



MEETING THE NEED

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION STATEMENT

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

MEETING THE INDIVIDUAL NEEDS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES

INTRODUCTION

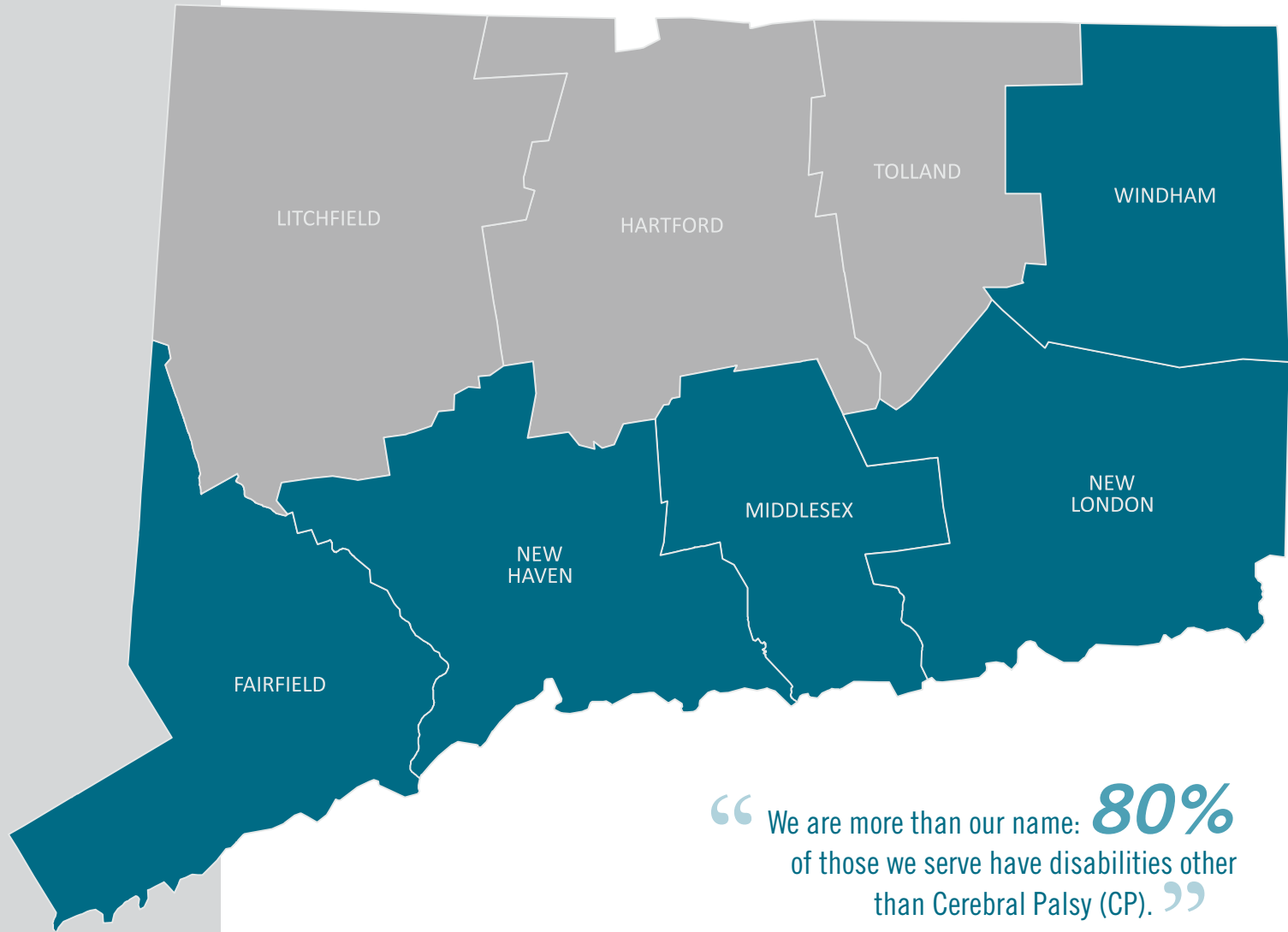
UCP's continuum of care meets the personalized needs of each individual we serve. Our programs follow people at every stage of their lives, providing a network of support services for children, students, adults and seniors. We help them achieve greater success in school, find jobs, access housing, decrease isolation and offer customized community programming so they can live fuller lives in communities of their choice. UCP also offers cutting-edge assistive technology across all of our programs to help everyone we serve increase independence.



WE HAVE PROGRAMS IN 5 OF CONNECTICUT'S 8 COUNTIES

WE SERVE
THESE COUNTIES:

NEW LONDON
FAIRFIELD
MIDDLESEX
NEW HAVEN
WINDHAM



“ We are more than our name: **80%**
of those we serve have disabilities other
than Cerebral Palsy (CP). ”

OUR PERSONALIZED PROGRAMS OFFER A LIFETIME OF SUPPORT, AT ALL LEVELS OF NEED AND ALL AGES AND STAGES.



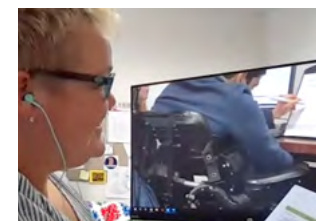
DAY PROGRAMS

Our group and individualized day programs offer participants meaningful and enriching activities and community engagement.



RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Maximizing independence with drop-in and overnight support services customized to meet individual needs.



ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

We provide assessments, demonstration and lending of assistive technology devices used to increase independence and reduce social isolation for children, adults and seniors with disabilities.



EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS AND INTERNSHIPS

UCP provides training, on-site support and coaching to prepare for and facilitate opportunities for competitive employment and success in the workplace.



STUDENT TRANSITION PROGRAM

We help students prepare for life after high school to develop life and vocational skills to increase independence.



INCLUSION AND ADVOCACY

UCP facilitates inclusion, assists in the removal of barriers, provides resources and referrals to services and we advocate for the rights of those we serve.



Jennifer Keatley, Executive Director (top photo)



Betsy Ritter, President of the Board (bottom photo)

UCP helped over
400
people with disabilities
and their families last
year, as we continued
to grow and expand.

Letter from the **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** and the **PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD**

As we look back on fiscal year 2021, we reflect on our challenges and our accomplishments. The challenges were obvious. Amidst the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, we had to do everything we could to make sure our staff and the individuals we serve stayed safe, healthy, connected and happy.

While we were still providing services remotely for some, we began our Staying Connected Project, which put assistive technology in the hands of people with disabilities and seniors to minimize social isolation. Overall, we have made assistive technology more accessible by leveraging new partnerships and expanding geographically into Fairfield County. Now we serve 5 of Connecticut's 8 counties.

In the latter half of the year, we welcomed back all vaccinated individuals to our programs, allowing us to finally be together again. We touched the lives of over 400 people with disabilities and their families as we continued to grow and expand.

More than ever before, in the past year, we've seen first-hand how our direct support professionals (DSPs) went to incredible lengths to meet the needs of the most vulnerable in our community. We continue to recognize and appreciate their contributions and courageous efforts to ensure the safety, well-being and community inclusion for the people we serve. Thank you for your commitment and support.

Our sincere appreciation extends to our local and state legislators and civic leaders who advocate to support people with disabilities to lead more independent lives.

Finally, thank you to our board of directors, staff, partners, our volunteers and community. Your continued support allows us to further our mission to advance the independence and full citizenship of people with disabilities in our state.

We hope to see you all in person soon.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Keatley

Betsy Ritter

LEADERSHIP

UCP OF EASTERN CONNECTICUT 2021-2022

Board of Directors

Elizabeth Ritter, President
Harry Colonis, Vice President
Lloyd Johnson, Treasurer
Lisa Torrellas, Secretary
Brenda Sullivan, Director
Victor Ebersole Jr., Director
Gregory Massad, Director
Diane Deedy, Director

Two interns from UCP's Project SEARCH Program land jobs at Mohegan Sun



Project SEARCH graduate delivers commencement address.



Daniel takes part in UCP's Employment Services Program. In 2021 he was hired at Smithland Lawn, Garden & Pet Center.

MISSION MOMENTS

MEETING THE NEED



Kira Katzberg is a 3-year-old child who recently relocated to Groton from Austin, Texas with her family. Kira's mother had a normal pregnancy until the very last stages. Then, at 33 weeks' gestation, Kira was diagnosed with Lissencephaly; a rare, gene-linked brain malformation characterized by the absence of normal convolutions (folds) in the cerebral cortex. As a result, Kira has seizure disorder, is non-verbal and uses a wheelchair. Doctors assumed she would not survive long after birth. But at 3 years old, she has proven them wrong. About one year ago, Kira needed to begin taking formula, via a feeding tube, as her sole source of food and nutrition. When the family relocated to Groton, CT, there were several communication problems between the family's insurance company, pediatricians and the durable medical equipment company. While battling suppliers, the family began to run low on the vital nutritional formula that Kira needed to survive. When they realized Kira might run out before getting a new supply, the family turned to UCP's Inclusion and Advocacy Program for assistance. Within 2 days of that call, we were able to get several cases of formula delivered to their home. Kira's formula arrived just in time to ensure that she would not go hungry, and her nutritional needs were met. There was even enough formula for the family to save in case of future emergencies.

CHARTING THE COURSE

Tianna Winston is a 29 year old woman who spent the majority of her life living with her grandmother. After her grandmother passed away, she moved in with her cousin for a couple of years. Then in March of 2021, Tianna discovered UCP's In-Home Supports Program which provides independent living support for people with disabilities in Connecticut. In April, she moved into her very own apartment. With our support, Tianna is accomplishing daily living skills that she was not previously able to do. Now she's preparing her own meals and navigating her way in her community. UCP's person-centered approach charts a course to independence for each and every individual we serve.



MISSION MOMENTS (continued)

NAVIGATING THE ROAD TO COMPETITIVE EMPLOYMENT

Norma participates in UCP's Individualized Employment Program. She's a talented artist who creates paintings, jewelry and craft items. She has a keen eye for detail, and it shows in her work. This past summer an opportunity came up at Buki Yuushuu LLC, a local company that designs custom martial arts supplies. With assistance from her UCP employment coaches Norma successfully navigated the application and interview process. In August, she was hired! Since then, Norma has been gainfully employed as a Martial Arts Sporting Goods Decorator, where she puts her artistic sensibilities, attention to detail and creativity to work by completing intricate designs on custom martial arts items like nunchucks and kamas. She loves her job, not only because it fits her skill-sets, but because she's doing something she loves every day. That brings her happiness, fulfillment and a fair wage.



PATHWAYS TO SELF-ADVOCACY

Dillon Dean-Frazier is a very independent man. He works at a hardware store and lives independently in an apartment in Groton, which he chose because of its proximity to his support network and the recreational opportunities within the apartment complex. During the height of the pandemic, it was difficult for Dillon to meet new people due to social distancing and closures of so many indoor activities. Additionally, Dillon encountered challenges when his doctor recommended swimming as a therapy to loosen up his stiff muscles. While Dillon's complex has a pool, he was dismayed to discover the pool area and gym could only be accessed by going through an adjacent building and up several stairs. Dillon has a condition that limits his mobility. Without the use of a walker or a wheelchair he couldn't navigate the stairs to access the pool. When he noticed a second entrance to the pool through a gate door that was barrier free, but was locked, Dillon took matters into his own hands. He reached out to property management several times regarding the inaccessibility of the pool but received no results. That's when he reached out to UCP for advocacy assistance. In collaboration with our Inclusion & Advocacy program, and through lots of back and forth communication with the property staff and community resources, the apartment complex agreed to make the pool accessible for the residents using mobility devices. Next summer, all residents living with disabilities will be able to enjoy the pool area, just like their non-disabled peers. Over the past year, Dillon has learned so much about self-advocacy. He aspires to continue his advocacy efforts and has considered looking for new employment, advocating for inclusion for people with disabilities.

THANKS TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

UCP of Eastern CT wishes to acknowledge and thank the many associations, corporations, foundations, and individuals whose cumulative gifts represent their significant investment in our mission.

STATE FUNDING, FOUNDATIONS & GRANTS

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*All of our donors are valuable to
 our mission. We apologize for any
 omissions or errors in this list.
 If we have inadvertently omitted or
 misspelled your name, please let us
 know so we can make the correction.*

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF JUNE 30, 2021 WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 2020

ASSETS	CURRENT ASSETS		2021	2020
	Cash		\$1,033,524	\$840,142
	Accounts receivable		108,145	215,595
	Security deposits		5,963	5,963
	Total Current Assets		1,147,632	1,061,700
	PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT			
	Land		162,200	162,200
	Building and improvements		1,487,405	1,487,405
	Furniture and equipment		128,398	128,398
			1,778,003	1,778,003
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	Less: accumulated depreciation		(834,955)	(779,317)
	Total Property and Equipment		943,048	\$998,686
	OTHER ASSETS			
	Investments		1,464,379	1,203,873
	TOTAL ASSETS		\$3,555,059	\$3,264,259
	CURRENT LIABILITIES			
	Note payable - current portion		14,338	13,794
	Accounts payable		146,409	8,374
	Accrued payroll		65,302	47,448
	Estimated liability for compensated absences		80,698	94,276
	Total Current Liabilities		306,747	163,892
	LONG-TERM LIABILITIES			
	Notes payable (net of current portion)		30,179	44,384
	Paycheck Protection Program Loan			308,472
	Total Long-Term Liabilities		30,179	352,856
	TOTAL LIABILITIES		336,926	516,748
	Net Assets	Without donor restrictions	3,217,239	2,723,521
		With donor restrictions	894	23,900
	Total Net Assets		\$3,218,133	\$2,747,511
	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		\$3,555,059	\$3,264,259

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021 WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 2020

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	2021	2020
SUPPORT AND REVENUE				
Grants - federal and state	\$3,394,623		\$3,394,623	?
3,780,149 School based funding	260,478		260,478	?
Grants - other	95,733	8,249	103,982	89,177
Program revenue	67,822		67,822	60,539
Contributions	16,041		16,041	17,936
Fund-raising income	66,942		66,942	16,180
Investment income (loss)	260,511		260,511	(26,226)
Miscellaneous revenue	42,833		42,833	417
Net assets released from restrictions				
Satisfaction of purpose restriction	31,345	(31,345)		
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	4,236,328	(23,096)	4,213,232	4,228,827
FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES				
Disability support	144,208		144,208	116,415
Assistive technology	95,638		95,638	66,478
Day programs	2,228,330		2,228,330	2,717,918
Residential programs	778,313		778,313	845,114
Community nurse				12,187
Total Program Expense	3,246,489		3,246,489	3,758,112
Administration and general	450,765		450,765	388,050
Fund-raising expenses	45,356		45,356	14,621
TOTAL FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES	3,742,610		3,742,610	4,160,783
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	493,718	(23,096)	470,622	68,044
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING	\$2,723,521	\$23,990	\$2,747,511	\$2,679,467
NET ASSETS - ENDING	\$3,217,239	\$894	\$3,218,133	\$2,747,511



Your generous donations support our efforts to ensure that people with disabilities live a life without limits and that they are granted the same respect, equality and security as every member of our society.

DONATE TODAY.

United Cerebral Palsy of Eastern CT
42 Norwich Road,
Quaker Hill, CT 06375
860.443.3800
Website: ucpect.org

