

Fall is a wonderful time at The PLUS Company. Clients are outside, apple picking, carving pumpkins, and enjoying the crisp air. One of the activities clients seem to be enjoying the most right now is spending time at The Care Farm in Hollis. There, clients are learning to groom and feed animals, while working on their communication and coping skills. It is a wonderful opportunity for stress relief, as clients learn skills in a new environment – and make a few new friends along the way. We are very appreciative to all of our donors and sponsors who help make these creative and unique programs happen.

We also just held our Annual Meeting via Zoom. All those who attended were excited to hear from our 3 speakers, Brooke, Nick, and Michael, as they talked about the challenges and successes they have faced over the past year. Most inspiring, all three talked about the support of PLUS staff and how they have all managed to stay connected in various ways, despite the ongoing pandemic. It was a very positive night, and I would like to thank everyone who attended.

In other news, our Silent Auction Committee is hard at work securing sponsors and items for our upcoming event. Due to the challenges posed by the pandemic, this year's auction will be held online, and we could use your support. Items will

From The Director's Desk

be up for bid starting on Monday, November 15 and ending on Thursday, November 17. We are also holding a raffle and tickets are available right now! Top prize is a \$3,000 American Express gift card, so make sure to get your tickets. For more information about the auction, to donate an item, become a sponsor, or purchase raffle tickets, simply visit <http://PLUSSilentAuction.org>. All of the funds from this event go towards providing the classes and activities you will read about in this newsletter. We cannot do it without you!

Finally, The PLUS Company is hiring! Our ability to fully serve our clients is being impacted by the staffing shortage, and we would really appreciate you sending us anyone you know looking for a fun, rewarding job. We have shifts available all hours of the day. For more information or to apply, please visit www.pluscompany.org.

As always, a huge thank you to all of our staff for working so hard to keep our clients active and safe during these difficult times. You are the heart and soul of our organization.

-Kim Shottes

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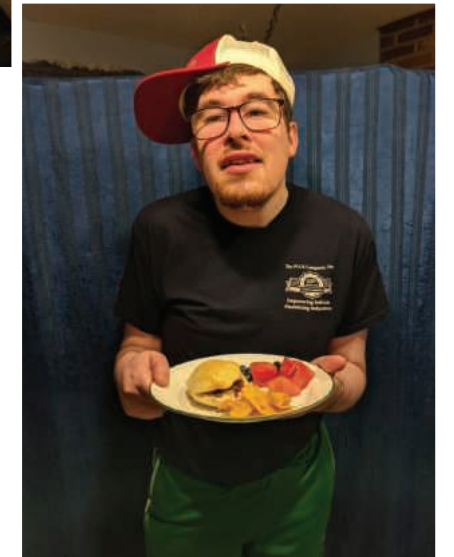
PLUS *Fall 2021* Perspectives

PLUS Company Clients Speak at Annual Meeting

The PLUS Company Annual Meeting "StayingConnected" was held on September 16 via Zoom. The highlight of the evening were speeches given by 3 PLUS Company Clients: Brooke, Michael, and Nick. The trio spoke about the many skills they have learned and activities they take part in, as well as the ways we have all worked to stay connected over the past year during the pandemic. Nick and Brooke spoke about the things they have learned in Zoom classes, including Cooking, Healthy Living, Positivity and Dance & Movement. They also talked about the online social activities they enjoyed and how it helped them connect



with their friends and other PLUS staff they haven't been able to see very often. Michael made a point of talking about how PLUS staff have helped him at his job at TJ Maxx, where he was named "Associate of the Quarter" and recently was asked to work additional hours. All three did an amazing job of telling their stories and entertaining the crowd, including Nick telling one of his famous jokes. At the end, they each thanked the PLUS staff for the support they have received over the year. Nick put it best when he said, "Thank you for being The PLUS Company, and thank you for being here for me and my friends!"



www.pluscompany.org
603-889-0652
Nashua, NH 03060
19 Chestnut Street

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"Empower Individuals, Maximize Independence"

PLUS Company's 23rd Annual Auction Goes Online

The PLUS Company's Annual Silent Auction will take place online this year. Bidding on items will begin on Monday, November 15 and end on Thursday, November 18, 2021. A virtual celebration will take place online on Wednesday, November 17 at 6:00 p.m. Please join us to hear how you are making a difference in our clients' lives, enjoy some live entertainment, and find out who wins our big raffle!

This event raises funds to provide innovative classes and training programs that allow our clients to live as independently as possible. In past years, we raised over \$100,000 thanks to the generous support of our sponsors and attendees. We hope to exceed that goal this year, so that the programs benefiting your friends and family will continue to grow, change, and provide more opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

For more information or to purchase raffle tickets, please visit <http://PLUSSilentAuction.org>.

PLUScompany
Empower Individuals Maximize Independence

Silent Auction Raffle

Grand Prize: \$3,000 American Express Card
2nd Prize: Stocked Wine Refrigerator
3rd Prize: Stock the Bar Spirit Package (\$400 value)
4th Prize: Wooden Corn Hole Set
5th Prize: Yeti Cooler
6th Prize: Lottery Tree

For more information go to
PLUSSilentAuction.org



Permit #21-0314

Ticket Price:
\$5 each or
3 for \$10

Tickets are
available online.

Drawing:
Wednesday,
November 17th,
2021 at 6:00 pm

Log on to see winners
announced on
plussilentauction.org

To benefit
The PLUS Company, Inc.,
a nonprofit Human
Services Agency

The Plus Company NEEDS STAFF!

We are hiring! The nation-wide staffing shortage is greatly impacting our ability to fully serve our clients. If you know of anyone who is looking for a fun, rewarding position with flexible hours, please send them our way. Our greatest need is for Direct Support Professionals that support our clients in their daily lives, and teach them skills that help them be more independent. This could be everything from assisting with grocery shopping and meal planning to assisting clients on the job – it just depends on where your interests lie. We are also looking for a Registered Nurse to join our team. If you know of anyone who may be interested, they can apply online at www.pluscompany.org.



Clients Enjoy Learning to Care at the Farm

PLUS Company is going to the animals! Clients have been participating in a program at The Care Farm in Hollis, where they learn about life on a working farm, including grooming and feeding the animals. The idea is to create a place where people can interact with the animals, connect with others, and develop healthy coping skills. The goal is for the clients to interact with the animals and become involved in outdoor activities, with the hope of helping them to gain new skills and a sense of purpose. The PLUS Company clients and staff are really enjoying



their time at the farm. "I love The Care Farm and I'm looking forward to going back!" says Melissa. Director of Adult Education, Jill Gagne, agrees saying, "The best hour of my week is the hour I spend at the Care Farm with our amazing clients and furry friends!"

This program, along with the other activities and classes you see in this newsletter, are made possible thanks to the generous support of our donors and sponsors.

The PLUS Company, Inc.

Main Office
19 Chestnut Street
Nashua, NH 03060
603-889-0652

Lawrence Office
3 Ballard Way
Unit # 302
Lawrence, MA 01840
978-689-8829

Tewksbury Office
1059 East Street,
Tewksbury, MA 01876
978-640-3936

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Maximize Independence"*

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www.facebook.com/pluscompany

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Currier Museum Holds "Creative Union" at PLUS

The PLUS Company was the site of the Currier Museum of Art's "Creative Union" project. "Creative Union" is a community-centered art project conceived by Elisa H. Hamilton and organized by the Currier Museum of Art in partnership with the City of Nashua. PLUS Company clients and instructors from the Currier gathered together during two sessions to create festive paper sculptures and handmade decorations that will become part of a joyful community celebration at the old TD Bank building this fall. Clients enjoyed being together to work on the project and we can't wait to see the final display!

