Upstate Cerebral Palsy Vision, Mission and Values

Empowering People Through Exceptional Opportunities

At Upstate Cerebral Palsy we provide innovative programs and services that support people and create opportunities to fulfill life choices...one person at a time, through everyday miracles

Excellence | Passion | Integrity | Caring | Respect
As we celebrate our 65th year of this great agency, we can reflect back on our founders and their vision of a better life for their children and grandchildren with cerebral palsy. They believed that their family members deserved life experiences like any other child and fought to make this vision a reality. 65 years later, this same vision holds true for the thousands of children and adults and their families who come through our doors each year. Our programs and services are based on the belief that people can reach their fullest potential with support from family and from our highly trained and compassionate staff. Individuals such as a four-year-old boy named Hunter, who attends the New Discoveries Learning Center to help with his physical and verbal delays. Hunter’s family believed in the power of miracles, and their son is now a thriving and happy child. Nick, a young adult who has received agency services, believed in living in his own apartment and working at a fulfilling job. This belief became a reality when he connected with agency programs that equipped him with the support to feel confident in venturing out on his own. Upstate Cerebral Palsy is filled with story after story of individuals and families who believed in a better life for themselves or their loved ones and who worked to make this a reality. The overlying theme …Believe… encapsulates this and highlights the stories of individuals whose lives have been positively impacted by agency programs and services. These families, just like our original families 65 years ago, are connected through an unwavering belief in wanting the absolute best for their loved ones.
believe in everyday miracles.

Four year old Hunter Gruby-DeRocha was born six weeks premature and with a heart murmur. His parents watched him fight for his life... and win. He is their miracle. His tenacious spirit is one of his greatest gifts and he constantly draws upon that strength to help him face challenges each day. Around his second birthday, Hunter’s parents began to notice the he wasn’t reaching significant developmental milestones. This presented a new challenge for Hunter but the family would make every effort to provide every support he needed.

Hunter joined the Upstate Cerebral Palsy family and was immediately welcomed into the New Discoveries Learning Center. Although he presented physical and verbal delays, the team could see right away that his strong and determined attitude would promote his progress and growth. With the devotion of his parents, the determination and encouragement of the staff and Hunter’s steadfast attitude, he has not only reached his goals, but exceeded them.

Hunter takes great pride in reading and recognizing his letters and words and enthusiastically recites the alphabet. He loves being outdoors and can be found happily running, jumping, swimming or even horseback riding at the Root Farm of Upstate Cerebral Palsy. He is known at school for being a very caring and loving young boy and always helps others without being asked.

Hunter’s courageous spirit, his infectious smile and his success are reminders to his parents and teachers alike that miracles really do happen every day.
Looking into the eyes of their beautiful daughters, the Harris family is continually reminded of the power of family. Their 15-year-old triplets, Allie, Morgan and Jessica, were born with differing degrees of autism. Their current success is a culmination of the commitment of their parents and the dedicated staff at Upstate Cerebral Palsy, who embraced the girls and continue to encourage them to achieve their personal goals.

While raising their three daughters and son, the Harris’ soon realized that Morgan and Jessica required a level of care beyond what they were able to provide in their home, and thus searched for a program that could meet the girls’ complex behavioral and developmental needs through more hands on care and personalized services. Like all devoted parents, they wanted the absolute best for their children. Their search led them to the Tradewinds Education Center of Upstate Cerebral Palsy, where Morgan and Jessica are currently living and attending school. The Harris’ took comfort in knowing that their daughters would receive the highest level of nurturing at Tradewinds, supported by staff specially trained in working with individuals with differing abilities.

Although they are away from their parents and other siblings, Morgan & Jessica have found a new ‘family’ in the students and staff of the Tradewinds program. The relationships and supportive environment of their home in the Children’s Residential Program of Tradewinds have enabled both of them to continue to thrive. Both girls are making huge strides academically and socially every day. Morgan is proudly learning multiple languages and enthusiastically wakes up every morning to make her own lunch for school. Jessica, who is predominantly nonverbal, loves to listen to music and has recently said ‘mommy’ for the first time. The Harris family devotedly visits their daughters and remains active and involved in their lives. They are proud of the independent and strong young women Morgan and Jessica have become, thanks in large part to the support they have received from their family at Upstate Cerebral Palsy.
believe
Nick, like most young adults, craved a sense of independence that comes from working and living on his own. A few years ago, Nick began working toward his dream by becoming a part of the Upstate Cerebral Palsy Job, Education and Developing Independence Program. He eagerly learned new skills, like how to use power tools to help with building repairs. This hands-on training enhanced not only his employment skills, but also his social skills, both of which are invaluable for his future. Excited to learn more, Nick began volunteering at the Root Farm of Upstate Cerebral Palsy, where he quickly immersed himself in the physical demands of farm life. He enjoyed feeding and caring for the animals, tapping trees for sap and maintaining multiple chicken coops and horse stalls. Nick’s lively and energetic attitude became a welcomed and dependable presence on the farm.

With each goal that Nick conquered, he desired additional challenges and opportunities to learn new skills. Through his ties at the Root Farm, Nick decided to learn how to horseback ride, an activity that he would have previously been reluctant to try. Fortunately, his increased confidence from working on the farm helped Nick to be an excellent rider. He even began assisting with the new, younger riders taking lessons at the farm.

Ultimately, Nick’s determination and hard work brought the independence he deserved. Through WISH, the agency supported apartment program, Nick now lives in his own apartment, where he is able to concentrate on his favorite hobby, creating his art. Art is a passion for Nick, and his pieces have been featured on local news programs and in agency and community exhibits.

Nick’s passion and hard work combined with his creativity, new skills and life experiences prove that dreams can come true!
believe in overcoming obstacles.

Sixty-two year old Melvin Roggie knows the importance of persistence. For nearly thirty years, Melvin worked as an egg farmer on his family farm. Melvin loved the demands of physical labor and enjoyed helping his father manage the farm. He cherished his independence and took great satisfaction in caring for his family and the farm. But in his later years of life, Melvin suffered three strokes which left him wheelchair bound. Never letting obstacles stand in his way, he was determined to gain back his independence.

It was through the support of his mother that Melvin began his long road to recovery. He became part of the Upstate Cerebral Palsy family when he began attending the Schoonmaker Day Habilitation program in Boonville. Though the strokes left him with limited mobility, Melvin tackled his therapy with determination and diligence, realizing his many abilities. He has found immense joy in his therapeutic art classes and is extremely proud of making dog biscuits, which are donated to local non-profit organizations. Melvin has also benefited from additional therapeutic services offered at Schoonmaker Day Habilitation, including pottery classes, gardening and physical therapy, and his mobility has improved in the process. He especially enjoys sharing his love of farming with others while working in the Schoonmaker greenhouse, which contains adaptive equipment to assist individuals of all abilities in cultivating the plants.

The programs at Upstate Cerebral Palsy have given Melvin the freedom to explore new outlets for his creativity and emotions. Recently, Melvin lost his mother and was able to channel his grief and sadness into his art. The support of the Upstate Cerebral Palsy staff during this time in his life helped him to create something very beautiful out of a challenging moment in life.
## Financial Report

### 2014 revenue
2014 Fiscal Year (Audited)

- **Government Resources**: $67,303,667
- **Insurance/Private Pay**: $5,886,213
- **United Way**: $32,292
- **Grants & Other**: $2,800,482

**Total Revenue**: $76,022,654

### 2014 expenses
2014 Fiscal Year (Audited)

- **Residential**: $34,060,194
- **Education**: $13,088,627
- **Day Habilitation**: $7,555,238
- **Community Services**: $3,216,968
- **OMH Programs**: $1,402,119
- **Health & Behavioral**: $5,520,954
- **Day Care**: $515,152
- **Affiliate Programs**: $1,206,545
- **Grants & Other**: $882,976
- **Management & General**: $7,967,350

**Total Expenses**: $75,416,123

### Revenue Comparison

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<th>Source</th>
<th>2014 Fiscal Year (Audited)</th>
<th>2013 Fiscal Year (Audited)</th>
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<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
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### Program Expenses

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<td><strong>$73,733,833</strong></td>
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