Our Mission
Cardinal McCloskey Community Services strives to protect, empower and promote independence for at-risk children and families and those with developmental disabilities through quality community-based services.

Our Vision
As a dynamic organization, we will lead, advocate and serve to enhance lives by anticipating and responding to community needs.

The CMCS website has been redesigned to provide easy access to information about our services, upcoming events, contact information and more. We hope you’ll find it easy to navigate with information that is readily available.

In addition to our services, we’ve included pages that provide stories of some of those we serve. These stories outline the difficulties faced by children in unsafe homes, at-risk teens, and adults striving to overcome the challenges of developmental disabilities. The strength of these individuals and the commitment of those working with them at CMCS are both inspirational.

There is also information that tells the history of Cardinal McCloskey Community Services from our start back in 1946 and introduces you to the Board of Directors and Executive leadership team. This dedicated team is working to help define how we can best help others in the days, months and years ahead.

In the upcoming weeks, we will be adding content to the site where you’ll be able to read more about the challenges and strategies we employ. These strategies help make sure all those we serve receive the support required to lead healthy, safe and independent lives.

We would like to send a special thank you to Lori and Paul Guillaro for their generous donation toward making the new CMCS website possible.

We hope you’ll use the site as a resource for information and services, or maybe just to take a look back at some of the pictures and videos we post from past events you have attended.

Please come visit us at CMCS.org ★
Dear Friends,

Another summer season has passed and we’ll soon find ourselves reaching for our long sleeves and sweaters. We hope your back to work and back to school planning went well.

Back to school brings back memories, while creating new opportunities and new challenges. We recently sent out a mailing that highlights the back to college experience for over 30 young men and women who were part of the CMCS Foster Care Programs. It showed the possibilities that occur when children in need are provided with the love, support and care that all children deserve. The CMCS Foster Care Programs and your support played an important role in the growth of these young men and women as they have worked to better their lives and strive for a healthy, independent future.

With CMCS’s support, these youngsters were able to overcome the barriers placed before them. Early intervention is directly linked to positive outcomes for these children. The research is clear that quality early care and education closes disparities and prevents achievement gaps for disadvantaged children, with significant benefit following them into school and beyond. That is why, in 2009, CMCS welcomed our Little Angels Head Start Program which provides curriculum-based early childhood education to 3 and 4 year olds from low income families.

Our staff worked hard to become a direct grantee of the program, a process which was undertaken to ensure that the nation’s Head Start “programs are providing the highest quality services to children and families.” Their efforts were a clear testament to the quality of our programs, placing us at the forefront of the field of early childhood education in New York City. We are so proud of this tremendous accomplishment!

Lastly, we would like to thank all those that participated and supported us at our 6th Annual Golf Outing. The day was an enormous success in so many ways. Not only was it our best fundraising event to date, but we had the opportunity to honor the memory of a person that had a tremendous impact on CMCS and beyond, Mr. Bill Griffin. We are thankful that the Griffin family and friends were there to see the presentation of our 1st Annual CMCS Humanitarian Award. You can read more about this important day on the following pages of the newsletter.

Thank you for all of your support and we look forward to what the upcoming months have to offer.

Sincerely,

Beth Finnerty
President and CEO

PS: Please come and visit us at our newly redesigned website at CMCS.org.

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**PBS Kids and...**

We would like to thank PBS for their generous gifts to our early childhood education locations. *Peg and Cat* is a new PBS series that inspires preschool children to see math as exciting, accessible, and fun. The show teaches measurement, shapes and patterns, and a wide range of fundamental pre-math skills. We join PBS in recognizing the importance of impacting the educational lives of children.
Easy living in the country!

For the fourth year residents from our group homes headed north to enjoy a few summer days up in the country. 61 residents and staff made the trip up to Saugerties, NY. The property, Villa St. Joseph, is owned by the Dominican Sisters and their generosity makes this trip possible.

The trip provides our residents with developmental disabilities an opportunity to go on excursions and enjoy what the open spaces of country living has to offer. For our residents it has the feel of an annual vacation or family reunion. Many of our residents have made this trip in previous summers and they look forward to seeing and spending time with friends.

From the Hudson River Cruise boat ride out of Kingston, to trips to the petting zoo, it is a wonderful way to spend a few special days in August.

You can see excitement and happiness in the faces of those attending and how much they value this time. There is basketball and swimming, bowling and trips to the movies. But it’s not all fun and games as everyone has their assigned chores and responsibilities. Whether it is tidying up or pitching in to help one another, you can see the love, caring and how these trips raise their spirits.

It brings to mind a quote you can see on our agency video posted on our new website (CMCS.org) from John Paterno, a resident of one our homes in Yonkers;

“These are the things we do. We go to parties. We go to dances. We go to a lot of different places. We eat out, we go clothes shopping… we do all of these things.”

We can also include spending a special few days in the country.

Meet Alicia

Alicia is a friendly 21-year-old woman living in a Cardinal McCloskey IRA. She enjoys calling and talking to family and friends on her cell phone while relaxing in her room after a full day's work. Alicia takes a great deal of pride in her work and relishes the feelings of independence she gets knowing that she has a job and is able to make and save money for the things she wants. Every other Friday Alicia will come home from work and proudly exclaim, “I got paid today!”

Alicia enjoys going to the neighborhood salon to have her nails and hair done. She loves socializing and going to parties and dances. Alicia will go dress shopping every chance she gets. She always likes to look her best on the social circuit while mixing with her friends.

Alicia loves to travel and has been to Mexico with her family to visit her relatives. She enjoys swimming, the warm sun and the great food in Mexico. Alicia also enjoys visiting family members who live on Long Island.

Alicia is very committed to her faith and she enjoys attending church services every Sunday either locally or while visiting her family. When she visits home she loves to catch up with her brother and sister and savor her Mom’s home cooking.

Staff counselor Maxine Gentry and Alicia Cherry enjoy the cruise along the Hudson River.

Margaret Martinez spending a beautiful day on the water.
“Zumba The Night Away”

Friday, July 19th, proved to be an exciting night at the C.V. Rich Mansion in White Plains! CMCS held our Annual Zumba & Cocktails party. The dance floor was filled with over 150 Zumba participants dancing the night away. Zumba Master Class instructors Nick Logrea, Eddie Calle, and Shahidah Ansari were back again and their Master Class was outstanding! Their energy was contagious and if you were in the room you couldn’t help but dance!

The event raised nearly $20,000 with 100% of the proceeds going to CMCS.

In addition to the money raised the Zumba party was a great way to bring people together and raise awareness of the challenges facing adults with autism and other developmental disabilities. There are many obstacles these adults, and their families, face. Evenings and events like this are an important way to help show support for one another.

Thank you to our sponsors: The Lawton Family, DJM Restoration, Apogee Fitness & Wellness, Melissa Byrne of JingleNog, Robert & Nancy Flaum, and Diane Retzlaff & Cousins for sponsoring the event.

We’d also like to welcome all of the “first-timers” that attended a CMCS event and we hope to see you at our other functions.

Thank you to all of our volunteers, donors and participants. Your willingness to support our events makes them all so successful. We look forward to seeing everyone at Zumba & Cocktails 2014!! ★
FALL 2013

Coffee with Caroline and 107.1 FM, The Peak

Breakfast was on us, but coffee was complements of The Peak, 107.1 FM. On Tuesday October 8th, we gathered in our conference room for a breakfast to thank all of the staff that volunteered at the CMCS Golf Outing.

We had a special visitor come and attend the breakfast, Caroline Corley, the morning DJ at 107.1FM, The Peak. Each Tuesday morning, Caroline and The Peak team up with Coffee Labs Roasters in Tarrytown and visit local businesses.

It was a nice treat for our hard working staff and we'd like to thank Caroline (and Mike!) for the coffee and laughs! Thanks also go to Kerry Gutekunst for all of her planning and hard work. ★
“A Day of Golf, Tennis and Remembrance”

On Tuesday, September 10, 2013, Cardinal McCloskey Community Services held our 6th Annual Golf Outing & Dinner at Leewood Golf Club in Eastchester, New York. This year’s Outing was our most successful yet, raising over $175,000 to help support our mission of protecting and empowering those in need. We can’t thank you enough for your support. Thank you also to Alan Wilensky and USI for being our 2013 Tournament Sponsor and for their help over the course of the entire year.

More than 100 golfers enjoyed what turned out to be a beautiful day at Leewood’s gorgeous course and another 60 guests joined us for tennis (new to the outing this year), our “Clinic & Cocktails” and the dinner and auction portion of the event.

The highlight of the evening was our honoring the memory of a true friend, Mr. Bill Griffin, with the 1st Annual CMCS Humanitarian Award (please see page 7 to read more about Bill and the award).

Once again, CMCS Board Member, John McCombe, served as our master of ceremonies during the dinner portion of the event. He presided over the exciting Live Auction that offered ten incredible prizes to be bid on including tickets to the 2014 U.S. Open Tennis Tournament! At the end of the evening, to show our gratitude to John and his wife Mary Theresa for being the driving force behind this event for the past six years, we presented them with a plaque, acknowledging their tremendous commitment and contributions to our agency. We are so grateful to the McCombe’s, our Board of Directors and our Golf Committee for making this important day such a success.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all those who made this year’s Golf and Tennis Outing & Dinner such an enjoyable time for all. And, we look forward to seeing everyone back next year! ★
Honoring Bill Griffin

The 6th Annual Golf Outing gave us the opportunity to honor a man whose impact on Cardinal McCluskey Community Services will always be felt, Mr. Bill Griffin. Bill’s work in helping provide children with safe and stable environments served as an inspiration and example to us all. Sadly Bill passed away in September 2012.

It was our distinct pleasure to be able to present Mrs. Margaret (Ollie) Griffin with the 1st Annual CMCS Humanitarian Award in honor of her husband, William E. Griffin for his commitment to the educational successes of children in need in our communities. The award presented read: “In appreciation of Bill Griffin. He changed the lives of many through his work in providing healthy, stable environments for children to live, grow and learn. His efforts will be forever felt through his dedication in helping the overall well-being of children in need.”

As a business leader, serving as President at both the Hudson Valley Bank and The Thomas and Agnes Carvel Foundation, Bill set an example that went far beyond that of the corporate world.

We would like to thank Mrs. Griffin and the rest of the Griffin family for helping us celebrate and honor his life, guidance and generosity. ★

Ways to Give

In these challenging economic times, CMCS is more reliant than ever on private philanthropy. We have several methods for you to help CMCS continue its life-changing work. You can make your tax-deductible contribution to CMCS in any of the following ways:

Check: Please make your check payable to Cardinal McCluskey Community Services and mail it to us in the enclosed envelope.

Credit Cards: We accept American Express, Visa, MasterCard, and Discover. Please fill out the enclosed envelope, contact us by phone, or visit our secure website: www.cmcs.org

Matching Gifts: You can double your gift to CMCS if you or your spouse work for an organization with a Matching Gift Program.

Real Estate: Gifts of personal residence can be made for an immediate income tax deduction. Or, with a retained life estate, the donor or designee can live in their home for the rest of their life. After that time, the real estate is owned outright by CMCS, without the complications of probate proceedings. This gift allows the donor to receive current income deductions for the discounted value of the property.

Bequest: You can leave a bequest to CMCS in your will or trust. A donation through your will or trust is fully tax deductible, and enables us to provide critical assistance to those in our care.

Securities: You can avoid capital gains tax on securities held long-term and provide an income tax deduction equal to the fair market value at the date of transfer. To transfer securities to CMCS, please contact Kerry Gutekunst at (914) 997-8000 ext. 114 or kgutekunst@cmcs.org.

Please consult with your tax advisor, and thank you for your continued support of CMCS; we could not fulfill our mission without your help!
For more information, please visit www.cmcs.org or contact the Development Office at (914) 997-8000 ext. 114 or kgutekunst@cmcs.org