

Happenings

Newsletter

Fall 2022

For friends of Ability Partners Foundation and Ability Partners - CP Rochester, Happiness House, and Rochester Rehabilitation



"At a time when it seemed all doors were closing (due to Covid) Happiness House opened theirs up and welcomed us right in," said Audrey DeBoover. At 39 weeks, doctors informed Audrey and her husband Dan of their soon-to-be daughter, Annie's, hydrocephalus diagnosis and prepped them to live in the hospital. After Annie was born, they also diagnosed her with cerebral palsy vastly limiting her left side. Not only were the DeBoovers able to leave the hospital, three brain surgeries later, "Wild Annie" as they nicknamed her is living up to her name. "Working with the team of professionals at Happiness House we were able to watch Annie overcome milestones we only dreamed but never thought possible for her. Each and every accomplishment filled us with confidence and hope that our next goal would in time be achievable," said Audrey.

Annie began therapy in Canandaigua at six-months-old and for the past two years has been a frequent and highly anticipated face in the halls. "Happiness House has been our greatest asset in helping her achieve her highest potential. We will forever be grateful. From our personal greeting... to our incredible therapists, this program has served our daughter and our family in a way that will impact our lives forever," Audrey added.

The family also holds a fundraiser every year for the Hydrocephalus Association called Hydro-Hoopla to help find a cure.

Annie will be starting in the preschool program in Geneva next year and the DeBoovers are excited to make the bittersweet transition but to continue on the journey of hope and happiness.



Tommy Gallagher, came to Rochester Rehabilitation's DriveOn program in 2020 with neuropathy in his legs, looking for a way to continue driving. We trained the 77-year-old Vietnam Veteran and retired Rochester Police Officer on hand controls and set up his own car.

"At first I was very nervous about learning to drive with adaptive equipment, but the instructors did a good job to reinforce my confidence." Tommy said. "The transition I made was the best thing I could have done – I learned a unique skill and it drastically improved my independence in all aspects of life. My physical and emotional health have improved and it has been incredible for my social life. I want to thank the staff at Rochester Rehab – they did a great job helping me."



Turning off the Alarm Clock

Patti Cunningham, Ability Partners' Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President has turned her alarm clock off for the first time since college - the same alarm clock she has used for her entire working career. After 29 years of working at CP Rochester, Happiness House, and Rochester Rehabilitation and a bonus four years that she worked for CP Rochester prior to the agencies affiliation, Patti retired in June.

Inspired by her father's influence, Patti gravitated toward the nonprofit world with the desire to help others and make a difference. During her accomplished career, Patti received the RBJ's Financial Executive of the Year Award in 2015 and was the recipient of CP Associations of NYS Daniel Weider Leadership Award in 2018.

"She helped us create efficiencies of over two million dollars that we were able to utilize in different ways for the organizations and she was instrumental in the synergy process and the affiliation of the three agencies," said Mary Walsh Boatfield, President & CEO.

Patti thrived in the face of challenges and had a big impact all three agencies. Looking back upon the 33 years, Patti is comforted by having found the right fit for her. "This was the right career move for me, I found a home."



A MESSAGE FROM MARY

After 21 extraordinary years as the CEO/President of Happiness House, 13 years as Ability Partners Foundation CEO/President, and nine years as CEO/President of Ability Partners affiliates including CP Rochester, Happiness House, and Rochester Rehabilitation, I have formally announced my intention to retire in March 2023. The four agencies play critical roles in the economic well-being of the communities in which they operate, employing more than 700 staff, serving 6,800 individuals and families in 15 locations in the Greater Rochester and Finger Lakes areas.

We cultivated viable agencies supported by Ability Partners Foundation through creative fundraising events such as the Autism Awareness Walk, annual Galas, and the Planned Giving/Legacy Society programs and mission-driven corporate sponsors and donors raising over one million dollars each year. Ability Partners Foundation has helped bridge the financial gap by providing the necessary resources to ensure that all individuals receiving services through CP Rochester, Happiness House, and Rochester Rehabilitation have access to them.

I appreciate the steadfast support of our stakeholders and wish all of you continued success. Thank you for your support of me and the efforts of our teams in helping to make the wishes and dreams of our consumers and families a reality. I am certain that Ability Partners affiliates and the Foundation will continue to be an increasingly strong force in the nonprofit sector and will bring innovative ideas and create pioneering initiatives for those we serve for years to come.

Mary Walsh Boatfield, President / CEO

This year we said goodbye to some of our incredible staff that span all three agencies and have worked a combined: 200 years for Ability Partners!

Jane Murray , Speech Language Pathologist 38	Lynn Keller , Director of Advancement 14
Harlene Gilbert , Director of Evaluations 35	Katherine Foster , PROS Advisor 11
Jan Riccione , Day Habilitation Supervisor 35	Debra Goen , Paraprofessional II 6
Mary Stein , Paraprofessional 34	Tina Reed , School Psychologist 5
Patti Cunningham , CFO 33	Diann Warner , School Psychologist 2
Judy Schwarz , Administrative Assistant 22	



EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

WE RECOGNIZED THE DEDICATION AND HARD WORK OF OUR HAPPINESS HOUSE & CP ROCHESTER STAFF THROUGH HYBRID EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION EVENTS.



2022 Mary Griswold Professional Service Award Winners
Ashley Avery, Heather Ryan, and Angela Lincoln

5 Years of Service

Lynn Barnett
Mindy Colf
Teddy Grey
Christina Guerri
Connie Mehlenbacher
Mary Ann Montemorano
Kathryn Scibona
Miranda Smith
Wendy Williams

10 Years of Service

Ashley Avery
Brenda Love
Regina O'Brien
Dawn Sutton
Rene Yarger

15 Years of Service

Judy McCarthy
Bruce Rood
Kristina Whitbeck

20 Years of Service

Mary Walsh Boatfield
Liz Honadle
Heather Roller
Kileen Smith

30 Years of Service

Joanie Wadhams

5 Years of Service

Jillian Brown
Dianne Clar
Christina James-McClary
Jeffrey Lower
Billie Tyler
Julie Vellozzi

20 Years of Service

Darlene Atkins
Melissa Nesmith

25 Years of Service

Suzanne Davis

35 Years of Service

Tina Bennett
Cheryl Garlock
Jan Riccione

10 Years of Service

Sheila Goodman
Debra Hanna
Julie Marquardt

15 Years of Service

Lakiescha Hill
Anne Mummery
Solestine Young



2022 John Horvath Professional Service Award Winners
Erin Greenfield, Rebecca Anderson, and Karissa West

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT



When Peggy Kehoe retired from teaching in 2016, she became the perfect match for CP Rochester's Day Habilitation Adult Basic Education (ABE) class. Peggy's career as a teacher and her high-level of patience and kindness provided the skills she needed to support our learners.

When our full-time teacher retired, Peggy led efforts to make a portrait for the individuals to sign and she and the other ABE volunteers were instrumental during the hiring transition.

Peggy is a fantastic artist and in August had an exhibit at the Little Theatre!

We are grateful for volunteers like Peggy who are so valuable to our agencies.

Honoring HEROES

Gala and Auction in the Finger Lakes

Guests were treated with a keynote speech from the Cimino Family (pictured right). This moving story recounted the bravery of the Cimino's and the help they received from our agencies when they first received Dante's (middle) diagnosis.

We thank our heroes, award winners, generous sponsors, and guests for helping us to raise over \$173,000! This money will be used to fund programs and services at CP Rochester, Happiness House, and Rochester Rehabilitation.



Five award recipients were recognized at the inaugural Honoring Heroes Gala. Congratulations to:

Marie Graham
Humanitarian of the Year

Elsa Steo
Harold C. Augustin Founders Award

Martin Mucci | Paychex, Inc.
Volunteer of the Year

William H. Goodrich | LeChase Construction Services, LLC
Community Partner of the Year

Brian Meath & John Hovath (posthumously)
Board Member(s) of the Year

Thank You To Our Generous Sponsors:

Underwriting Sponsor: Five Star Bank | Cash Appeal Sponsor: Massa Construction, Inc.
Friend Sponsors: Marshal Family Foundation, Williams Family Foundation | Nozomi Williams
Platinum Sponsor: The Bonadio Group | Gold Sponsors: Bill Cram Chevrolet, Lyons National Bank, Relph Benefit Advisors | Silver Sponsors: Al Sigl Community of Agencies, BonaDent Dental Laboratories, Guardian Glass, Lawley Insurance, LeChase Construction Services, LLC, Rachel Kielon, Paychex, Inc., Victor Excavating | Nickel Sponsor: eVero Corporation | Table Sponsors: Canandaigua Financial Group, Susan Chlebowski, The Hawks Family, Wegmans | Patron Plus Sponsors: The Joseph & Mary Louise Lapczenski Charitable Fund, U.S. Employee Benefits Services Group | Patron Sponsors: Canandaigua National Bank, CDS Life Transitions, Concord Insurance Agency, Harris Beach PLLC, Hobart and William Smith Colleges | Business Sponsors: Alesco Advisors LLC, Barclay Damon LLP, Christa Construction, CP of NYS, Integris IT, Marathon Engineering, Susan Mavity, The Upstate National Bank, UR Medicine FF Thompson Health, | Other Donors: Andrea Bonafiglia, Jeff & Carol Baker, Randy & Nancy Benedetto, Nanci & Mike Bentley, William & Margaret Clark, Craig & Eileen Gage, Mary Eileen Graham, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hack, Christopher Harris, James R. Hotaling, Cassandra Starr, Nicholas & Elsa Steo, John Wadsworth, Rochester Jay Lodge - Knights of Pythias, Seneca Foods Foundation

Housemates to sisters to creative partners

Latrice and Sam have been living together in CP Rochester's Lone Oak residence for three years. This two-bedroom home is more intimate, and it is just how they like it. The quiet neighborhood and smaller setting promotes independence which helps the two become more prepared if they choose to move on to a transition apartment with the goal of living on their own. Latrice and Sam are the best of friends. When they aren't at their programs, they are chatting in the living room, catching up on their favorite reality TV shows, or out and about in the community.

Both ladies are involved in the Inspiration Project, a collaboration with the University of Rochester, where volunteer students connect with CP Rochester program participants and together they create an inspiration anthology of published and polished works. "I think of this program as a puzzle. Each of us is one piece of a colorful puzzle of poetry, playwriting, and memoirs. The pieces are different, but in the end we all fit together as one big world of storytelling. If we look inside the puzzle, we can see hope for the future," Latrice said.

Since it's beginnings, the Project has published 11 volumes. Latrice being an author in all volumes and Sam publishing work in the most recent two editions. Their stories: The Fictional Life Story of the Lovely Latrice, Emily's Story, The Volcano Story, A Special Friendship, Snowy's Adventure, Courageous, Lightening Horse, The Magical Gift of Friendship, Milly, Sam, Lila, and Stitch's Big Adventure, and the stories of the other authors in the program are available to be read online at: www.sas.rochester.edu/laps/academics/inspiration-project.html



PLANNED GIVING

Have you made a planned gift to APF or named a loved one as a beneficiary? Every day, throughout the country, countless not-for-profit organizations address society's health, humanitarian, educational, cultural, social, economic, and spiritual needs. By supporting APF through planned giving, you can help to assure more fulfilling lives for future generations.

LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS

as of July 1, 2022

Anonymous (3)
IMO William and Mildred Archibald*
~ Gerald Archibald
Estate of Harold Augustin*
Jeffrey & Carol Baker
Charles & Barbara Battle
Roy M. & Nancy J. Beecher
MJ, Mike, and Nanci Bentley
Andrea Bonafiglia
Mary Walsh Boatfield
Margaret D. Burns T.U.A. Trust*
David & Jane Case
Michael & Cheryl Coppola
Estate of Ann M. Cigna*
Amy Cram
Patricia L. Cunningham
Paul & Tina Davidson
Estate of Robert M. Derr*
DeTorio Family Living Trust*
Estate of Richard G. Ensman Jr.*
Catherine & Elmar Frangenberg
Craig & Eileen Gage

Mark & Mary Gearan
Charles & Donna Graham
Henrietta Ann Hamilton*
Muriel J. Hanselman*
Richard & Linda Hawks
Estate of Michael Hawley*
Helen K Helphrey*
Harold J. Hickey*
Robert F. Horn*
John Horvath*
Rodney B. & Cynthia W. Janes
Memorial Fund*
Estate of Frances Arline Kenyon*
James King
Estate of Mary P. Kubanka*
Betsy Kubiak
Ann E. Kurz
Estate of Ralph A. Lomio*
Robert C. Maddamma
Estate of Margaret McGrath*
Brian & Kelly Meath
~ Terry Meath Memorial Fund
Estate of Nancy J. Perry*

Arther B. Plyter Trust*
Estate of Addison N. Ringler*
Estate of Alice E. Ringler*
Natalie A. Ross Revocable Trust*
Pasqualina D. Schifano*
Ann M. Schneider*
Eugene R. Schneider*
Estate of Marjorie Simmons*
Diana Smith
Estate of Hazel C. Smith*
Estate of Virginia Caroline Smith*
Joseph and Irene Skalny
Charitable Trust
Elsa & Nick Steo
Estate of Virginia P. Thiede*
Estate of Dr. Bernard Tofany*
Estate of Robert G. & Florence E. Van Duyn*
Sara Volta Memorial Contributions*
Marion M. Wegman*
William & Joyce Weir
Elizabeth K. Wise*

*deceased

"Ability Partners Foundation and the three agencies it supports - Happiness House, CP Rochester and Rochester Rehabilitation – provide services to people in our community in so many ways. Utilizing planned giving is a way for donors to assure that those services will continue to be provided, whether it be made during the donor's life or afterwards."

Jeffrey & Carol Baker





Autism Awareness Walk

A HUGE thank you to the 29 sponsors, and over 275 participants who raised more than \$37,000!

A special thank-you to our three Honorary Chairs: Trenton, Eric, and Daniel!

- Grand Prize Winner: **Team Owen**
- Top Fundraiser: **Ashlyn Grimm**
- Top Fundraising Team: **Canandaigua Pink Room**

- Over \$500 Club:
- Canandaigua Pink Room
- Canandaigua Blue Room
- CP Rochester
- HH @ the GAC
- Jumping James
- Owen's Crew
- Silas' Reason to Run
- Spectacular Speechies
- Team Gio
- Team Parmeter
- Team UDN
- Ty's Walking Crew
- Uniquely Everly / Amazing Ava

We returned to Eastview Mall for the Walk and had a blast with:

- Virtual Carnival Challenges
- Artists for Autism craft booth
- Canandaigua Lacrosse Demonstration/Instruction
- Reading area donated by Geneva Reads
- Delicious Bake Sale and more!

Thank You Sponsors:

- Pacesetter:** Edward & Verna Gerbic Family Foundation, LECESE Construction, Massa Construction, TJ Maxx, and Nozomi Williams
- Stride:** Bill Cram Chevrolet, Relph Benefit Advisors, and Samuel Fund
- Stomp:** Chuck & Donna Graham, MVP Health Care, Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company, Prime Care Coordination, and Wegmans
- Step:** Al Sigl Community of Agencies, Battle Construction, IBEW Local Union 840, and Brian & Kelly Meath
- Challenge:** AutismUp and Safelite AutoGlass
- Stroll:** Roy & Nancy Beecher, Avery S. Beer, Carol Francolini, Golisano Autism Center, Reliant Credit Union, and WireTek Communications.

AWARDS RECEIVED AMONG THE AGENCIES



Voted Top Three by RBJ's Reader Rankings

- CP Rochester / Happiness House Best Pre-School
- CP Rochester / Happiness House Best Day Care
- Happiness House Best Home Health Care Agency



GRANTS RECEIVED AMONG THE AGENCIES

AUTISM SPEAKS

Happiness House is the recipient of this \$3,500 grant, used to purchase a comprehensive Smartboard package for a preschool classroom at the Golisano Autism Center.

ODD FELLOW & REBEKAH BENEFIT FUND

This \$50,000 grant will be used toward the CP Rochester Family Dental Center operations. A \$25,000 gift was awarded to the Golisano Autism Center to support their Autism Navigator and Help Line program.

NEXTCORPS

A \$4,000 grant was given to Rochester Rehabilitation enabling them to purchase a new battery for their forklift, and also fund a holiday lunch for their dedicated staff.

FSS NY STATE RENEWAL

A \$161,907 grant was given to Happiness House's Family Support Services for 2022.

GRANTS AWARDED

ABILITY PARTNERS FOUNDATION AWARDED \$15K IN INTERNAL GRANTS

CP ROCHESTER (\$5,000)

- The transition apartments received \$2,000 for outdoor storage
- The Jefferson Rd IRA was awarded \$2,500 for purchasing bikes
- The Pediatric Clinic received \$500 for parallel bars for treatment

HAPPINESS HOUSE (\$5,000)

- Canandaigua Children's Program was awarded \$1,000 to purchase developmentally appropriate learning toys and manipulatives
- The Clinic received \$3,200 to purchase a hi-low mat table
- Structured Day Program received \$800 technology upgrades

ROCHESTER REHABILITATION (\$5,000)

- \$5,000 was awarded to help with safety enhancements and janitorial equipment

THANK YOU

The Marilyn Lichtman Foundation gave CP Rochester's Family Dental Center a grant award of \$50,000 for operational costs associated with the Center. We are grateful for their partnership and ongoing support.





5K Run for Fun & 1M Walk for Wellness

Our 5K/1M returned fully in-person this May! Runners & walkers were able to come to CP Rochester, enjoy the weather and run/walk/roll for a GREAT cause.

A huge thank you to the 12 sponsors, and 120 runners/walkers/volunteers who raised over \$11,000 for Ability Partners Foundation!

A huge thank-you to our Honorary Chair: Lilliana and her parents Katrina and Forest (pictured)

Top Fundraiser:
Mary Bansbach
\$660

Top Runners Men:
Justin Duchnick - 18m 08s
Federico Lopez Armengol - 20m 07s
Prem Kumar - 20m 53s

Top Runners Kids:
Alex Knittle - 26m 25s
Jack Timpani - 28m 31s
Madeline Glennon - 33m 33s

Top Runners Women:
Emily Drew - 23m 14s
Carolyn Mathis - 23m 24s
Keri Prok - 24m 26s



- Gold:** Alesco Advisors, Inc.
- Silver:** It's a Wonderful Run
- Copper:** Samuel Fund
- Bronze:** Al Sigi Community of Agencies, Benefits Management, Inc., Canandaigua National Bank & Trust, Pixos Print, Usherwood Office Technology, and Wegmans
- Patron:** Jeffers & Birnie CPA's PC
- Friend:** ComTon, Inc.



A big thank you to our 10 Day of Caring volunteer organizations who worked at our Happiness House and CP Rochester locations: First American Equipment Finance, Butler/Till, Carestream Health, Eastman Kodak Company, Nixon Peabody LLP, LeChase Construction Services, Inc., Lyons National Bank, Paychex, Inc., Troutman Pepper, and Wegmans



YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE, BECAUSE YOU WERE THE DIFFERENCE

Investment in Ability Partners makes all the difference. Thank you to our friends, family, and sponsors for helping our agencies.

PLATINUM \$10,000

ELMAR & CATHERINE FRANGENBERG
MARSHALL FAMILY FOUNDATION
WILLIAM & JOYCE WEIR
NOZOMI WILLIAMS | WILLIAMS FAMILY FOUNDATION

SILVER \$5,000

CHARLES & DONNA GRAHAM
JOSEPH & IRENE SKALNY CHARITABLE TRUST
WEGMANS FOOD MARKETS, INC.
RICHARD & CHARIS WARSHOF

TITANIUM \$2,000

DONALD HENNICK & MARY EKMAN

SPOTLIGHT \$1,250

THE CHAPMAN FAMILY CHARITABLE FUND - SUZANNE NASIPAK-CHAPMAN

SHOUT-OUT \$500

ANNE & THOMAS BATTAGLIA
BURKE GROUP, LLC
MICHAEL & CHERYL COPPOLA
ERIC DANN
TOM HAMMOND
RICHARD & LINDA HAWKS
STEVE & CHRISTINE SHULTZ
DARRELL & JILL WHITBECK

OTHER \$1-\$499

DAVID & REBECCA ACHILLES
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY POST #34
EUGENE ANTCZAK
CHRISTOPHER ASBURY
ERAJ BASNAYAKE
TOM BOHRER & MITZIE COLLINS
JEFF & KATHY BOWEN
ANN BURT
SAMUEL & MARIA CASANZIO
KATHLEEN CHAPMAN
LYNNE CHARETTE & JANET SWARTHOUT
WILLIAM & MARGARET CLARK
DANIEL & MAUREEN COLLINS
ANN DECKER
SUZANNE EBERHARDT
RILEY EIKE
FINGER LAKES FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
DARREN & CHRISTINA FORCIER
LYNN FOST
LAURIE GENDRON
MR. & MRS. GRANT GILLETTE
RAY & ELLEN GRABB
DEBRA HANNA

PETER HART
BILL & KELLY HART
WALTER B.D. HICKEY
MORTON & NANCY HODIN
JAMES HOLLIS
RYAN & DAWN HOWE
RONALD & VICKIE INGALLS
LYNN KELLER
SHARON KUNZER
CATHARINE KURZ
SCOTT & KATHLEEN MACKENZIE | NATRA-LOOK ACRE FARMS
JOHN & PAULA MACLELLAND
CINDY MATTOON
DR. JANE MCCAFFREY
DAVID & AMY MOLINA
MARK NESTLER
JULIAN & CARRIE NICHOLAS
JOHN NOZ
MARY ANN OBRIEN
STEVEN OLSON
DAWN ORFORD
MICHAEL & ANN OSBORNE

GOLD \$7,500

AMY CRAM | BILL CRAM CHEVROLET
GEORGE EWING JR.
PAYCHEX, INC.

BRONZE \$2,500

BONADENT DENTAL LABORATORIES
MARATHON PETROLEUM CORPORATION
KEYBANK FOUNDATION
WALTER WUNDROW

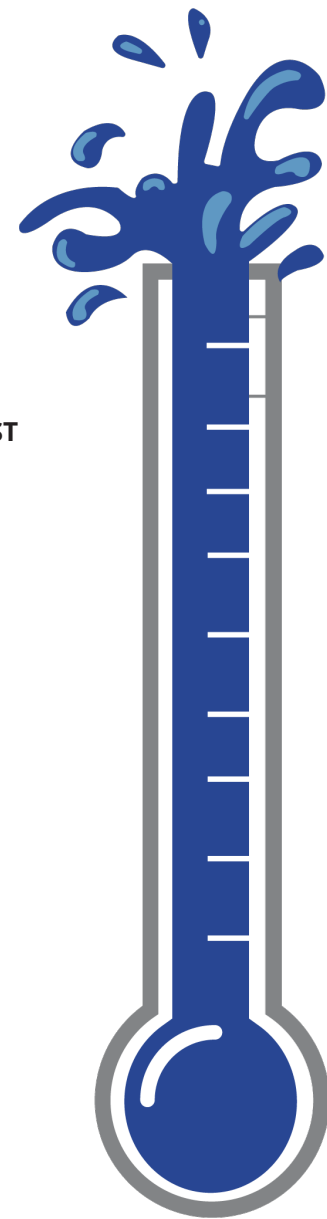
COPPER \$1,500

MARY WALSH BOATFIELD
JOHN HORVATH
BRIAN & KELLY MEATH

HERO \$1,000

CRAIG & EILEEN GAGE
LAWLEY ANDOLINA VERDI
ONEPOINT PARTNERS, LLC
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THOMAS POLITO
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BETTY WALSH
JAMES & DIANN WARNER
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MITCHELL & KAREN YARMELE
PAUL & JUDI ZOLTOSKI





3399 Winton Road South, Rochester, NY 14623

Raising funds in support of services offered by CP Rochester, Happiness House & Rochester Rehabilitation for people with disabilities and disadvantages.

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If you wish to change your subscription status with Ability Partners Foundation, CP Rochester, Happiness House, or Rochester Rehabilitation, or have questions on the following cut-outs, contact Riley Eike, Director at 585-412-9040 x1322.



I/We would like to support Ability Partners Foundation and the gift of Hope & Happiness! Enclosed is my gift of:

- Donation amount options: \$500, \$250, \$150, \$100, \$50, Other \$_____

- Check here if you wish to remain anonymous.
My gift is in honor/memory (circle) of: _____

Remember, all donations are tax deductible. Thank you in advance for your kind support! If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Coppola at ccoppola@happinesshouse.org.

Please send this form with your gift made payable to: Ability Partners Foundation (2022 Annual Appeal) 3399 Winton Road S. Rochester, New York 14623

To pay by credit card, contact: Riley Eike at reike@happinesshouse.org

The New York Assembly Bill 2688B, signed by Governor Cuomo, amended Section 174-b of the New York State Executive Law which requires any solicitation, including solicitations by professional fundraisers/solicitors on behalf of our organizations, must provide the New York State Office of the Attorney General Charities Bureau website - https://www.charitiesnys.com and phone # (212) 416-8401.