

# Community News

A Newsletter for Friends of Residential Resources, Inc.

August 2021

## Fun with the Fisher Cats

Anthony Wagnitz, Program Manager  
Londonderry, NH

The crew from Fremont Rd. had a great outing at a Fisher Cats game recently in Manchester, NH. The weather was great for a day at the ballpark. Lorieann, Mike, and Shawn were joined by Brittany, Rob, Will, and me. Along with the game we, of course, enjoyed some food because you gotta have a hot dog and some cracker jacks, right? There was a good crowd and even though the visiting Yard Goats from Hartford won, there were plenty of laughs and dancing as the music pumped out of the speakers. Mike and I even got spotted dancing on the Jumbotron! We had such a good time and look forward to doing it again, hopefully with a bigger group that may include you. Happy Summer, everyone!



## A Visit to Purgatory Falls Trail

Cheryl Stancik, Direct Support Professional  
Londonderry, NH

If you want a beautiful place to go, I have a perfect spot. Rolita, Evelyn, Julie, and I went to the Purgatory Falls Trail on Purgatory Falls Road in Lyndeborough, New Hampshire. It was a hike in the woods on a trail. It was a short walk on the dirt path when we realized we made it to the falls. When you got there the falls are so beautiful. We put our hands in the water and poured the water over our heads. The water was cold but refreshing on a nice hot summer day. We took all kinds of pictures of how beautiful the falls are. We sat by the water for a while and watched the falls, while just talking and enjoying ourselves. We enjoyed the freedom of nature.



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### Thank you!

Karlie Munson, Agency Support Broker & Lydia Brown, FI Coordinator  
Plattsburgh, NY

Just as we thought the pandemic was winding down, we may be in for another roller coaster ride. As we hope this time around is not as impactful as the initial onset of COVID-19 was, we know that we can tackle anything that comes our way. Everyone has adapted to the needs that have been brought on by COVID-19, and we just want to say thank you!

We all know that change can be difficult and stressful. There is nobody that has come out of the pandemic unchanged, and for that, we should all be forever grateful. While change can be messy, everybody has worked together to do the best that we can. We should all be proud of each other and ourselves for going through an unprecedented time in history.

We specifically want to thank all our participants who have been directly impacted by the changes that COVID-19 has brought. We recognize that the changes COVID-19 came with were not easy to tackle, but you have made it look easy! Furthermore, thank you to the healthcare heroes that have fought through this pandemic tirelessly. Thank you to all the administrators, staff, DSPs, managers, brokers, vendors, and FICs who have found innovative ways to help everyone receive the services they deserve. There is no way to possibly thank everyone so: THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU for everything that you have done to make this pandemic a little easier to live through.

## Thirty-One Years of the ADA Recapped

Madelyn Brackett, Payroll & Administrative Assistant  
Ellis Baum, Regional Director  
Westbrook, ME

The Americans with Disabilities Act was signed a little over 30 years ago by then President, George H.W Bush. This act has done many things for individuals with disabilities, including implement workplace standards such as ramps, accessible bathrooms, and other tailored accommodations to fit the needs of the individuals and to end discrimination in the workplace. As President Biden remarked in his July 26th address, the ADA is “grounded in four core outcomes of full participation, equal opportunity, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency, the ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in contexts such as of public accommodation, employment, transportation, and community living and provides recourse for people with disabilities who faced discrimination.”

Much of what the ADA has already and will continue to accomplish lives and breathes at Residential Resources. Providing necessary day to day care is one aspect of our work but helping the people we support move towards requiring less support is equally important. Two examples quickly come to mind in John Nascimento and Monica Wood. These two individuals have been supported by RRI for quite some time and during their tenure they have grown to be able to have far less support from staff, each becoming their own guardian, entering into a relationship and choosing to live together, and entering the community regularly and even taking vacations independently. These are but a few of their accomplishments. While the ADA has paved the way for many individuals with disabilities to find opportunities for empowerment and achievement, it is vital that those of us who do this work continue to push the envelope of what any person can accomplish and let more of our focus be on what can be done versus what cannot.

To learn more about the ADA, I suggest visiting their official website ([www.ada.gov](http://www.ada.gov)) and keeping tabs via [disabilitycoop.com](http://disabilitycoop.com).

### Sources cited:

- <https://www.disabilitycoop.com/2021/06/25/biden-plan-to-boost-disability-services-in-limbo/29394/>
- <https://www.forbes.com/sites/andrewpulang/2021/07/31/31-years-later-31-things-about-the-americans-with-disabilities-act/?sh=2841c09563d6>
- <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/07/26/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-marks-anniversary-of-americans-with-disabilities-act-and-announces-resources-to-support-individuals-with-long-covid/>

## Bowling with Brandon

Michelle Leger  
Emerald St., Keene, NH

I have known Brandon for a few years. We usually go to the park and eat lunch together. Last week, he asked me if I would like to join him at bowling at Yankee Lanes Bowling Alley in Keene. We bowled a couple of games. We had a lot of fun. It was fun to do something different.



*Thank you to everyone who contributes articles and pictures to the newsletter.*

Articles are due by the second Friday of each month for that month's newsletter. The newsletter will be posted at [www.resresources.com](http://www.resresources.com) on the last business day of each month.

If you do not have access to the internet and would like a copy of the newsletter mailed to you, please contact your local Residential Resources office to make arrangements.

### **Community News**

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### **Residential Resources, Inc.**

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### **William K. Schofield, Ph.D**

Founder and Owner

## Our Guiding Principles

**Creativity** We foster creativity by exploring and learning, embracing change, and pursuing best practice. We always ask ourselves, 'Is there a better way?'

**Truth / Honesty** We foster an environment where open and honest feedback and sharing are expected, encouraged, and supported. We honor commitments; and we share feelings, opinions, experiences, ideas, and information in order to optimize each individual's personal and professional growth and development.

**Empowerment** We empower people through a process which includes giving them the opportunities, the authority, the information, and the examples necessary to become successful decision makers.

**Diversity** We welcome and value different perspectives, contributions, and capabilities. We promote growth, opportunity, and experience.

**Quality** We continually improve our services by: Promoting positive change; Increasing knowledge and skills; Encouraging personal growth; Valuing individual differences; Learning from our experiences.

**Respect** We believe that respect is a right, and we conduct ourselves accordingly. Our standards include the exercise of human dignity; the honoring and valuing of self and others; and communication that is clear, direct, and honest.

**Trust** We create trust by being consistent, stable, honest, and reliable. Trust also requires sincerity, knowledge, and capability.