In the Know with.... Hudson Regional LONG-TERM CARE PHARMACY September 2024 · Issue #045

Honoring Milestones, **Inspiring Futures**



Your Pharmacy Partner Across New York & **Celebrating New Horizons Resources' 50th Anniversary**



Tee Off for a Great Cause

We were excited to sponsor the 2024 CRSI Golf Outing on September 20th! This event benefits Community Resources Staten Island, an organization dedicated to providing opportunities for individuals in the ID/DD community. Their mission is to help everyone reach their potential, achieve independence, and enjoy fulfilling lives as active participants in their communities.

We had a fantastic day on the greens! By participating in the golf outing, attendees helped support important programs that empower individuals to thrive. It was a great opportunity to have fun while making a real difference in our community!



A Letter From Our CEO

As we move into the fall season, it's important to take proactive steps in safeguarding the health of those we serve, especially within our longterm care community. Influenza can spread quickly in group settings, and the consequences can be severe for individuals with weakened immune systems, chronic conditions, or agerelated vulnerabilities. One of the most effective ways to reduce the impact of flu season is by ensuring that all residents and staff receive the flu vaccine.

We understand the importance of protecting your community, and Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy is here to make that process as seamless as possible. Our dedicated team can come directly to your facility to administer flu shots to your residents, providing

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convenient access to this essential vaccine. This service allows you to focus on care without the logistical challenges of coordinating external appointments.

By working together to prioritize flu prevention, we can create a healthier environment for everyone, reduce the risk of outbreaks, and limit the strain that flu season often places on longterm care facilities.

As always, we're here for you and we'll keep communicating, innovating, and making sure your needs are met every step of the way.



Yours in Health, Angelo Angerame

CEO, Hudson Regional Long Term Care Pharmacy

Recognizing Extraordinary Care and Dedication

At an August 22nd luncheon hosted by Capital Regional RX (Albany affiliate of Hudson Regional Long-Term Care Pharmacy) to recognize outstanding direct service providers, Erik Geizer, CEO of The ARC of New York State, was the guest speaker.



"It is an honor to be here today with all of you. I want to thank Harsh Kothari, Tatiana Roupas, and Capital Regional RX for this luncheon, and recognize the amazing caregivers in our field. I also want to thank them for their continued partnership in providing the best possible care to the people we support.

The ARC-New York is a family-led organization that advocates and provides support to people with intellectual, developmental, and other disabilities. We emphasize choice and community engagement and are the largest provider of I/DD services in New York, with 35 Chapters in every county. We support more than 60,000 individuals and employ over 30,000 people statewide.

The parents who founded our organization were early advocates for guality services for people with I/DD. In the 75 years since, we have witnessed – and at times driven - massive progress in our field. New York has developed a robust system of individualized services and programs that aid independence, support families, and emphasize inclusion in communities. All of the agencies here today helped us reach this point, and we thank you.

In March 2020, we learned of the rapid transmission of COVID-19, with cases in some of our Chapter houses. It was a scary time, and we faced multiple challenges, such as:

1. How to best support our Chapters and staff to ensure we protect the people we care for.

2. Managing our office of 70 employees, all *nervous about the situation.*

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo announced mandatory workforce reductions, and we required our NYSARC Trust staff to stay home for seven weeks.

Our non-Trust staff worked remotely, learning to use new technology to sustain operations and support our Chapters.

While I'm proud of our organization's response, it pales in comparison to the dedication and courage of our direct care workforce. More than 110,000 DSPs Despite our critical role in public health, our support about 140,000 individuals with I/ sector struggled for recognition, even for DD every day. The ARC-New York employs certified residential providers responsible 25,000 of them. During the pandemic, entire for keeping vulnerable populations safe. Our residential homes were under quarantine, employees delivered round-the-clock care and staff worked 24-7 to care for individuals. but weren't designated as essential workers often at extreme personal risk. or prioritized for PPE or hazard pay.

To address the needs of our Chapters, we set up a PPE supply system, using our Latham, NY offices as a hub. We turned our administrative offices into a makeshift distribution center, ordering millions of PPE items for our Chapters and spending nearly \$4 million. Organizational leadership became warehouse staff to distribute masks, goggles, gowns, and more.

We held daily briefings with Chapters to help implement rapidly evolving government guidance. We also partnered with Syracuse University to study COVID-19 risks for our population and used the results to advocate for essential worker status, emergency funding, and vaccine prioritization for our workforce and the people we support.

I am proud of our efforts in advocacy at the state and federal levels. Our data helped an often forgotten population be acknowledged and protected. The COVID-19 pandemic's total net impact on New York's voluntary notfor-profits was over \$513 million. Despite past financial crises, the pandemic presented an unprecedented challenge.

People with I/DD were disproportionately affected by COVID-19. Our study showed they were nearly four times more likely to contract COVID-19 and twice as likely to die. Despite the risks, our DSPs continued providing essential care and saved countless lives.

In total, we lost over 600 individuals with I/ DD to COVID-19 in New York. Without the sacrifice of our DSPs, it would have been much worse. Our DSPs were unsung heroes throughout the pandemic, often working in COVID-positive homes, putting themselves at risk while supporting our people and homeschooling their own children. The ARC-New York owes an incredible debt of gratitude to our staff for their sacrifice.

Our DSPs inspire me every day to continue fighting for them – for better wages, benefits, and work environments. Their commitment during the most precarious time reinforces my commitment to them. That's why I am honored to be here at Capital Regional RX to thank some of our heroes personally."

-Erik Geizer

Celebrating New Horizons Resources' 50th Anniversary

On October 19th, we proudly recognize the 50th anniversary of New Horizons Resources, an organization dedicated to empowering individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. For many years, Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy has been honored to partner with New Horizons, supporting their mission to promote meaningful community engagement and inclusivity.

Since its founding, New Horizons has been a leader in advocating for the rights and needs of individuals in the ID/ DD Community. Their commitment to fostering belonging, self-determination, and individual respect has positively impacted countless lives. Through programs focused on learning and personal growth, New Horizons has enabled individuals to achieve their goals and thrive in their local communities.

As a sponsor of this significant anniversary, Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy celebrates the achievements of New Horizons and the ongoing efforts of everyone involved. We value our collaboration, which allows us to contribute to the mission of enhancing the quality of life for those they serve.

This milestone serves as a reminder of the progress made over the past 50 years and the importance of continued partnership in supporting individuals with developmental disabilities.

HERE'S TO ANOTHER 50 YEARS!

Your Pharmacy Partner Across New York



At Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy, we're proud of the vast area we serve. From Columbia County to Sullivan County, and all the way down to Suffolk County, we cover a significant part of New York reaching communities both large and small, and everyone in between.

Our mission is simple: to improve the quality of life for the ID/DD community by providing compassionate, reliable, and personalized pharmaceutical care. Whether it's working closely with care providers, supporting direct service personnel, or ensuring timely medication management, we are committed to making a meaningful difference.

Our footprint isn't just about the miles we cover—it's about the connections we make. We understand that healthcare isn't one-size-fits-all, and that's why we focus on creating tailored solutions that meet the unique needs of every individual and organization we work with. From large group homes to smaller

Expect More. Worry Less.

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residential settings, we're here to provide the support and care necessary to keep things running smoothly.

We also recognize that building strong relationships with local communities is key. Our team has deep-rooted ties across these counties, working alongside dedicated professionals who share our commitment to enhancing the lives of individuals in the ID/DD community. Together, we strive to ensure that no matter where you are in our service area, you have access to the care and resources you need.

Serving such a wide area isn't just a responsibility—it's a privilege. We see every interaction as an opportunity to provide value and support, and we're grateful for the trust placed in us. Whether you're upstate or downstate, in a bustling area or a quieter community, Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy is proud to be by your side, every step of the way.

Switching Long Term Care Pharmacies Can Seem Daunting.

We understand that if your facility is at a place to make the move, things aren't going the way they should be. Our team members are experts at prescription transferring, facility/pharmacy transitioning, training, and ensuring your pharmacy needs are met with excellence and consistency.

These are improvements your facility will notice when making the switch to Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy.

There is no delay.

Your residents will receive their prescriptions when needed and on time.

A friendly voice.

We listen to your problems and do our best to solve them immediately.

LTC nurses can focus on patient care, not pharmacy issues.

We want your medical staff to do what they do best, care for patients. Your nursing administration staff shouldn't have to worry about pharmacy problems or worry if prescriptions will be delivered.

Positive pharmacy experience.

Our team is here to serve your facility, your staff, and your residents. It's hard to put a value on excellent care until you don't have it.

Staff time is spent with residents.

We don't want your staff stuck on the phone trying to figure out where Medication Administration Records are, or when you will receive them. You can count on MARs to show up the same day every month with Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy.

Training Provided

We know the process of reordering medications can be burdensome. That's why we supply all of our new facility partners with an ample amount of training on our web portal to fit your needs. Here's what you can expect during the training process:

- Connecting our nurse consultants with your agency's nurses and staff on a Zoom call to introduce one another and the web portal.
- Weekly, monthly, or as-needed trainings.
- A training manual with detailed stepby-step directions of the web portal.
- Access to our nurse consultants and team to troubleshoot any questions.

With Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy's Web Portal, reordering medications can be done in only 15 minutes each week!

Call Us Today to Discover the Difference in Your Pharmacy Care.





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