions

29

People Operations

30

Benefits

31

Operations and Facilities

32

Hurleyville, NY

34

Development

36

Strategic Outreach and Partnerships

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

38

Government and Organizational Partnerships

39

Academic and Research Partnerships

40

Sustainability

42

2021 Financials

44

2021 Champions

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to build a compassionate and connected community with cutting-edge care and education for the most medically complex individuals. Our team of innovators come from diverse disciplines in the fields of education, research, medicine, nutrition, farming, and the arts. Utilizing the latest science, data, and analytics, The Center for Discovery® has built a model that aims to improve health and enrich life for all.

THE
CENTER FOR
DISCOVERY®

Letter from Center for Discovery President **DR. THERESA HAMLIN**

Dear Supporters,

It has truly been a time of gratitude for all those who worked tirelessly and for those who supported us through the pandemic.

During this past year, we executed an extensive vaccination program for our 1,700 staff members, families, and nearly 340 residents. We developed our own in-house digital data capture system. We studied trends and crunched data from our program, the county, state, and the nation. We followed this data and adjusted every aspect of our daily life to reduce infections and to keep people healthy. It allowed us to safely get back to full in-person learning, and family visits. And, it kept us ahead of the curve when infections were rising and we needed to further protect our residents, students, and staff with additional personal protective equipment (PPE), testing, booster shots, and more.



In 2021, our nurses administered more than 1,400 vaccinations and performed nearly 8,000 COVID-19 tests. Their compassion sparked deep, meaningful camaraderie, greater creativity and innovation in all of us. In many ways, this year was one of our best in our history. We owe a debt of gratitude to our nurses, direct care staff, teachers and assistant teachers, medical staff, clinicians, administrators, and support staff for their efforts in making sure everyone was safe, well cared for, and thriving. No request was too much. No shift change or unfamiliar job was insurmountable. We simply did not know the word “no.” And, as a result, we thrived through one of the most difficult times in our history. We did not lose a single person to the virus – Extraordinary!

Most of all, what we saw this past year in incredibly moving ways was that there is no staff anywhere like ours. Despite the pressure they were under living through a pandemic with their own families, they provided a level of care that was unsurpassed anywhere. I am proud and humbled by all of our children, adults, staff, and the many families, who never hesitated, rose to each challenge, and did their part in battling this unrelenting pandemic.

In the pages ahead you will read about our efforts to keep our staff safe, happy, and healthy with greater benefits and the highest salaries in the region for direct care workers. You will read about all of our talented teams and how they flip the word “impossible” into “possible” on a daily basis. You will feel our drive, passion, and determination to enrich the lives of those we care for. You will be left with an understanding of the wonders that happen at The Center for Discovery.

As we begin to fill our social calendars with cherished community events again, it is also time to bring our knowledge and experience to communities outside our region. We have begun that mission with the groundbreaking of our new Children's Specialty Hospital which will not only touch the lives of those with complex disabilities in New York State, but it will be a national and international model of care and assessment. The increasing number of families with children with complex conditions will benefit greatly from our expertise in healthcare, wellness, and education. The time is now. We celebrate 2021 and look forward with optimism to the future.

With Gratitude,

Dr. Theresa Hamlin

“

For our son Martin, The Center is almost like living with family - it's the closest thing to being at home, and that means the world to us and to everyone who loves him. He interacts joyfully with the peers in his house; he has a social life. The Center is built for people like Martin, when so much of the world is built to exclude people like him. At The Center, he enjoys unique experiences and he has supportive, loving, and skilled staff who help him reach his potential.

”

- Tim Ross and Anna Kornilakis

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patrick H. Dollard, CEO
The Center for Discovery®

Edward C. Sweeney, Chairperson
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management

Edward Giancontieri, Vice Chairperson
Manager, ShopRite Stores (Retired)

Nelly Bly-Arougheti, Vice Chairperson
Author/Editor

William C. Myslinski, Ph.D., Treasurer
Principal, Economists Inc.

Michael Dubilier, Secretary
Managing Director, Dubilier & Company

Ellen Alemany, Director
Vice Chairwoman of First Citizens

Norman Feinberg, Director
President and Chief Executive, Gateside Corporation

Joel S. Forman, Esq., Director
Partner, Akerman LLP

Malcom J. Harkins III, Esq., Director
Distinguished Health Law Scholar, Center for Health Law Studies, St. Louis University School of Law

Nancy McElroy, Director
School Principal (Retired)

John R. Milligan, Director
President, Banking Industry (Retired)

Eileen Naughton, Director
Former Vice President of People Operations at Google

Aidan Quinn, Director
Actor

Arthur L. Thompson, CFA, Director
Senior Vice President – Investments, Wells Fargo Advisors

Kevin Fee, Director
Co-Founder and Managing Director, Castlerock Asset Management

Allison Vella, Director
Director of Admissions, Saint David's School

“In the midst of a pandemic, TCFD has managed to lead in a time of crisis, all while fortifying its future. The organization provides a standard of care for children and adults with complexities that is second to none.”

– Edward C. Sweeney, TCFD Chairperson



THE
CENTER FOR
DISCOVERY®

PROGRAM
UPDATES

A Year of...

2021

CHILDREN'S SPECIALTY HOSPITAL

A Year of Launching Our Dream



With the development of our Children's Specialty Hospital, The Center for Discovery is realizing a dream to help children with complex conditions, such as autism, in profound ways.

The 18-bed hospital, under construction in Rock Hill, New York, is designed as a short-term intensive assessment and treatment facility. Championed by US Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY) and supported by an unprecedented \$35 million low-interest loan from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), it will bring together under one roof, a world-renowned team of physicians, clinicians, educators, and other experts to revolutionize care and education for those with the most intense needs.

Often, these individuals bounce from doctor to doctor or linger in hospital emergency rooms for months without a proper home – or individualized care. We anticipate that most of the children we treat at the new hospital will return home to their families and will re-integrate into their school districts and communities, and avoid expensive, long-term state-run residences. This model will bring 400 new healthcare and construction jobs to our rural county, save the state of New York millions of dollars each year, and help keep families together.

Our Children's Specialty Hospital will also be the first stop for families who have just received a diagnosis like autism who will now have a place to turn. Our team will conduct a complete examination and develop a treatment and education plan for each family to implement with their caregivers and in their school district when they return back home.

“...These kids will get the care they need early, and it will be better care, and at the end of the day – cost less. What could be better than that?”

– Senator Chuck Schumer

EDUCATION

A Year of Creativity, Cooperation, and Courage



It has been a year of creativity, cooperation, and courage in our Education Department.

Creativity...as the teachers continued to provide a quality education under some of the most challenging circumstances! Within the walls of the classrooms we continued to see great joy, impressive incorporation of technology, and a dedication that is unmatched.

Cooperation...as all of our departments came together to ensure continuity and care to this vulnerable group of students.

Courage...of every staff in the face of unpredictable circumstances and each student as they navigated an ever changing daily rhythm.

By Kerri Muzuruk, M.S. Ed., Chief of Education

Total
Number of
Students:

291

Community
Students:

134

Residential
Students:

157

ADULT RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

A Year of Joy and Achievement



It has been a year of joy and achievement in our Adult Residential Program.

Through year two of the pandemic, we designed new movement and exercise opportunities that allowed us to be in safe, small groups immersed in our stunning natural setting here in the Catskill Mountains including: maple-tree tapping, apple-picking, hiking, gardening, farm activity, and animal care.

In collaboration with our Integrated Arts Department, we also brainstormed new ways to move and regulate energy indoors via a hybrid platform of in-person and Zoom classes in music, dance, theater, and more. The unprecedented resiliency of our residents and staff has led to moments of true joy and many marvels.

By Alyce Sherwood, Chief of Adult Residential Program

Number of
Residential
Individuals:

173

Number of
Residential
Homes:

24

PEDIATRIC RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

A Year of Trust and Flexibility



It has been a year of trust and flexibility in our Pediatric Residential Program.

In year two of the pandemic, we all had to dig deeper, and trust each other in our very carefully charted path through COVID-19.

That trust led to true benevolence and heroism across campus. A great example could be seen in one house where a Program Educator not only stepped in for a sick colleague, he volunteered to switch residences for a few weeks to care for and support the residents during a very uncertain time.

Along with deep trust, greater flexibility was another silver lining for the residential team in 2021. We looked for and found new and different opportunities at every turn to keep our residents moving toward their goals – of greater independence and better communication - and always finding joy along the way.

By Danielle Carlsen & Donald Santiago, Chiefs of Pediatric Residential Program

Number of
Residential
Individuals:

157

Number of
Residential
Homes:

24

DISCOVERY HEALTH CENTER

A Year of Synergy and Accomplishment



It has been a year of synergy and accomplishment at the Discovery Health Center.

The clinic staff worked in partnership with the Nursing team on a widespread COVID-19 vaccine initiative that was made available for all 1,700 TCFD employees and 330 residents, as well as families and friends. In total, the clinic – together with Nursing - administered 3,126 vaccines.

The clinic was granted a NYS Limited Service Laboratory certification, which allowed clinical staff to perform expanded basic diagnostic testing, including: 6,935 Rapid Covid Antigen tests, 955 Covid Molecular RNA tests, as well as process 89 samples for lab-based PCR testing.

The use of Telehealth technology was critical to maintaining the overall health of our residents during this time. Our designation as a Level 3 NCQA Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) for the 10th consecutive year allowed continuation of our unique team-based, coordinated whole-person approach to acute and chronic medical and mental health care and prevention.

1,381 Staff
Vaccinated
in 2021

CLINICAL SERVICES: OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

A Year of Tremendous Opportunity



It has been a year of tremendous opportunity in our Occupational Therapy Department.

Through seasons of great change, we have eagerly stepped out of our comfort zone to the enormous benefit of our residents, students, colleagues, and ourselves. We extensively explored technology, and produced several videos distributed globally on the topics of high and low-tech interactive access to music, ways to creatively design and adaptively use playground equipment, and how to build multi-sensory spaces.

In the midst of worldwide uncertainty, TCFD OTs have grown stronger and more determined to find ways to enhance the lives of those with complex conditions – on our campus and around the world.

By Rebecca Santiago, MS, OTR/L, Director of Occupational Therapy

8,777

Pediatric
Occupational
Therapy Sessions
Conducted
in 2021

4,361

Adult
Occupational
Therapy Sessions
Conducted
in 2021

CLINICAL SERVICES: PHYSICAL THERAPY

A Year of Partnership and Growth



It has been a year of partnership and growth in our Physical Therapy Department.

Regulating our energy is one of the pillars of our program here at TCFD. In 2021, we moved a lot - and in ways previously unimaginable.

We partnered with our Assistive Technology (AT) group to build wall exercise stations in our homes so our residents could work out while standing or seated in a wheelchair. We teamed up with our Animal Assisted Intervention and Education (AAIE) staff and brought our rabbits and miniature horses into some adult residences for innovative treatment sessions.

We worked on functional movement on the farm with our residents and students, and then presented our collaborative work at the Pediatric Physical Therapy Annual Conference. At TCFD - we always move forward!

By Mary Delia Mahon, PT, MSPT, Director of Physical Therapy

5,928

Pediatric
Physical Therapy
Sessions
Conducted
in 2021

4,689

Adult Physical
Therapy Sessions
Conducted
in 2021

CLINICAL SERVICES: SPEECH THERAPY

A Year of Collaboration



It has been a year of collaboration in our Speech Therapy Department.

As the pandemic and time away from the classroom highlighted the urgent need for the carryover of lessons into every facet of life, we emphasized the education of our colleagues as well as of our families. Our trainings included how to build structured language development activities into daily home schedules and how to ensure skills get repeated outside of therapy.

This has also been a year of seamlessly working with our peers in Occupational Therapy and Assistive & Rehabilitation Technology to design and build “Makers Kits” – which provide accessible STEM experiences for everyone like creating a working musical instrument out of cardboard, aluminum foil, and a Makey Makey circuit board device.

Collaboration = growth at TCFD!

By Maria Landon, M.S., CCC-SLP, Director of Speech Therapy

8,851 Pediatric Speech
Therapy Sessions
Conducted in 2021

2,631 Adult Speech
Therapy Sessions
Conducted in 2021

CLINICAL SERVICES: ANIMAL ASSISTED INTERVENTION AND EDUCATION (AAIE)

A Year of Growth and Advancement



It has been a year of growth and advancement in our Animal Assisted Intervention & Education Department.

In 2021, we doubled our handler teams with clinicians from every area. We added to our growing animal family which now includes: 7 full-size horses, 8 miniature horses, 9 goats, 5 facility dogs, and 8 rabbits. We expanded our infrastructure and developed one and two year training programs.

Because of this growth, our residents and students now have more opportunities to engage with our animals all day long in the classroom or a therapy session, out in the barn or on the farm, while involved in an outdoor activity and so much more. These meetings unlock interest, participation, and new found confidence.

By Sarah Merrick, MS, OTR/L, CPDT-KA, Clinical Director of Animal Assisted Intervention and Education, Occupational Therapist, & Certified Professional Dog Trainer

40

AAIE Program Animals,
Participating in over 5,000
Therapeutic Visits in 2021



“

“I love to see the residents get closer to reaching their goals. I love to see the staff supporting them and cheering them on. It's a special place where you realize that the little things in life are really big.”

”

- TCFD Staff

CLINICAL SERVICES: FOOD EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY PROGRAM (FED®)

A Year of Grit and Adaptability



It has been a year of grit and adaptability in our Food Exploration and Discovery Program (FED).

Our FED team works daily with students and residents who have issues related to food and mealtime in clinic, school, and home settings.

In 2021, telehealth technology was a decisive factor in our success of decreasing stress and anxiety around meals, improving relationships to food, and increasing variety which in turn boosts nutritional intake and wellness. This platform produced an intimacy and strong bond between our parents, clinicians, and students as they worked together doing exercises, playing games, making food art, training, and strategizing.

One 5-year old boy receiving weekly telehealth services from a FED clinician moved from gagging and getting upset when faced with new foods to eating foods from every food group – including fruits and vegetables. Meals are now a stress-free healthy time for the whole family. That is just one example of the kind of life changing work we are doing every day.

By Jessica Piatak, Co-Coordinator, and Kristina Carraccia, MS, CCL-SLP, Senior SLP & Co-Coordinator of FED

1,065

Outpatient & FED
Telehealth Sessions
Provided in 2021



CLINICAL SERVICES: ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

A Year of Expansion and Evolution



It has been a year of expansion and evolution in our Assistive Technology Department.

In 2021, three incredible divisions, Innovation Labs, Rehabilitation Technology, and Seating & Mobility, were united on our Rock Hill campus with one goal – to bring great ideas to market that will enrich the lives of our community.

This year, we partnered with Flint Rehab Devices on our instant wheelchair-powering device, IndieGo™. We received our first-ever IEC 62368 (consumer grade electronic device) product certification for our Play Wireless Switch Interface and expect manufacturing in 2022.

We produced and tested two versions of a Universal Tool Grabber for our students and residents. We also filmed and edited more than 100 videos for our Integrated Arts and Clinical teams to educate, train, and engage our residents, students, staff, families, and colleagues around the world.

Our work at Assistive Technology is where creative ideas impact our complex community in big ways - every day.

By Lindsey Veety, PT, DPT, ATP/SMS, Director of Assistive Technology

Over

3,200

Rehab and
Assistive Tech
Work Orders
Completed

NURSING

A Year of Endurance and Teamwork



It has been a year of endurance and teamwork in our Nursing Department.

In 2021, we worked in tandem with our Article 28 Discovery Health Center to plan and execute an extensive COVID-19 vaccine program available for all 1,700 TCFD employees, and 330 residents. By year-end, 1,381 staff received their full dose of vaccinations, including boosters, on campus and 96% of residents were fully vaccinated.

A small group of nurses also operated and staffed the COVID hotline for both families and staff, fielding upwards of 160 calls a day during periods of surges. Our leadership studied the national, state, and our own campus data hour-by-hour, and we educated, informed, and altered policy in real time. We became a model for other organizations caring for those with complex conditions.

Through it all, our nurses were a unified front of preparedness, health, and wellness. They cared for the most medically-complex residents and students, and they did it with Herculean strength. They were our light throughout the storm.

By Susan Sayers, MSN, RN, Chief of Nursing

145 TCFD
Nurses

INTEGRATED ARTS

A Year of Finding Wonder



It has been a year of finding wonder in everyday moments in our Integrated Arts Department.

In 2021, we danced everywhere. We serenaded our residents and students with our Traveling Troubadours group. We held outdoor concerts and in-person Sound Healing and Music Therapy sessions. We listened to virtual professional concerts and performed virtual musical productions.

We joined our colleagues in every corner of The Center and planned adventures – sailing on the Hudson, picking apples and pressing cider, planting, yoga, hiking, biking, Track & Field Day and seasonal festivals like the Winter Solstice.

We got our hands dirty. We smiled. We laughed. We fostered community and wellness. And we witnessed miracles – every day.

*By Conio Loretto, MS, LCAT, MT-BC, Senior Director of Music Therapy
and Jim Cashen, Assistive Chief of Integrated Arts*

2021
4,900

In-person
Individualized
and Small Group
Experiences

PSYCHOLOGY

A Year of Empowerment



It has been a year of empowerment in our Psychology Department.

During the second year of the pandemic, it became more critical than ever for us to create an empowered environment for our students and residents. Listening was our key. We became particularly attuned to all communication, verbal and non-verbal, and honored the choices of our residents and students. We taught coping skills for a very unpredictable world. And, we extended our teaching to our colleagues and families with individualized support and classes in guided meditation and mindfulness.

In 2021, our staff also continued to build upon our reputation as innovative leaders in the fields of psychology and behavior analysis, presenting at the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) virtual conference and preparing our Lab School research for a symposium in 2022.

By Dr. Johanna Lantz, Chief of Psychology

Provided
over

40,000

Hours of Direct
Services to
Students
and Residents
in 2021

DEPARTMENT OF NOURISHMENT ARTS® (DNA)

A Year of Boosting Immunity



It has been a year of boosting immunity for our Department of Nourishment Arts (DNA).

We've always known that good health begins with your fork. In 2021, the pandemic further highlighted the vital need for our Seed to Belly® organic whole-food, nutrient-dense dietary program. It is a priceless tool to strengthen the immune systems of our residents, students, and staff.

Our DNA team headed to the kitchen, reworked some recipes and created new menus. We teamed up as never before with our farmers, orchardists, and animal husbandry experts to utilize all of our resources and nourish - truly nourish - everyone. We succeeded. Today - we are all healthier and stronger.

By Jennifer Franck, MS, RD, CDN, Assistant Chief of the Department of Nourishment Arts®

473,356

Meals Provided
to Staff, Residents,
Students, and
Daycare
Children in 2021

FARMING OPERATIONS

A Year of Bounty



It has been a year of bounty for our Farming Operations Department.

2021 was a banner year for our Food Is Medicine® approach to healthy living and optimal nutrition.

Our farm team harvested our largest potato, onion, and apple crops to date. At least 22,000 pounds of potatoes and 16,000 pounds of onions went from Seed to Belly® (our version of farm-to-table) around campus and into 300 Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) homes as well.

With almost 50 different fruits and vegetables grown in our soil, we were well nourished, but the apples were the stars. Over 40,000 pounds (50 field bins) of every variety were picked by the 1,200 students and residents in our care, and transformed into pies, applesauce, dried apple rings, and 500-gallons of fresh cider and vinegar. A banner year for Thanksgiving Farm®, indeed!

By Greg York, Director of Farming Operations

22,000 | **16,000** | **40,000**
lbs of potatoes | lbs of Onions | lbs of Apples

LIFE SAFETY, SECURITY, TRANSPORTATION, AND EARTH CARE

A Year of Fortitude and Steadfastness



It has been a year of fortitude and steadfastness in our Life Safety & Security, Transportation & Earth Care Department.

Quietly, this small but mighty team works through the rains of spring, heat of summer, crisp cold of fall, and bitter snow and ice of our winters here in Catskills. All hours of the day and night, our unsung heroes make sure we can get to our campus, and that it is safe, secure, and beautiful.

In 2021, our Security team patrolled our 1,500 acre campus non-stop. At the same time, our 4 person Transportation (Rideshare) team, supported by our Fleet Maintenance group, drove almost 85,000 miles making nearly 20,000 trips to and from staff homes, doctor's appointments, clinical visits and more – saving employees an estimated \$548,576.

The Earth Care team meanwhile shoveled, fenced, landscaped, built stonewalls, paved, excavated, cleaned, and repaired the 12 miles of roads, walkways, lawns and flowerbeds of our campus every day. Unwavering stamina.

By Marc Floyd, Vice President of Support Services

TCFD's
Rideshare Program
Saved Staff Nearly

\$550,000

in Taxi Cab
Fares in 2021
Alone.

ADMISSIONS

A Year of Resiliency and Tenacity



It has been a year of resiliency and tenacity in our Admissions and Transition team.

In the midst of year two of the pandemic and changing policies and guidelines, our team welcomed 22 children into our Pediatric Residential Program and 17 community day school students representing fourteen school districts. In total, we had 330 adult and pediatric residents and 133 community day students.

Our work took us into unprecedented territory in 2021 as we supported our colleagues in the classroom, in residences and during family visits. We created a Family Infoline to provide up-to-the-minute information and support and continue to field questions and provide data and guidance seven days a week/twelve hours a day.

By Kaitlin Haas, MPA, Vice President of Admissions

22 Children Admitted into our Pediatric Residential Program in 2021

17 Community Students Admitted into Our Day School Program in 2021

PEOPLE OPERATIONS

A Year of Ingenuity



It was a year of ingenuity in our People Operations Department.

At a time in our history when there was a nationwide shortage of direct care workers and a pandemic-related shift in the workforce, our team explored and utilized every resource available to make TCFD the best place in the region to work.

In 2021, we worked in tandem with our Benefits Department to ensure our pay rates remained the highest in the county, and we offered the most robust benefits package, alongside a flexible and comprehensive orientation program. Other programs included: TCFD Cares, for emergencies like assistance to help pay for gas or groceries, and tuition assistance for continuing Bachelor, Master and Doctorate-level education in fields like Health Informatics, Strategic Leadership, Psychology, Special Education, Palliative Care and more.

Advertisements on local radio and via social media added a dimension and new audiences to our hiring process this year. A vigorous 3-tiered employee reward-referral program with lucrative cash payouts and prizes proved extremely successful in increasing applications and new hires – even for difficult evening and night shifts. The Center for Discovery remained an inspiring workplace to build a career.

By Amanda Ward, Chief, Division of People Operations and Educational Sustainability

525 New Employees
Hired in
2021

BENEFITS

A Year of Enrichment



It has been a year of enrichment in our Benefits & Wellness Department.

At TCFD, our staff mean everything to us.

In 2021, in the midst of the pandemic, we transitioned from a traditional fully-insured medical contract to a self-funded healthcare structure. This change helped us institute Wellness and Nursing coaches who were available around-the-clock.

We also worked diligently to elevate the experience of our employees by adding more life-changing programs to our benefits portfolio including the extensive mind-body wellness platform BurnAlong and the financial wellness service FutureFuel.io, and produced a new comprehensive Employee Benefits Handbook.

We listen to our staff. And, we respond – in 2022 adding Juneteenth to our company holiday calendar to commemorate the end of slavery in the United States.

By Casey Baez, VP Benefits & Wellness

0%

Increase in Contributions to Employees' Health Insurance Premium Costs for 12th Consecutive Year

OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES

A Year of Being Proactive



It was a year of being proactive in our Operations and Facilities Department.

Our Operations team worked day and night during year two of the pandemic to stay ahead of the curve on personal protective equipment (PPE), disinfection, and cleaning and sanitation protocols.

The team created a daily tracking system for each category of PPE which included variables like projected “burn-rate,” risk level of campus based on population, and daily pandemic data from the county and state. Good relationships with businesses in our field allowed us to procure the massive amounts of PPE necessary for 1,700 staff members.

In addition to PPE, the Operations team ensured commercial-grade HVAC Merv 11 filters were pretreated with hospital-grade disinfectant and changed every 21 days across campus. In 2022, TCFD is in a safer, healthier, more prepared place than any other organization caring for those with complex conditions. It all started with preventive planning.

By David Fanslau, Vice President for Operations & Administration

Procured **254,550** Face Masks
in 2021

HURLEYVILLE, NY AND COLLABORATIVE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL (CCHS) A Year of Realizing Dreams



It was a year of realizing dreams in Hurleyville, NY.

In 2021, our longtime goal of providing our staff with an educational alternative for their children reached fruition with the opening of the Homestead School's new Collaborative College High School (CCHS).

Anchored right in the center of town, the SUNY Sullivan and Homestead School venture uses a Montessori approach to blend high school and early college education. CCHS currently offers grades 7-10 and will add on 11th and 12th grades in the next two years.

The Center proudly offers scholarships to staff who wish to send their children to this unique program with options for dual enrollment at SUNY Sullivan College, with the opportunity to receive an Associate's degree upon high school graduation.

CCSH is a vibrant addition to a truly inclusive hamlet which already boasts three of our residential homes right on Main Street. This year, new apartments, storefronts, and a celebrity chef-owned restaurant were also added, as well as an extension to the accessible Rail Trail for hiking, biking, running, cross country skiing, and snowshoeing. Always moving forward here at TCFD!

By Helena le Roux Ohm, Ph.D., Vice President of Strategic Partnerships

40

Students Enrolled in
CCHS's Inaugural Year

“

In the short time that our daughter has been attending the CCHS, we have seen a renewed love of learning and a substantial growth in her confidence... Each student's individuality is appreciated and encouraged... She is now self-motivated and looks forward to going to school each day, and we cannot thank the CCHS enough.

”

Carmen Williams,
Development Specialist at TCFD

DEVELOPMENT

A Year of Record Level Philanthropy



It has been a year of record philanthropy for The Center for Discovery.

It is evident – more than ever – that a robust endowment is needed to safeguard The Center from external crisis, government funding cuts, future pandemics, and more. So in 2021, the Development team continued to advance its endowment campaign to further strengthen and secure The Center's financial future – including its incredible staff, residences, farms, organic and biodynamic food, science and research, and therapeutic and life experiences.

With contributions from donors, foundations, and various government entities, The Center's development efforts in 2021 via the Office of Strategic Outreach and Partnerships (SOAP) secured record levels of support. We received our largest-ever contribution to The Center's endowment fund, our year-end campaign secured nearly triple the amount from 2017, and total overall philanthropy increased by over 200% in a five-year period.

The Center's Thanksgiving Society, our first-ever planned giving effort, launched and attracted support from families and friends of TCFD who wish to leave a lasting and impactful legacy.

To support The Center's philanthropic efforts or to discover various ways to give, contact the Office of Strategic Outreach and Partnerships via email at strategicoutreach@tcfcd.org or by phone at 845-707-8509.

By Gabrielle Scott, Vice President of Development

Total Overall
Philanthropy
Increased
by Over

200%

in a 5-Year
Period



THE OFFICE OF STRATEGIC OUTREACH AND PARTNERSHIPS (SOAP)

A Year of Communication and Advancement



It has been a year of robust communication and advancement within the Office of Strategic Outreach and Partnerships (SOAP).

In 2021, the team continued its communication strategy to effectively deliver vital information to both families, staff, and external audiences. Our team expanded to Rochester, New York, with the opening of a new office location, helping to grow The Center's statewide network of partners and donors, while also serving as an important foundation for The Children's Specialty Hospital outreach. In addition to our main office on campus, SOAP also continues to maintain offices in Hurleyville, New York and in New York City.

Our work early in the year with state and federal lawmakers helped secure significant pandemic-related funding from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and a groundbreaking low interest USDA loan for the upcoming Children's Specialty Hospital.

By the end of the year, our office had secured renewed funding from several foundation partners, as well as applied for two significant new grant opportunities that were recently awarded – a Community Development Block Grant for agency-wide enhanced air purification, and a grant from the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation for additional construction on the Children's Specialty Hospital, both in the amounts of \$2 million dollars.

Our goal remains – to highlight The Center for Discovery as the nation's most prominent thought-leader in the field of complex care, because as we firmly believe, “what happens here, matters everywhere.”

The Center continues to be encouraged by renewed support from private foundations, corporations, and individuals, and we have seen significant growth in our pipeline as more and more people become aware of the profound nature of our work. We are honored to work together to promote TCFD.

By Michael Rosen, Executive Vice President of Marketing and Strategic Communications

Over

\$25M

Secured via Private Foundations,
Government Entities, Corporations,
and Philanthropic Partners

OFFICE OF
**STRATEGIC
OUTREACH**
AND PARTNERSHIPS

THE STRATEGIC OUTREACH TEAM

Michael Rosen

Executive VP, Marketing & Strategic Communications

Helena Le Roux Ohm, Ph.D.

VP of Strategic Partnerships

Gabrielle Scott

VP of Development

Anna Kornilakis

Development Consultant

Courtney Gold

Director of Marketing

Jessica Calabrese

Development Manager

Carmen Williams

Development Coordinator

Dean McManus

Senior Graphic Designer

Jesse Wall

Multimedia Specialist

Kevin Mesa

Graphic Designer

“As we look back at the compounding crises of the last few years, the health-related needs of vulnerable communities have only grown. Our grantees have demonstrated tremendous resilience, creativity, and dedication to serving those in need, especially as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to have such detrimental impact,”

Alfred F. Kelly, Jr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Visa and Chair of the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation Board.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

Government and Organizational Partnerships

Government Partnerships:

TCFD is a New York State designated Center of Excellence for complex disabilities, the largest Children's Residential Project (CRP) program in NYS, the preeminent leader in innovative models of care, and a participant in New York State's Industrial Hemp Agricultural Research Pilot Program. Agency partners include:

- NYS Department of Health (DOH)*
- NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)*
- NY State Education Department (SED)*
- NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets
- NYS Developmental Disabilities Planning Council
- NYS State Office of Children and Family Services
- NYS Office of Mental Health
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Sullivan County Public School Districts
- Sullivan County Public Health

*Regulatory Bodies

Organizational Partnerships:

The Center for Discovery® partners with various organizations to advance assistive technology, expand access to adaptive sports and recreation activities, support environmental and farmland conservation, and improve community health outcomes. Organizational partners include:

- Northwell Health, Affiliation
- HANYS
- Google.org
- American Portfolios
- SUNY Sullivan
- Operation HOPE
- World T.E.A.M. Sports
- Open Space Institute
- Catskill Mountainkeeper
- Sullivan 180
- The Homestead School



Over **20** Government and Organizational Partnerships

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

Academic and Research Partnerships

The Center for Discovery® has engaged in groundbreaking research for more than a decade. Current areas of study include: the development of Smart Homes and advanced technology to improve outcomes for adults with autism; the use of medical marijuana for drug-resistant epilepsy; and the advancement of data analytics to develop personalized medicine. Academic and research partners include:

 <p>University at Buffalo Center for Integrated Global Biomedical Sciences</p>	 <p>Jeffrey Lombardo, PharmD, BCOP, Associate Director of the Empire State Patient Safety Assurance Network, Research Assistant Professor at the University at Buffalo</p> 
<p>The Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) Empowerment Program at Georgia Tech</p> 	 <p>Ruth Ann Luna, PhD, Assistant Professor, Pathology and Immunology, Baylor College of Medicine and Director of Medical Metagenomics, Texas Children's Hospital</p> 
 <p>David Beversdorf, M.D., Professor of Radiology, Neurology, and Psychological Science, University of Missouri</p> 	 <p>Kara Gross Margolis, M.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Columbia University; Pediatric Gastroenterologist, New York-Presbyterian/Columbia</p> 
 <p>Gari Clifford, Ph.D., Biomedical Informatics at Emory University and Biomedical Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology</p> 	 <p>John Ratey, M.D., Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School</p> 
 <p>Sridevi Devaraj, PhD, DABCC, FAACC, FRSC, CCRP, Director, Clinical Chemistry and Point of Care Testing, Texas Children's Hospital</p> 	 <p>Stephan Rechtschaffen, M.D., Co-founder, OMEGA Institute; CEO, Blue Spirit</p> 
 <p>Orrin Devinsky, M.D., Director of the NYU Comprehensive Epilepsy Center and the Saint Barnabas Institute of Neurology and Neurosurgery (INN)</p> 	 <p>Tor Savidge, PhD, Associate Professor, Pathology & Immunology and Pediatrics, Baylor College of Medicine and Principal Investigator, Neuroimmune-Microbe Interactions, Texas Children's Hospital</p> 
 <p>Juergen Hahn, Ph.D., Professor & Department Head, Biomedical Engineering, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute</p> 	 <p>Rune Simeonsson, Ph.D., MS,PH., Professor and Chair of Psychology Department, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill</p> 
 <p>Terry Katz, Ph.D., Department of Pediatrics, University of Colorado School of Medicine</p> 	 <p>Nicole Withrow, Ph.D., MS, RD, Nutrition and Dietetics, University of Northern Colorado</p> 

21 Number of Trademarks (Registered & Pending):

SUSTAINABILITY

Here at The Center, our commitment to providing forward-thinking education and cutting-edge care for individuals with complex conditions is rivaled only by our goal to respect and renew our natural resources and environment. We live in harmony with our beautiful Catskill Mountain region, and do so by advancing sustainability through organic and biodynamic farming, building design and architecture, renewable energy and energy efficiency, healthy indoor air quality, choice of green cleaning products, and meticulous use of all food and minimizing of waste.

Our efforts simply make our residents and our campus home – healthier.

The TCFD Discovery Health Center was the first U.S. healthcare facility to be registered with the U.S. Green Building Council, and the second such facility to receive the organization's Leadership in Energy and Environment (LEED) certification. The Center's Michael Ritchie Big Barn Center for Environmental Health and Education followed, and is also LEED Platinum certified.



Natural Environment and Education:

1981 - Birth to Five Symposium

Focused on the effects of environmental toxins on infants in the womb

1995 - Nature-Based Curriculum

Nature-based school curriculum commences

1995 - Thanksgiving Farm® CSA

Thanksgiving Farm® Community Support Agriculture (CSA) opens

2004 - Stonewall Preserve Farm Development

Sustainable development begins with Open Space Institute (OSI)

2006 - USDA Organic Certification

Thanksgiving Farm® CSA receives USDA Organic Certification

2007 - Environmental Clean-Up

Clean-up of Sullivan County Department of Public Works (DPW) site in Harris, NY

2009 - Demeter Certification

Thanksgiving Farm® receives Demeter Certification (Biodynamic)

2011 - Tutto Bene Farm

Addition of Tutto Bene Farm with Open Space Institute (OSI)

2013 - Sweet Hill Farm

Acquisition of Sweet Hill Farm

2013 - Rail Trail

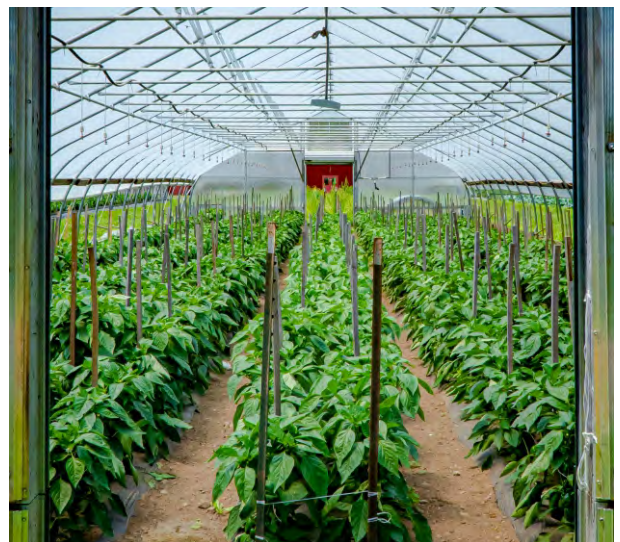
Renovation of 9.2-mile accessible Rail Trail begins

2014 - Open Space Land Conservation Award

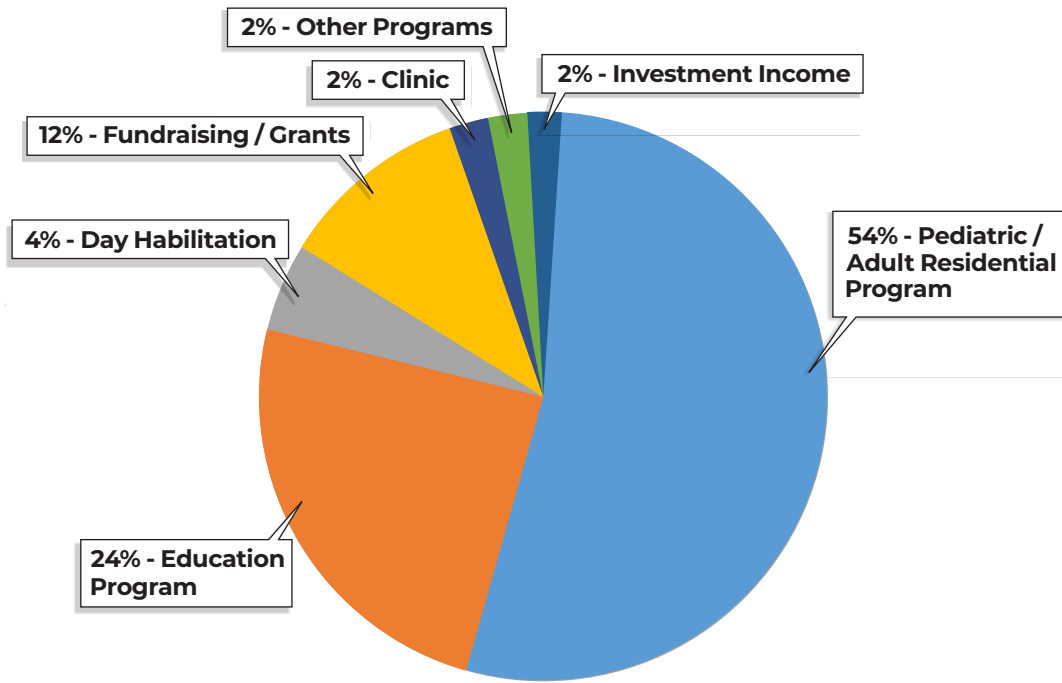
Award given to TCFD CEO, Patrick H. Dollard

2017 - Self-Sustaining Farm

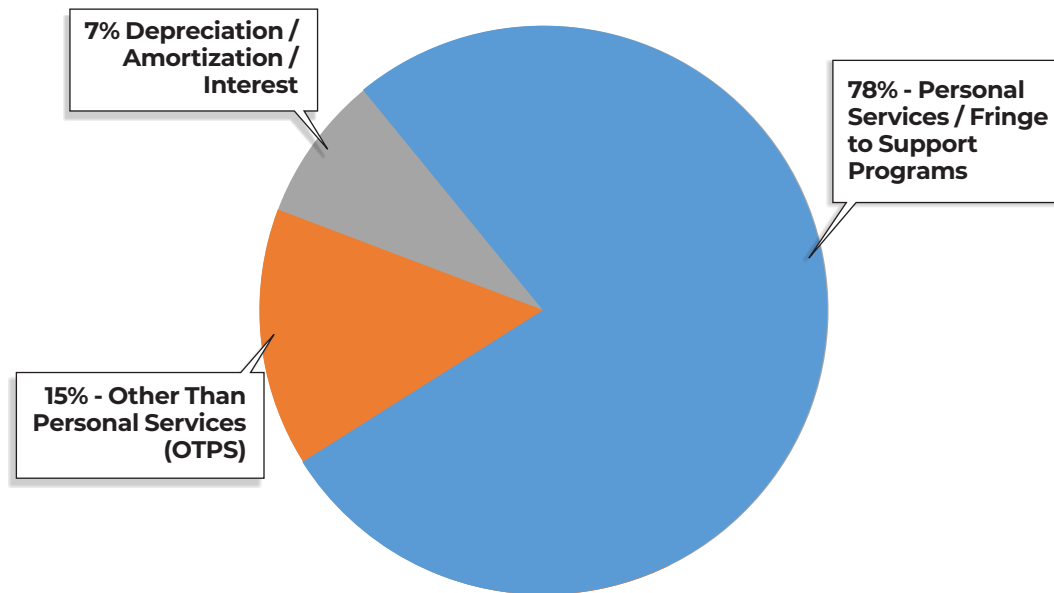
TCFD becomes self-sustaining farm system



2021 EXPENSES AND REVENUE



2021 REVENUE



2021 TOTAL EXPENSES

*These numbers have not been audited.

“

From the moment we drove up to The Center for Discovery, we knew this was the place for Heather and us as a family. Twenty three years later we still cannot believe how fantastic the Center is! Every person who works with Heather helps to give her confidence, independence and a life beyond what we thought possible.

”

- Nancy and Peter Saretsky

THANK YOU TO OUR 2021 CHAMPIONS

DIAMOND LEVEL - (\$200,000+)

Michael Arougheti and Nelly Bly Arougheti
Craig Chesley and Eileen Naughton
Averell and Gigi Mortimer
Mother Cabrini Health Foundation
Kenneth and Kim Raisler
Matthew and Julie Richardson
David and Jill Robbins
Paul and Maura Robinson
The Spark Fund
The Taft Foundation

PLATINUM LEVEL - (\$100,000 - \$199,999)

Gail Gartenstein
In Memory of Victor Gartenstein
Gerald and Janet Carrus Foundation
Aidan and Elizabeth Quinn
Douglas Rodriguez and Caroline Bienstock
Peter and Nancy Saretsky
Richard and Allison Vella
Robert and Susan Wright

GOLD LEVEL - (\$50,000 - \$99,999)

JoAnn Atlas
CIT Group, Inc.
In Honor of Ellen Alemany
Jill Faber & Eric Shapiro
The Connelly Family
Joseph Faber & Sumy Daeufer
Google Matching Gifts Program
Fundraisers by Emma Chesley & Justin Forman
Andreas Hildebrand and Katie Wright
Jeffery and Eva Kittay
The Kushlefsky/Weiner Family
Benjamin and Carol Monderer
The Seymour Foundation

SILVER LEVEL - (\$25,000 - \$49,000)

Lawrence Becker and Jane Weber
DiMenna Foundation
Friends Of Will, Inc.
Irwin Siegel Agency, Inc.
Mary and Kathleen Harriman Foundation
Mary W. Harriman Foundation
Liliana Mostovoy
Vadim and Joann Mostovoy
Scott and Randi Pomerantz
Roma M. Karp Foundation, Inc.
Daniel and Alison Singer
Eugene Weiss
Ben and Terry Weshler



BRONZE LEVEL - (\$5,000 - \$24,999)

A1 Used Landscaping Equipment Corp.
 Daniel and Patricia Abelson
 Katherine Adams and Duke Wisner
 Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation
 American Portfolios Holdings, Inc.
 Bonita Beattie
 Brooklyn Community Foundation
 Emma Chesley
 Joan Chess and Ann Engelland
 Margaret Coffey
 Elaine Corrington
 Robert and Ann Cowen
 Crystal Family Foundation
 In Honor of Ashley
 Cuddy Law Firm, P.C.
 The David R. and Patricia D. Atkinson Foundation
 In Honor of Arthur and Denise Thompson
 Michael and Barbara deMarco
 John and Alicia DiCalogero
 James and Marianne Egan
 Ernst & Young LLP
 In Honor of Ellen Alemany
 Filingeri Electrical Contracting Corp.
 Joel Forman and Monica Belag Forman
 Geoffrey Garin and Debbie Berkowitz
 In Honor of Tommy
 Michael Garin
 Christopher and Susan George
 Gillette Creamery
 Martin and Perry Granoff
 Diane Greble
 Ari and Andrea Greenburg
 Harold and Bonnie Himmelman
 Hobson/Lucas Family Foundation
 Philip and Patricia Holland
 Paul Hutter and Marguerite Wagner Hutter
 The Hyman Levine Family Foundation: L'Dor V'Dor
 In Honor of Matthew
 The John N. Blackman Sr. Foundation
 Glenn Kaplan and Evelyn Rodstein
 Steven and Cindy Kief
 Thomas and Robyn Levine
 Sarah Lewis
 Robert and Denise Lombardi
 Long Island Employee Benefits Group Ltd.
 Jacqueline Mackay
 Patrick Mackay
 Lena Maiorano
 Stuart and Theresa Manzione
 Marsal Family Foundation
 Elliott and Bonnie Mayefsky
 Sabina McCarthy
 Tony and Nancy McElroy
 John Milligan and Rob Gravis
 Gregory and Karen Montana
 Mutual of America
 Matching Gift via Marguerite Wagner
 William and Barbara Myslinski
 Network for Good
 Donations from various Facebook Family Fundraisers
 New York Life Foundation
 Matching Gift via John and Vincent DiCalogero
 Stephen Ollendorff
 RMG Real Estate Holdings Group
 In Honor of Emma
 Michael and Jane Rosen
 Richard Rosen and Orly Adelson
 Timothy Ross and Anna Kornilakis
 Laura Scherr Saggese and Edward Saggese
 Melissa Salten
 Marti and Lisa Sassi
 Marjorie Schnader
 James and Joanne Schoonmaker
 Vernon and Lynn Schwartz
 Alexei Smirnov
 Regina Stem
 In Honor of Zachary
 Dolores Storch
 In Honor of the DeCarluccio Family
 Stuntz Family Foundation
 In Honor of Zoe and Tommy
 David and Debra Sullivan
 William and Helen Travers
 Wilson and Emily Warren

“

When I think of The Center and the work we do, one word that comes to mind is strength. Our strength is the core of who we are. When times are hard, our strength sees us through. When there are new ideas, programs to be implemented, or a different way of operating, the strength in our team makes it happen. When there is uncertainty, the strength of our leaders gives us hope and a sense of peace.

”

- Jennifer Wood, Assistant Chief,
Pediatric Residential Program

THE CENTER FOR
DISCOVERY®



“

“Dinner was delicious!” Stuey announced during our nightly call. In his 27 years of life, our son with autism had never said “delicious.” We wanted to drop the phone and start dancing. Because of The Center's commitment to those for whom they care, Stuey continues to grow... to stop, look, listen, comment. He's moved to a higher level of calm, awareness and engagement that represents not only tremendous growth, but exhilarating hope for the long life ahead of him. And despite our endless expressions of gratitude to The Center for Discovery, we feel there simply are no means to adequately say, thank you.

”

- Terri and Stu Manzione

What Happens Here, Matters Everywhere.

thecenterfordiscovery.org

THE
CENTER FOR
DISCOVERY®



thecenterfordiscovery.org