



## SUPPORT FOR ALL TIMES

For a Lifetime of Independence





## LETTER FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

It is an enormous understatement to say that 2020 has been a year unique to all of us at United Cerebral Palsy of Eastern Connecticut.

The results presented in this annual report reflect work done under circumstances no one could have imagined just a year ago, but they never could have come about without careful and intelligent planning and preparation for the unforeseeable. They are a testament to our dedicated and hardworking staff, resilient clients and families, talented leadership and decades-long commitment with the State of Connecticut to stand by the disability community, especially in times of unprecedented need.

We are fortunate to have the leadership that our Executive Director, Jennifer Keatley, brings to us every day. Her work, along with a skilled and experienced staff and our dedicated Board, provide us with inspiration, flexibility and commitment. Continuation of this work is necessary not only to maintain daily operations, but to build a platform for the future that provides the best possible quality of life for so many individuals.

The challenges of the COVID-19 epidemic are not behind us. UCP is continuing to evolve to provide support for the disability community as the epidemic continues. As a result of these efforts, we are confident we are stronger and better prepared than ever to address its many exacting issues. I hope you will join the UCP community as we work to further our mission to ensure that people living with disabilities live a Life Without Limits.

We'd like to thank our dedicated Board of Directors, Direct Support Professionals, donors and supporters who help us fulfill our mission and believing in a Life Without Limits for all.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Ritter  
UCP of Eastern CT President, Board of Directors



## LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I'm pleased to share updates from UCP of Eastern CT, one of the regions longest operating agencies providing services to people with intellectual and developmental (IDD) disabilities. There's no denying that the sudden impact of a pandemic changed the way we deliver services to some of our communities most vulnerable individuals. In just two days, all 80 employees immediately pivoted and adapted to working remotely and delivering virtual supports to our day and employment program participants.

Meanwhile in our residential program, we developed new staffing patterns and implemented infection prevention measures while providing timely, supportive and quality services to Individuals who were now quarantining at home. While many employees were sent home to work remotely, many of our UCP of Eastern CT Essential Workers kept right on working and providing face-to-face services to those who needed it. They are truly our workplace hero's.

While a primary focus since the onset of the pandemic has been on keeping people safe from the COVID19 virus, we also recognized, and responded to, the need to provide technology to people with disabilities. In this fiscal year, our Assistive Technology program responded to over 200 requests for equipment, software and apps that help to prevent social isolation, access telemedicine and facilitate engagement in their community; about two thirds of those requests coming after the onset of the pandemic. We also began providing services as a partner of the STAY CONNECTED program, a new program which is operated out of the Dept of Aging and Disability Services in collaboration by the State Unit on Aging and the CT Tech Act Project.

A highlight of this year was the graduation of our first class of Project SEACH interns. After completing two internship rotations at Mohegan Sun, they transitioned smoothly to remote learning and ended their internship with a personalized, safe graduation day, complete with a visit from WNBA mascot Blaze. As with the Project SEARCH interns, the individuals in our Student and Adult Employment Services programs continued their professional development with a focus on developing digital skills such as navigating online employment applications, participating in zoom meetings and being your best self during virtual interviews. As we close out this fiscal year, I wish to thank the UCP of Eastern CT staff members for their dedication and the Board of Directors for their leadership in such uncertain times. In the coming year we will continue to provide vital services that address the needs of the individuals we serve in our community, while minimizing the risk of exposure to COVID19.

Be well,

Jennifer Keatley,  
Executive Director, UCP of Eastern CT





UCP OF EASTERN CT MISSION STATEMENT

UCP's mission is to advance the independence and full citizenship of individuals across a spectrum of disabilities, including Cerebral Palsy.

A Continuum of Support



CHILDREN & FAMILY SUPPORT



ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY



LIFE SKILLS



INTERNSHIPS



EMPLOYMENT



RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT



COMMUNITY INCLUSION

For more than 70 Years

The continuous care we deliver involves a network of personalized programs for individuals with all types of disabilities, including Cerebral Palsy (CP). Our goal is to provide a lifetime of support, at all levels of need and at all ages and stages of life, from infants to seniors.

Our services include educational advocacy, housing, residential in-home supports, assistive technology, internships, employment, vital community connections and disability resources. Our individualized programs follow our participants along the timeline of their lives, helping them excel at school, find jobs, access housing and live fuller lives in their communities.



## DAY SUPPORT PROGRAM



UCP's Adult Services Program, including our Group Day program and Individualized Day program, focuses on providing self-directed services where individuals can connect with others through building relationships, developing new skills and engaging in the local community. Before our lives were impacted by the pandemic, individuals in UCP's Adult Services Programs had accessed their communities 2,236 times. Individuals also engaged in approximately 1,850 hours of volunteerism.

When the pandemic hit and "stay home and stay safe" orders were imposed, UCP of Eastern CT staff had to reconsider ways help individuals accomplish their goals. Our team of employees met that challenge head on! One of the significant

ways this was accomplished was through the development of an extensive virtual engagement and learning curriculum, that was delivered via Zoom to UCP program participants across all of our departments. Between March and July, UCP provided virtual services for six hours a day, 5 days a week -which amounts to over 10,000 hours of engagement!

We also stayed connected by doing "drive by" birthday celebrations and meet-ups in parks and on porches. In July we were able to resume some in-person programs and look forward to all being together again soon.



## SCHOOL TO WORK TRANSITION PROGRAMS



### School to Work Transition Program

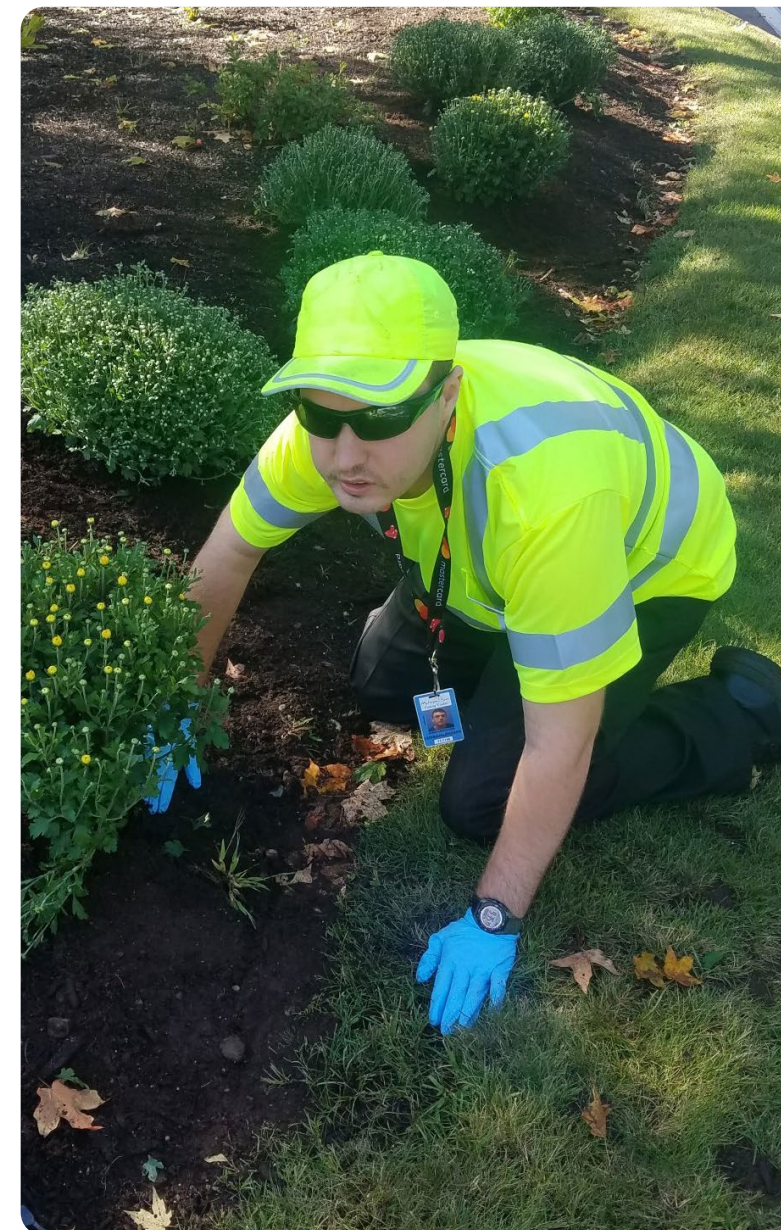
Our Student Transition and Project SEARCH programs went virtual seamlessly, and within days of working remotely had set up ongoing, daily classes where they focused on their curriculum without losing a beat. Sessions focused on health and wellness, such as how to stay healthy in a pandemic. Individuals also worked on life skills, participated in virtual mock interviews, and brushed up on their resumes. We were proud to hold a progressive graduation ceremony to our first Project SEARCH intern graduates.



### Adult Employment

Until March, individuals in our Employment Programs were working in the community and volunteering as a way to learn new skills. 43% of the individuals in our Employment Program are employed, and 13% are entrepreneurs and run their own businesses.

Our Employment Department held weekly Lunch and Learn sessions focusing on employment, and helped individuals learn how to participate in virtual mock interviews, took tours of various job sites, and brushed up on their resumes.





# IN-HOME SUPPORTS

In this past year, the In-Home Support (IHS) program served 30 individuals with a range of in-home support including case management, assistance with activities of daily living, life skill coaching, and health and safety oversight.

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, we got creative with the supports provided to the individuals in order to keep them engaged in community life.

During quarantine UCP was able to provide the individuals with technology and training so they could participate in virtual activities. Individuals who were not as independent with technology also had staff scheduled with them to help them join. This gave the individuals opportunities to see each other, socialize and enjoy recreational activities.

Our intrepid Direct Support Specialists did not waiver in their commitment to keep the Individuals in the program safe from Coronavirus.



For the IHS team of staff members, including the Heath Care Coordinator, safety and health were the number one priority. In a matter of days after the stay at home order was issued, they restructured 512 hours of weekly staffing to meet the health and safety needs of the individuals in the program, who were quarantined during the pandemic. In addition to in-person supports, they provided individuals with education on CDC recommended safety precautions as well as increased electronic supports through phone calls or virtual meetings to complete health check-ins. They maintained delivery of medical supplies, scheduled appointments, provided transportation to in-person appointments, and attended virtual medical appointments.

In all they supported individuals with over 450 medical appointments this year and kept everyone healthy and safe.

# ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AND ADVOCACY

## Assistive Technology

UCP’s ATLAS Center helped 214 individuals with disabilities gain access to technology this past year.

The Assistive Technology Specialists provided hundreds of hours of training, troubleshooting, device loans, and referrals including technology assessments, presentations and workshops.

At the start of the pandemic, our staff immediately responded to families, individuals, and educators requests for assistance to ensure the transition to distance learning was possible for all students including those with disabilities.

UCP in conjunction with the Elsie Bellows Fund, Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut and Community Foundation of Eastern CT provided \$29,000 in Assistive Technology to 46 individuals in Fiscal Year 2020.

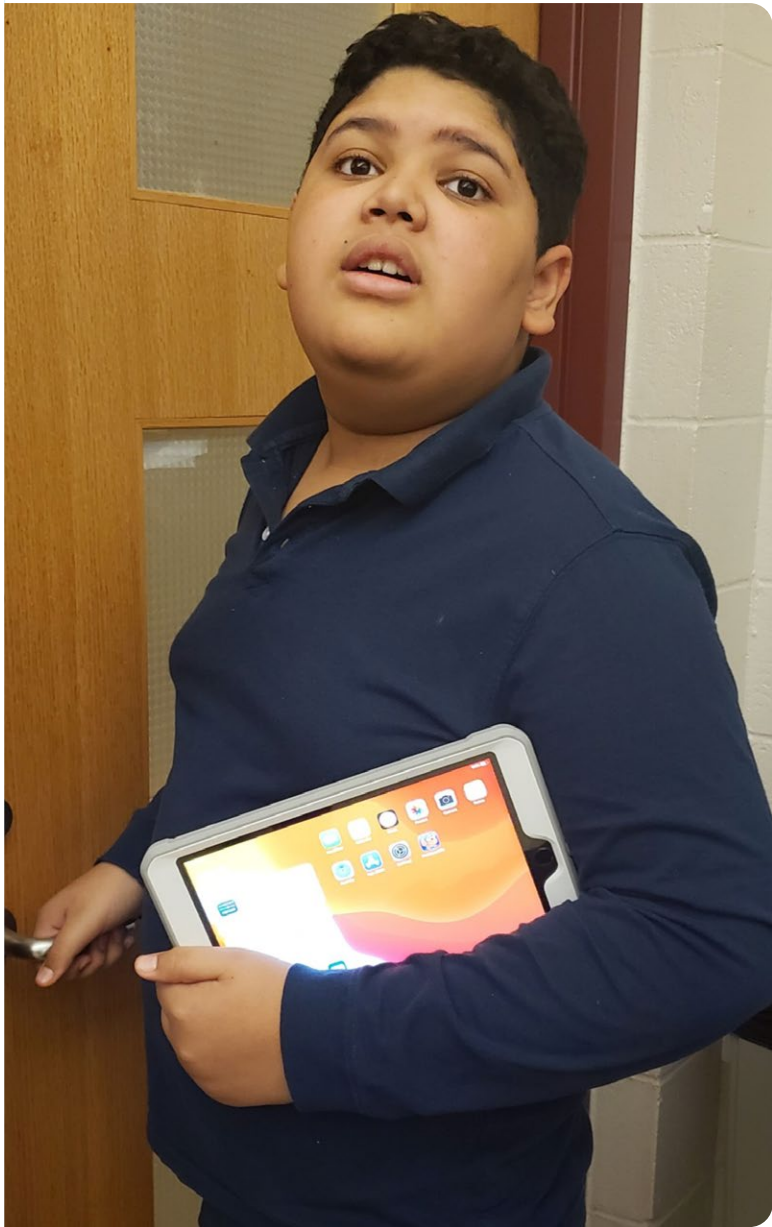
## Inclusion & Advocacy Program

UCP’s Inclusion & Advocacy Program provided services and supports to more than 470 individuals, families, their caregivers, educators and rehabilitation specialists in Fiscal Year 2020.

We performed hundreds of wellness checks, delivered basic food items, meals and facilitated a self advocacy group for adults with different abilities.

The Inclusion Advocacy Team answered hundreds of calls for medical information, social service referrals, and energy assistance.

UCP’s Inclusion & Advocacy Program provided financial assistance for housing, energy assistance, durable medical equipment, utilities and basic needs such as food for 50 individuals.



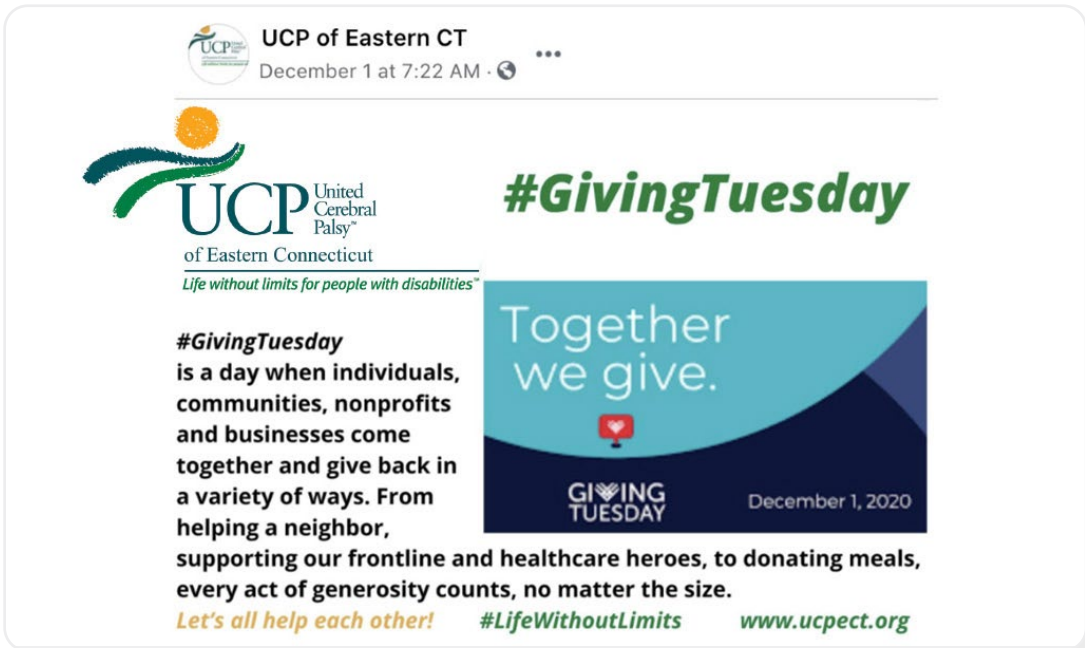


# SUPPORTERS

“ UCP would like to recognize the following grants, donors, and foundations for their generous donations and grant awards to UCP’s Inclusion Advocacy Program and Assistive Technology Center. ”

Ann M Yurof	Debra Parlatto	James Harris	Niantic Lions
Adrienne Davis	Delilah & Melissa Warner	Jeff Brewer	P Deslandes
Alycia Delos Santos	Denis Delos Santos	Jennifer Keatley	Patricia Mansfield
Andrews & Young PC	Diane Deedy	Julie Campbell	People’s United Bank
Anonymous	Dime Bank Foundation	Kevin M McMahon	Rebekah Tew
Barton Sutton	Doherty, Beals, Banks	Kiwanis Club of New London	Sheri Mathieu
Brenda Sullivan	Electric Boat Employees	Law Offices of Tom Simones	Ron Sorensen
Chamber of Commerce East- ern CT Foundation	Community Service Fund	Levine Insurance Group, LLC	Steve Smigiel
Chelsea Groton Foundation Inc	E. Ebbin	Lloyd Johnson	Theresa Warner
Colson De’Lancy	Elizabeth Ritter	Margaret Morrison	Toni Brothers
Community Foundation of Eastern CT	Erlinda Weathersby	Matt Nick	Tower Labs
Connecticut Elks Association	Falvey’s Motors, Inc.	New London Telephone	Westerly Tax Group
Deborah & Robert Burnside	Frank Loomis Palmer Fund	Employees Community Sv. Fund	Yale New Haven Health Your Cause, LLC Trustees
	G N Motin		
	Girard Motors, Inc.		

Social Media & Peer Fundraisers accounted for an increase in online donations in 2020. More than \$4,500 was raised!



## UCP’S 19TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

UCP would like to recognize the following organizations, donors and sponsors for their continued support of UCP of Eastern CT’s Annual Golf Tournament.

Amtec Corporation	Austin Mutual	Troiano Chrysler Jeep	Recovery Room Restaurant
Creative Enclosures	Insurance Company	Brustalon Buick GMC	Wireless Zone
I-M Technology	Dunklee Cooling	Elizabeth Ritter	Colson De”Lancey
Main Street America	& Heating, Inc.	Joseph Kennedy	Feigenbaum & Nair
Sheri Mathieu	Jennifer Keatley	Providence Mutual	Levine Insurance, LLC
Andrews & Young PC	New London Ink	Wave Construction Group	Secor Automotive
Disch Motor Group	Team Mady	Cardinal Honda	Yale New Haven Health
James Harris	Bruno, Hannaford, Heap,	Falveys Motors	@ Lawrence & Memorial
Messier , Massad &	Aurello & Company	Law Offices of Matthew	Hospital
Burdick, LLC	Earth Dynamics LLC	Greene, LLC	Core Plus Credit Union
Steven Smigiel	Jim Burke	R&W Heating	Girard Nissan
Anne Yurof	Niantic Lions	Energy Solutions	Lloyd Johnson
Doherty, Beals and Banks, PC	Tom Davidson	Wendy L Fontaine Law Firm	ServiceMaster by Wills
Jeffrey Brewer	Bouvier Insurance	Chelsea Groton Savings Bank	Quincy Mutual Fire
Mobility Works	Edmund Senesac	Family Hearth & Patio	Insurance Company
Sumner & Sumner Insurance	Jim Zamzes	Law Offices of O’Brien	
	Philadelphia Insurance	& Simones	



UCP OF EASTERN CONNECTICUT 2020

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Harry Colonis, Vice President  
Lloyd Johnson, Treasurer  
Lisa Torrellas, Secretary

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Charles Joskiewich  
Jennifer Pierre  
Lynne Withers  
Adrienne Davis  
Alaina Linares  
Laqueshala Pratts  
Lisa Woble

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets	2020
Current Assets	\$1,061,700
Property & Equipment	\$998,686
Other Assets – Managed Portfolio	\$1,203,873
Total Assets	\$3,264,259
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	\$163,892
Long Term Liabilities*	\$352,856
Total Liabilities	\$516,748
Total Net Assets	\$2,747,511
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$3,264,259

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Support and Revenue	
Contributions & Fundraising	\$34,116
Grants/Other	\$89,177
Grants/Federal & State	\$3,780,149
Program Revenue	\$60,539
Other Revenue	\$264,906
Total Operating Revenue	\$4,228,827
Expenses	
Program Expenses	\$3,758,112
Administrative & General	\$388,050
Fundraising	\$14,621
Total Expenses	\$4,160,783

\* Paycheck Protection Program

## WAYS TO HELP

Your support of United Cerebral Palsy of Eastern Connecticut allows us to expand programs and services for children and adults with disabilities. There are many ways to help us. Please consider these options or donate online.

Introduce them to UCP and get involved!

- Host a fundraiser
- Donate your vehicle
- Sponsor or attend an event
- Volunteer with us
- Join our board of directors
- Like and Follow us on Facebook and Instagram



You shop. Amazon gives.  
**amazon smile**



## Shining Star

Delilah raised \$971.35 by doing chores and baking and selling cookies. Additionally, she asked her friends and family for donations to UCP for her 8th birthday, which raised another \$428. This young girl has a heart of gold. Her selflessness and willingness to help others is a shining example of the best of humanity.