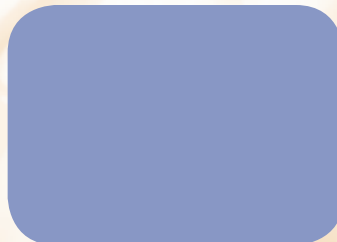
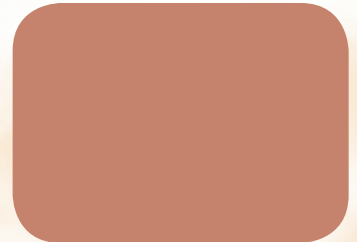
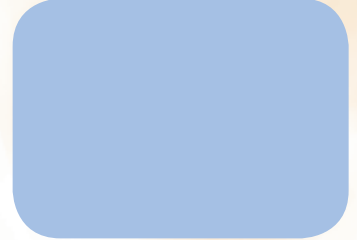




COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED, INC.

ANNUAL REPORT 2011



Supporting people with special needs in achieving real lives

AFFILIATIONS

Alliance for the Betterment of People with Disabilities —
Developmental Disabilities Alliance

American Association on Intellectual and Developmental
Disabilities

American Network of Community Options and Resources

Child Welfare League of America

National Independent Living Association

New Jersey Alliance for Children, Youth and Families

New Jersey Association of Community Providers

TASH (formerly The Association for Persons with Severe
Handicaps)

The Institute, Inc.

Creative Property Management, Inc.

Nonprofit Employee Benefits Trust



MISSION

To provide community access through effective and comprehensive support services for people with disabilities, youth aging-out of foster care and people with affordable housing needs, giving them the opportunity to live independently and to lead normal and productive lives as citizens integrated into the community.

VISION

We strive for our members to:

- Achieve economic self-sufficiency while being as productive as commensurate with their abilities.
- Achieve independent living within the community according to their abilities, resources and needs.
- Achieve a functional level of money management.
- Achieve a satisfying social life.
- Achieve a healthy lifestyle.
- Achieve personal growth.
- Achieve equal rights and self-determination.

VALUES AND BELIEFS

- Community integration
- Holistic interactions as valued human beings
- Equal treatment as citizens
- Equal value as members of a social activities movement
- Choice and self-determination
- Real lives in real homes

OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

Community Access Unlimited (CAU), now 32 years strong, helps people with special needs live real lives in the community. We give a voice to adults and youth who traditionally have had little support and no voice in society. We help people with housing, life skills training, employment, health maintenance, money management, socialization, education, civic activities and community support. CAU also offers opportunities for advocacy through training in assertiveness, decision-making and civil rights. Currently, with a total operating budget of \$32 million and a staff of more than 650, we serve over 3,000 individuals each year.



Audrey M. Vasey



Sidney Blanchard

Current times remain challenging. In New Jersey, there are almost 2,700 people with developmental disabilities still languishing in institutions and over 8,000 people on the waiting list for state services. Yet the budget is tight and resources are scarce. On a brighter note, the closing of Vineland Developmental Center is imminent although potentially delayed by politics. The state now faces the challenge of developing enough community-based housing to meet the urgent need for it. CAU is on the forefront of such efforts, ever expanding our residential supports operating more than 200 units of housing in Union County. CAU remains ever committed to meeting the needs of people with disabilities in the community.

Our youth keep performing above and beyond. In 2010, MAC Attack, a youth-owned LLC, presented at the National Independent Living Association conference in National Harbor, Maryland. These young people are helping youth development professionals from around the country shape how they deliver services to other at-risk teens and young adults. Also in 2010, 18 of our youth graduated from high school. What an accomplishment! We are certainly proud of all of our graduates. And 14 of our 16 youth aged 18-21 years in our independent living program are currently working. Quite a feat - especially considering the current job market. Congratulations to all our youth for all they have achieved!

The number of people in New Jersey who are self-directing their own services is multiplying. As the Fiscal Intermediary for this state-wide program, in 2010, the Personal Preference Program, run out of the NJ Division of Disability Services, grew by 34% - from just under 900 in January 2010 to almost 1,200 at the end of December 2010. The Veteran's Directed program, run through the Veteran's Administration, is currently supporting 45 veterans in Somerset, Morris, and Bergen Counties. The Community Living Program, currently operating in Camden County, will soon be in Bergen County.

These programs are vital in improving the quality of life for people with all kinds of disabilities. People are given a say in the type of supports they receive and who will provide them. Personal health outcomes are better and studies show a decrease in the intensity of services accessed. People live better and healthier lives.

CAU continues to thrive because of the support of people like you. Because of you and the community you provide, thousands of people in New Jersey are living independent, productive lives as tax-paying citizens. Our core value and belief is that ALL people can be independent, productive, tax-paying individuals integrated into society. With your support, we will continue our work with adults and youth in need of transitional and community supports. We will continue to advocate for the rights of youth and adults with special needs.

Thank you for being a part of our journey. Thank you for helping people become self-sufficient and independent. Thank you for being there when we need you.

Together we will persevere.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Audrey M. Vasey".

Audrey M Vasey
President, Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sidney Blanchard".

Sidney Blanchard
Executive Director

WHO WE ARE



Malcolm Baltimore

Malcolm Baltimore is learning about the importance of home. The senior at Kean University was living on campus in a dorm when circumstances forced him to leave. After spending a short period in a foster home he came to Community Access Unlimited and now lives in a two-bedroom apartment with a roommate within CAU’s Supported Housing program.

“I like it a lot,” he said of living in a CAU apartment. “There’s more responsibility, more time to focus on my school instead of getting involved with other things.” While he admits to sometimes feeling confined by the program’s rules he understands that CAU has parameters to help members succeed. “I’m comfortable,” he said.

Malcolm is comfortable with his career path, as well. He is majoring in information technology and gets on-the-job training at a part-time job with a company in Newark. After graduating next June he intends to move to the nation’s capital to launch his career.

“I want to move to Washington, D.C. and get a job as a computer technician,” he said. “I did some research and I read that D.C. has some of the best technology jobs and it’s a good opportunity for people who want to work with computers.”

Having recently experienced the discomfort of moving, Malcolm has not forgotten to plan for a home in Washington.

“I’ll start in an apartment and work my way up until I can get a house,” he said.

Lesson learned.



Shakespeare said people are happiest at home. Key to our mission at Community Access Unlimited of enabling people to live independent, normal and productive lives and to integrate into the community is providing our members with a home.

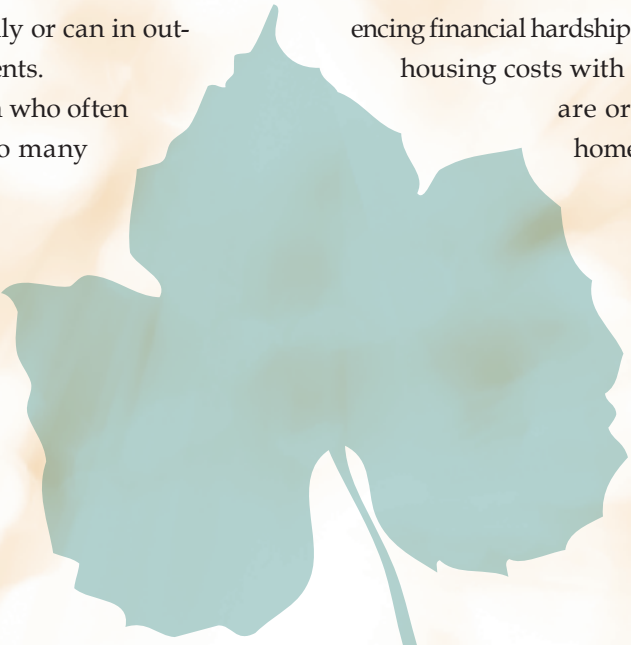
CAU enables people with disabilities to flourish within the supportive environment a home provides. Emergency Capacity Systems (ECS) provide temporary emergency housing for individuals with no other stable housing options. The Supervised Apartment Program (SAP) offers members community living in a home, condominium or apartment with 24-hour supervision while the Supportive Living Apartment Program (SLAP) offers semi-independent living opportunities to those not requiring 24-hour supervision. The Children’s Placement Enhancement Project (C-PEP) provides residential support and training to youth with disabilities who cannot remain at home with family or can in out-of-state placements.

At-risk youth who often have known too many

residences yet too few homes find one at CAU. The Transitional Opportunities Program provides youth from throughout New Jersey with a continuum of housing and support services. Homeless youths ages 12 to 18 have access to our emergency youth shelter, where they find safety and emergency support. Youths under the care of DYFS between 13 and 15 enter CAU’s Group Home, where they receive skills training and therapeutic services.

Youths 16 to 18 are eligible for the Supervised Transitional Living Home (STLH), an apartment setting with skills training. Our Semi-Independent program offers a less structured living environment for youth older than 18 while the Supported Housing program enables young adults to live independently. Our youth members are free to enter and leave this environment as needed and are always welcomed home.

CAU also runs the Union County HomeShare program matching people who have a home but who are experiencing financial hardship and difficult housing costs with people who are or soon-to-be homeless.



Myrta Rosa

Myrta Rosa’s story begins and ends at home. In between she made home where her heart was. Myrta lived with her parents for many years. After their passing, she felt lost and turned to the Woodbridge Developmental Center, where she lived for 11 years. Despite the center being an institutional environment, Myrta worked to make the best of it.

“I picked up computer skills, joined a bowling league and then I became president of the Woodbridge Self-Advocacy Group,” she said.

Myrta became an active advocate for people with disabilities outside of the center, as well, serving on the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities, a state-appointed position; as president of the New Jersey Self-Advocacy Group; and on the Monday Morning Middlesex County Network.

Yet Myrta knew in her heart she was moving on.

“I chose to stay at Woodbridge until I could get back on my own,” said Myrta, who initially lived with 32 other residents at the center. “I decided I was ready because at Woodbridge I was slowly living with fewer people.”

CAU became Myrta’s new home, within the Supervised Apartment Program. Today she shares a beautiful ranch house with two fellow members. They enjoy a backyard and porch, where they often grill and entertain.

“Life is better today,” she said. “You get your privacy. You get time in your room by yourself. You’re not bothered by other stuff. I do some cooking and my own laundry. I work on the computer and keep up my skills.”



**“I decided I can’t look like this anymore...
I didn’t want to die.”**

— Member Sunnah Bilal Shikar

Sunnah Balil Shakir

Sunnah Bilal Shikar likes to go the mall and look at boys. She and her roommate go to the movies, cookouts and parties. She dreams of meeting a soulmate and getting married.

Yet Sunnah once weighed nearly 300 pounds. A diabetic, she knew her health was threatening both her present and her future.

“I decided I can’t look like this anymore,” she said. “I want a husband and I want to feel good about myself. I didn’t want to die.”

Sunnah, a member of CAU’s Supervised Apartment Program, has worked hard to change her life and improve her health. She lost 33 pounds and is working toward another 20. She also looked to Community Access Unlimited for help. Staff members trained Sunnah about what foods to eat and avoid and about healthy eating habits – “Any time I want more after already having one portion I have an apple or baby carrots,” she said. CAU also taught her to exercise using a video.

“It’s about having fun and learning,” she said.

She finds she now has more energy and this spring graduated high school after previously not being a very good student. She planned to celebrate at Red Lobster with an ultimate seafood sampler – but then it is back to baked chicken and whole wheat lasagna.

“Down the line I want to go to college, get a degree, a job, a car and a boyfriend,” she said.

That sounds like a healthy plan.



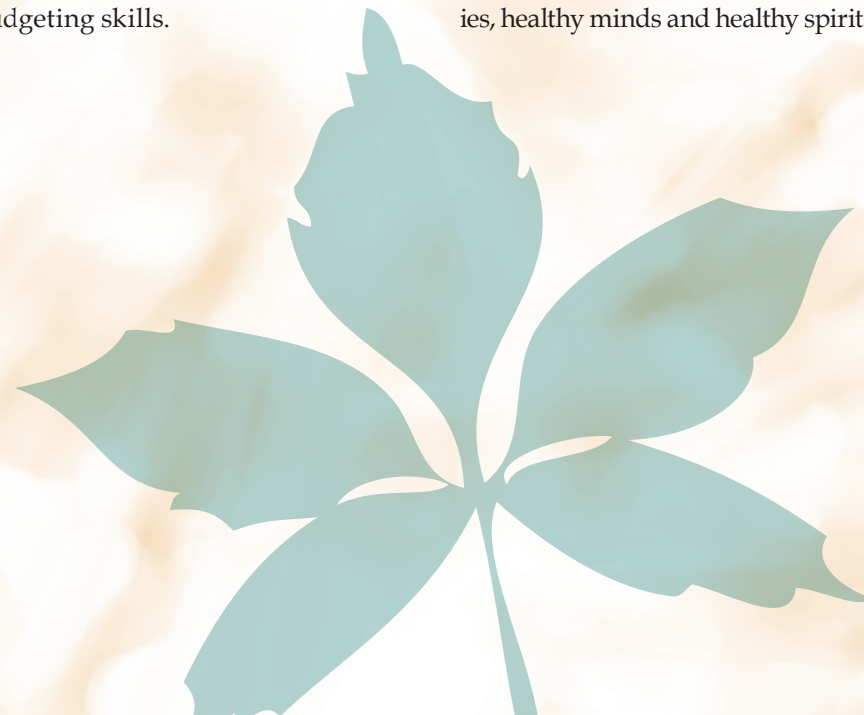
With health comes personal fulfillment, greater independence – and a future. CAU enables members to pursue healthy bodies, healthy minds and healthy spirits through a variety of programs and support services.

Through our programs people with disabilities develop Independent Living Skills through customized training to strengthen interpersonal relations, vocation, personal hygiene and health, housekeeping and their ability to travel, among other areas – building healthy bodies and hearts.

Recreation and education programs enable people with disabilities to enjoy healthier minds and attitudes through access to cultural and social events – from sporting events to overnight trips to dance classes – helping to eliminate any sense of isolation and enabling them to develop social and budgeting skills.

To help members remain healthy, CAU employs nurses, behaviorists and educational specialists. CAU utilizes health and wellness curricula developed especially for people with special needs. CAU also collaborates with other community organizations such as Elizabethtown Healthcare Foundation, AMERIGROUP Community Care, the Hyacinth Foundation and Planned Parenthood to bring members vital health care information. The agency also holds dance classes and an annual walk-a-thon and members participate in the Special Olympics. For healthy minds CAU offers members opportunities for group and individual counseling and discussion. Realizing that dealing with a disability is often a family affair, CAU also provides respite to caregivers through our respite and recreational programs.

CAU members find resources to learn how to be healthier and, therefore, happier – through healthy bodies, healthy minds and healthy spirits.



Danielle DeCurtis

Danielle DeCurtis is a social butterfly. Much like a butterfly has tremendous power and the ability to quickly change directions, Danielle is strong and adaptable. Yet also as a butterfly is fragile, Danielle must take care of herself.

At CAU Danielle is able to be strong, adaptable and healthy. When she joined the agency’s Adult Day Services last year her goals were to obtain a motorized wheelchair and new dentures and attend physical therapy. CAU staff helped Danielle gain approval for the dentures and physical therapy and are working toward securing the motorized wheelchair.

In the meantime Danielle has been flitting about to stay healthy, both physically and emotionally.

She eats right – she has a preference for tuna salad sandwiches and eats her vegetables, even though she does not like them. She attends Zumba classes and stays on her medication. She received mobility equipment and a hospital bed to enable her to live more independently.

Independence includes fun and Danielle has plenty of that. In day services, she plays bingo and other games, bowls and enjoys arts and crafts. She loves to sing and dance, shop at malls and go on dates. She has a crush on a staff member, which makes Danielle and her roommate, Diana, giggle.

Danielle and Diana are remarkably close, often touching foreheads when talking, Diana’s pony tail bobbing and Danielle’s smile beaming. Their friendship is healthy – two butterflies playing in the afternoon sun.



MONEY MANAGEMENT

“I never thought I’d set a goal and achieve it.”
— Member John Bradley

Megan McKinney

Megan McKinney’s dog, Molly, carefully watches over her mistress, often standing on her hind legs to give Megan a kiss. Megan enjoys the same attention and affection from her hired home health aide – her mother, Kathy.

Megan is enrolled in CAU’s Personal Preference Program, which allows adults with disabilities to convert the services they receive from Medicaid into a cash equivalent that enables them to select and hire home health service providers, often family members. She has been in the program and a CAU member since turning 18 four years ago.

After having a number of home health aides while Megan was younger – some good and some not so good – Megan now enjoys an aide who loves her and has always been there for her needs.

“I’m on 24/7,” Kathy said. “I’m just lucky enough to be paid for 37 of those hours. It allows me to not be stressed going off to an office, calling out when Megan is sick or has tests. For me there’s no other way. I couldn’t work a 37-hour week anywhere else.”

The Personal Preference Program also enables Megan and Kathy to stretch their support dollars.

“You receive a monthly budget of what you can spend,” Kathy said. “An agency home health aide goes through that budget a lot faster.”

By employing her mother as her home health aide Megan enjoys the dignity of having a loved one as a care provider and a continuum of care she might otherwise not receive.

“I don’t know what we would have done, or if Megan even would be at home with me, if it weren’t for this program,” Kathy said.



It is said there are no short cuts to any place worth going. Members of Community Access Unlimited find that the hard work that goes into managing their financial resources is well worth the independent and fulfilled lives they create for themselves. Through a variety of money management and financial independence training, CAU helps members bring stability to their present and design a well-founded path to their future.

Members with disabilities receive money management training to enable them to better take control of their finances, including training in banking and budgeting as well as classes in basic math and computer skills. They also enjoy the financial rewards of employment through CAU’s Vocational and Employment Services.

The Personal Preference Program offered through Medicaid strengthens

people’s independence and further hones their money management skills as they become employers, converting care hours into dollar equivalents and determining on which services and service providers those dollars will be spent. CAU provides assistance with payroll, budgeting and account maintenance for the New Jersey Personal Preference Program and others of its kind.

At-risk youth often have few resources yet can be among society’s most resourceful citizens. They also are at a point in their lives when money management habits are formed. CAU provides young members with the guidance and education they need to better control what resources they have and earn while building toward a better future. They develop discipline in managing their money and discover the rewards of that discipline as their resources strengthen and their future brightens.



John Bradley

Each month John Bradley puts his first paycheck from his full-time job at Preakness Health Care Center into his checking account for rent, food, car expenses and other bills. The second paycheck goes into savings for his future. So when John wanted to buy a car he decided he needed to earn more money.

Even though he already puts in 40 hours per week at Preakness as a food service worker he took a part-time job at St. Joseph’s Hospital in the dietary department just to save for the car. John is a disciplined manager of his finances and is not afraid of hard work. In fact, he likes it.

“I make money and I have benefits and a pension,” he said.

John has been a member of Community Access Unlimited for 10 years. He receives two hours of support each week, with staff helping him review his budget, shopping and medication and working with him on the computer.

“The support is great,” he said.

“My father taught me how to manage my money when I started working 30 years ago but CAU taught me how to do budgeting. They gave me budget sheets and looked them over.”

CAU also helped John set goals. Budgeting was one goal he mastered and buying a new car became another.

“I never thought I’d set a goal and achieve it,” he said. “It took time and effort and a lot of faith and praying to get to where I am today.”



VOCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

"I want to open my own shop one day."

— Member Roberto Chaj-Ordonez

Roberto Chaj-Ordoñez

Every day Roberto Chaj-Ordoñez makes his way to Newark Airport where he works as a loader for Federal Express. He has been on the job for nearly a year and looks forward to the benefits and vacation he will earn at his anniversary mark.

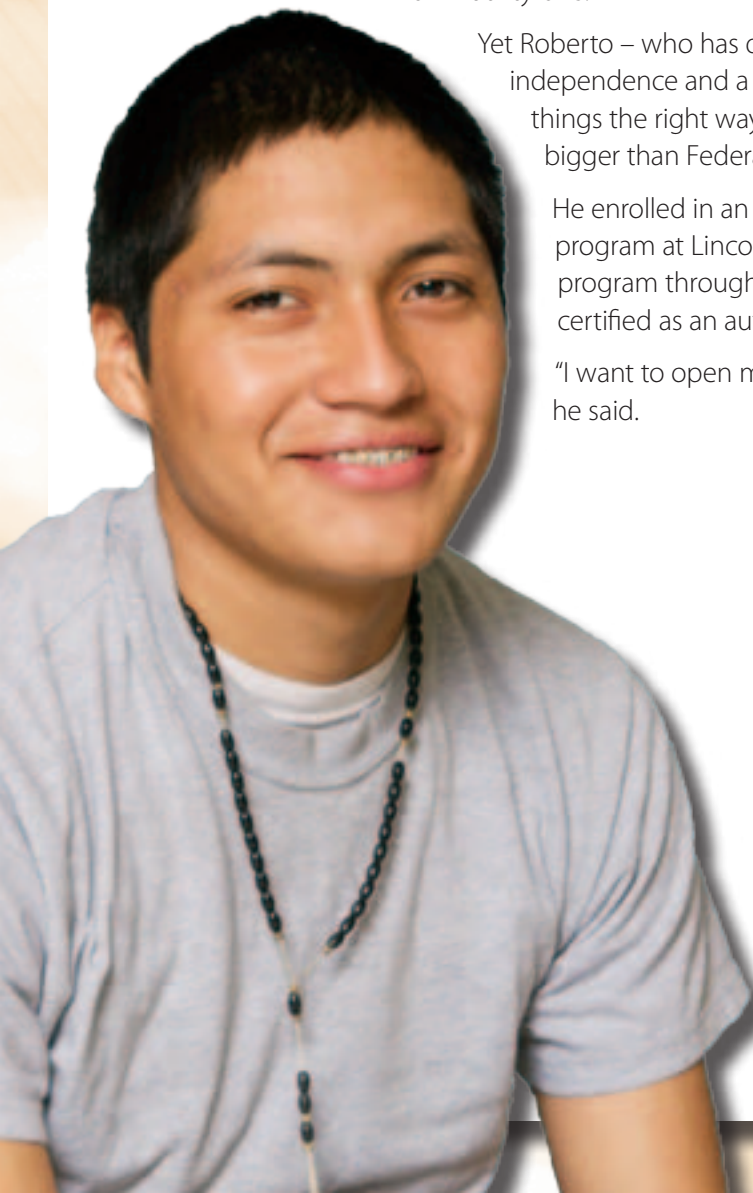
After working at various locations through a temporary employment agency for six months, he now enjoys the pay and the stability that steady employment brings.

Roberto came to Community Access Unlimited following two years in foster care and is a member of CAU's Supported Housing Program, moving into his own apartment after just six months with the agency. He deposits his paycheck into the bank each week, some into checking and some into savings, and works on his budgeting with his counselor once each month and pays his own utility bills.

Yet Roberto – who has developed a sense of independence and a commitment to doing things the right way – has a plan that is bigger than Federal Express and CAU.

He enrolled in an automotive mechanic program at Lincoln Tech, a two-year program through which he will become certified as an automotive mechanic.

"I want to open my own shop one day," he said.



For many people, work is a means to an end. For people with disabilities and at-risk youth, the opportunity to work often is the reward in itself. With employment comes acceptance and camaraderie, pride and accomplishment, progress and reward. Through vocation and employment, people with special needs find independence as well as career path opportunities.

They also like the paychecks.

Community Access Unlimited operates a variety of vocation and employment programs and training services designed to enable members to earn money, achieve greater independence and train for success.

People with disabilities train for employment in areas that match their interests and skills. They also have access to classes in basic math, reading and computer skills. Members work either at CAU or outside businesses, with several enjoying long-term employment with a single company.

The Community Support Program provides adults with disabilities and caregivers, as well as youth, in-home support that includes employment assistance.

CAU's younger members often have not had access to stable environments and the ability to experience part-time employment and career path development that often accompany those experiences. At CAU they receive training that prepares them for every aspect of employment, from interviewing to interaction with others in the workplace to dressing for success. CAU's On Your Way to the Top program provides youth members with employment opportunities tied to occupational training during the summer months.

Whether simply looking for part-time employment or searching for a career path, CAU members find the support they need to prepare, work and achieve their goals through vocation and employment training. Therein lies the reward.



Brian Simonelli

Last year Brian Simonelli celebrated 25 years working at DUREX Incorporated in Garwood, a metal stamp and sheet fabrication business, earning a \$1,500 bonus. The machine operator who works 40 hours per week takes great pride in his work, as well as his appearance.

He also loves his job.

"I like the people and my work," he said. "We kid around a lot. Everyone gets along really well. Plus I get four weeks of vacation and money that I put right in the bank."

Brian is saving for a computer but also for some fun. He wants to take a vacation to Europe and has already traveled to Montreal and Quebec.

"I like to see different places and cities and see how they live," he said.

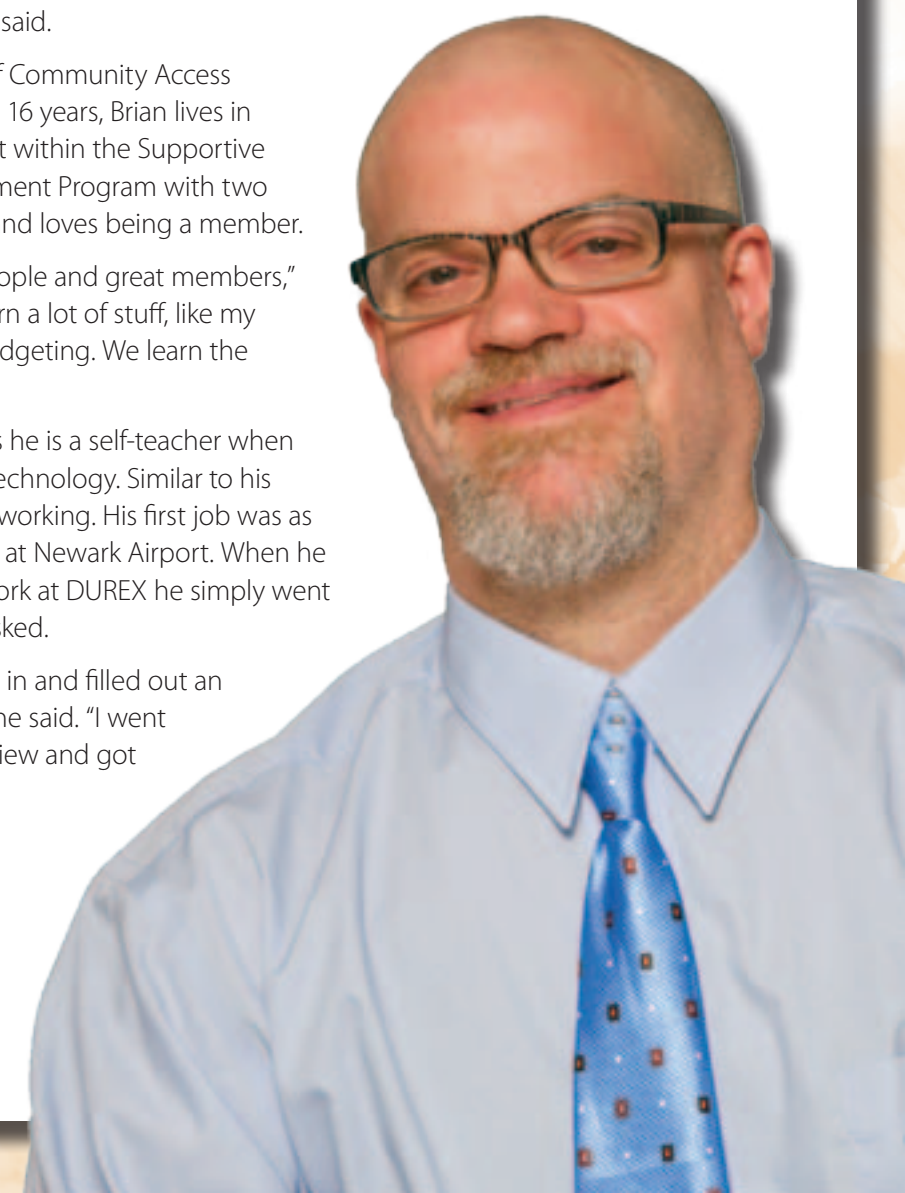
A member of Community Access Unlimited for 16 years, Brian lives in an apartment within the Supportive Living Apartment Program with two roommates and loves being a member.

"Fantastic people and great members," he said. "I learn a lot of stuff, like my goals and budgeting. We learn the computer."

Yet Brain says he is a self-teacher when it comes to technology. Similar to his approach to working. His first job was as a dishwasher at Newark Airport. When he wanted to work at DUREX he simply went ahead and asked.

"I just walked in and filled out an application" he said. "I went on the interview and got hired."

He has been there ever since.



Corey McClain

In the 10 years Corey McClain has been a recreation member of Community Access Unlimited he has attended more than 1,000 events. Two or three events each week add up.

So do the hours of enjoyment and the friendships he has formed by meeting new people and seeing old acquaintances at these events. Corey has plenty of friends.

“I have too many to count,” he said.

Corey takes full advantage of CAU’s recreation program, each month reviewing the recreation calendar he receives from the agency and planning his busy social life. CAU recreation events cover the gamut, from food for the body – breakfast, lunch and dinner outings – to food for thought – movies. They offer something for every member, including the active – bowling, ball games and camping in Amish Country or down the Jersey Shore – and the ambling – leisurely cruises.

Corey enjoys so many of the CAU recreation events he is unable to name his favorite, although he is quite proud of his 144 score on a recent bowling outing.

He also is proud of how many events he attends. After his workday and busy work week, Corey looks forward to the fun and camaraderie of recreation. He likes the company.

Just don’t ask him to name the first of those more than 1,000 recreation events he has attended over his 10 years at CAU.

“That was a while back,” he laughs.



A truly fulfilled and balanced life must include the pleasures that come through social interaction. A truly independent life cannot be a solitary one. In providing people with disabilities and their families and at-risk youth opportunities to socialize and interact, CAU enables them to enjoy camaraderie and avoid any sense of isolation, strengthen interpersonal skills and just have fun.

Through our Recreation and Education Program, CAU provides members with disabilities with social activities that include day and overnight get-away trips, such as breakfast, lunch and dinner outing; trips to state parks, campgrounds, ball games and local and regional attractions; parties and events; and art and dance classes. Education and training include classes in basic math, reading and computer skills.

This not only provides members with the opportunity to enjoy

life in the moment but also enables them to develop and practice social skills to strengthen their lives going forward. Equally important, we provide families of members with respite – peace of mind knowing their loved ones are safe and happy and time for themselves to focus on their own social lives – leading to a more balanced and fulfilled home for everyone.

Often coming to CAU from the foster care system that frequently creates a sense of isolation, the agency’s youth members find a variety of opportunities to socialize and interact, rebuilding lost trust and strengthening their interpersonal skills.

CAU also creates a social bridge between our members and the community through opportunities for friends and supporters to teach people with disabilities how to operate a computer or to spend time enjoying simple pleasures such as reading, visiting a park or going to dinner or a movie. Volunteers have a positive impact on our members serving as mentors.



Reginald Payne

Working 70 hours each week at two jobs, Reginald Payne could be forgiven for staying home and putting up his feet when not on the job. Yet that is the last thing he would consider. With jobs at ShopRite and Target in Clark, Reggie has few days off but makes the most of those to enjoy the company of others and take in all the pleasures life offers.

Reggie visits church the fourth Sunday of the month, his only Sunday off from work—“I like to listen to the music and the preaching,” he said. He is an avid participant in CAU’s Friday night recreation events—movie, pizza or game night, for example—because that is his one free day every week. He also participates in the agency’s grander excursions, such as an annual trip to Atlantic City.

“I’ll take a tour and go to the boardwalk,” he said. “I don’t gamble. I don’t want to spend all my money.”

Reggie saves his money for his bills—he works with his CAU counselor—but also for vacation.

“Every two years I go to a family reunion,” he said. “This year we’re going to Los Angeles. We’ll go to Anaheim and Disneyland.”

Family is important to Reggie, perhaps the most important type of social interaction. He recently purchased a car and visits his mother in Plainfield and sister in Englewood.

Even work provides Reggie with the chance to be social.

“I talk to my customers and get them a cart,” he said. “I meet people.”



COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

“When (church) service is over you socialize with other people. You don’t rush out.”

— Member Debbie Kennedy

Megan Modero

Playing Kate in a recent production of the musical Annie, Megan Modero was anything but an orphan. She was acting in a summer play at her school, where her mother is a drama instructor, and was surrounded by fellow cast members, friends and supporters. Megan was part of a community.

“I like acting, socializing, being around my friends and having fun,” Megan said. “I’m used to it. I’ve been doing shows all my life.”

Megan has performed in Seussical; You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown; and The King and I as Princess Lilac. Wherever her mother teaches, Megan performs. In each show she makes new friends.

“We go out to dinner after a show and talk amongst ourselves,” she said.

Megan’s bravery on stage comes in handy when she is pursuing her other passion – roller coasters. She visited Disney World and MGM Theme Park Orlando in September. This was Megan’s first visit to Orlando without her parents – she traveled with her support leader and friends.

Megan stays active while home, as well. She enjoys movies, going out to dinner and meeting new people.

“I like to paint, draw, sing and shop,” she said. She really likes to shop.

Megan loves being a member of CAU, as well, because of the support she receives from the staff. Her community continues to grow – much like Annie’s grew as she captured the hearts of first the household staff of “Daddy” Warbucks and then Warbucks himself.

You can’t help but love Megan, as well.



Our name includes an element essential for any fulfilled life – integration into the community.

When people with disabilities move from solitary or institutional living and become more integrated into the community, both benefit. As Community Access Unlimited members with disabilities integrate into the community, they learn to live independently and become consumers and taxpayers. They often work, contributing to the health of the local, state and national economy. They vote and attend town council meetings, adding their voice to that of the greater electorate.

At-risk youth who too often are submerged within a child welfare system that denies them roots and independence reemerge and connect with the community after coming to CAU. They, too, learn to live independently, become employees, consumers and taxpayers, vote and become active in the community.

And just as CAU’s younger members and those with disabilities benefit from

their integration into the community, so does the community itself – not only through taxes, consumerism and participation but also through the diversity and voice of justice our members bring to society, making communities better places in which to live.

CAU also teaches our members to be heard through formal advocacy, protecting their place within the community. Helping Hands Self-Advocacy Group allows our members with disabilities to collectively voice their concerns in the public arena. Our youth members practice collective self-advocacy through the Member Action Committee, which advocates for the rights of members within the agency and the community, and the Youth Advisory Board, which advocates for at-risk youth in Union County and throughout the state.

The families of people with disabilities and at-risk youth also become effective advocates for their loved ones and their integration into the community through the Family Connection program.



Debbie Kennedy

Debbie Kennedy has been a member of Community Access Unlimited for more than 20 years, having taken charge of her life early on.

“I left my mother when I was 22 years old and started living house to house,” she said. “I didn’t want to move anymore. I was tired of living in different places so I joined CAU.”

Debbie is a member of CAU’s Supportive Living Apartment Program and has long used her membership in the agency and her enjoyment of people to become integrated into whatever community in which she found herself. She works two jobs, as a bagger at the ShopRite in Clark as well as at Target across the road, and puts in 20 hours every other week.

“I love going to work,” she said, in large part because of the camaraderie, she added.

Debbie used to work in CAU’s cafeteria and enjoyed the interaction with the CAU community that position allowed.

“I made the sandwiches just right,” she said. “As soon as they walked in I put the tea on.”

Each Sunday Debbie serves as an usher at her church in Linden and sings in the choir. She particularly enjoys when the choir travels to other locations to sing, offering the opportunity to meet new people. She also cherishes the community spirit she finds at church.

“When the service is over you socialize with other people. You don’t rush out,” she said. “We go and hug people.”



MEMBERSHIP

“CAU has been there for me when I needed them the most,”
— Member John Maldonado

Diane Savage

Diane Savage has a gift for hospitality. When member birthdays are celebrated at Community Access Unlimited she is always there and enjoys arranging the flowers. She also likes to go out with members to celebrate their day.

“When it comes to birthdays, that’s what I like. I say happy birthday to all of them,” she said.

Diane is a regular at CAU’s member recreational outings, as well, taking trips to Atlantic City and the beach. She also serves as second vice president of Helping Hands, CAU’s member-run self-advocacy group that collectively represents the interests of members – members of CAU and members of the community of people with disabilities as a whole.

Diane also carries the sense of membership she has gained at CAU to her work communities. She works at the A&P in Kenilworth and the Springfield Adult Training Center, where she helps with packaging items for shipping and on the cleaning crews. She enjoys the friendships she has developed.

“I love to work,” she said. “I love the people.”

With CAU for 10 years and residing in one of the agency’s Supportive Living Apartment Program properties, Diane loves being a member of the agency. Prior to coming to CAU she lived in a group home in Newark and did not have the same sense of belonging.

When she first came to CAU, “It felt special,” she said.

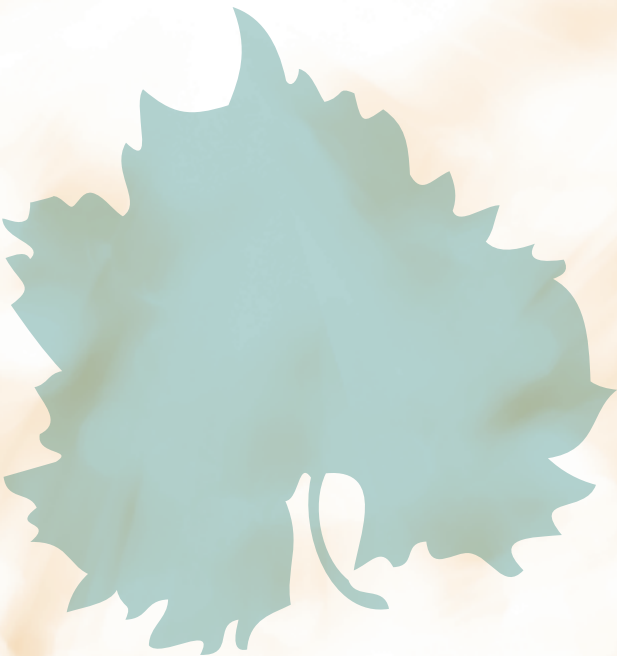


Every individual at Community Access Unlimited is given the gift of membership. Membership within a community greater than one, with a supportive environment, resources for building a better tomorrow, new friends and opportunities to learn, explore and enjoy the simple pleasures of life. In return, each member is expected to give – give their commitment to each other, to themselves and to those who support them.

Membership within CAU provides these benefits and responsibilities – and many more. The individuals with disabilities and at-risk youth who comprise CAU are just that – members. They participate and interact. They have a voice, both within and outside the agency. They contribute and gain rewards.

People with disabilities and at-risk youth too often feel a sense of isolation – disconnection from the community around them. Yet all members of the community are equal, with equal rights and responsibilities. Within the CAU community, members gain the benefits and responsibilities of membership that translate into access to those of greater communities, of which they are members, as well. As members of CAU strive to build greater independence, they do so with the foundation blocks provided by membership in the agency.

The membership fee for Community Access Unlimited is steep – self-respect and respect for others, a willingness to work hard when it is time to work and play when it is time to recreate, and a commitment to building a better future, for oneself, one’s neighbor and the community.



John Maldonado

As a boy John Maldonado chose to not go home to an unsteady environment and instead entered the child welfare system. That led to several years of anguish and multiple placements, a downward spiral aided by John’s inclination to find trouble.

He finally ran away but only found homelessness, crack houses and drugs. Then he found Community Access Unlimited.

With CAU for eight years now, John credits membership in the agency with helping to turn around his life and giving him a future for which to plan.

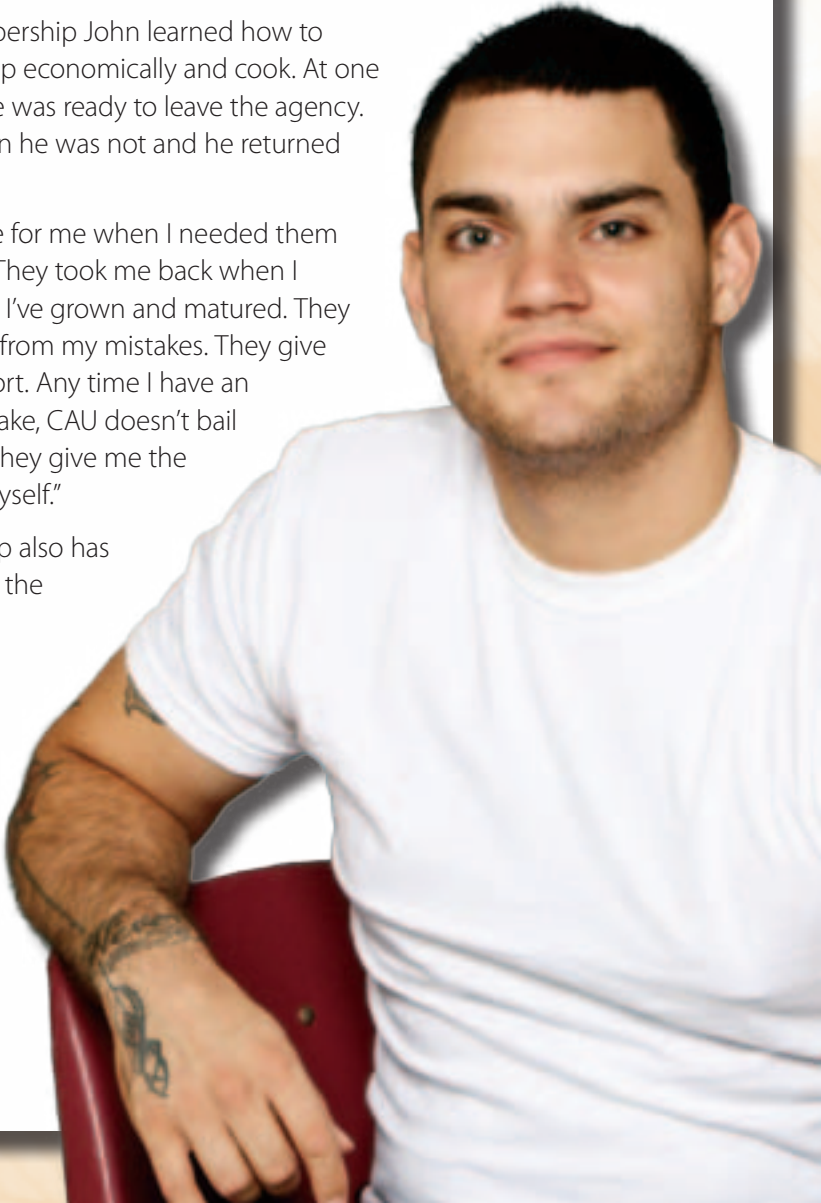
“I was very institutionalized after leaving the system,” he said. “Transitioning into society was very difficult. CAU gave me enough rope to hang myself but also a little extra to reel me back in.”

Through CAU membership John learned how to manage money, shop economically and cook. At one point he believed he was ready to leave the agency. By his own admission he was not and he returned to the agency.

“CAU has been there for me when I needed them the most,” he said. “They took me back when I had nowhere to go. I’ve grown and matured. They made sure I learned from my mistakes. They give you unlimited support. Any time I have an issue or make a mistake, CAU doesn’t bail me out but at least they give me the assistance to help myself.”

His CAU membership also has given John hope for the future.

“I’m hoping to get into the military,” he said. “They’ll pay for my school. I want to get a criminal justice degree and then start a career in criminal justice.”



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

“I like doing something worthwhile...It’s a very good feeling of satisfaction.”

— Volunteer Tom Lienhard

Investing In Our Community

When Tom Lienhard retired from Con Edison after 40 years he did not just turn to golf, fishing or seeing the world. Tom began giving back to the community. For four years he has volunteered for the federal program VITA – Volunteer Income Tax Assistance – preparing tax returns for low- to moderate-income taxpayers. He does 50-60 tax returns each year for members of Community Access Unlimited.

“I like working with the members,” he said. “It gives me a good feeling to help people, especially here. Sometimes I get emotional over some of the things I see, but I know they need us.”

Tom looks for every opportunity to help CAU members take full advantage of whatever tax breaks they are eligible for, such as the earned income credit.

“If I can get someone a refund of \$10 or \$20, I’ll file for it,” he said. “Regardless of the amount, if someone gets a check back, that’s special to them.”

Tom gets refunds for nearly every member return he files. Yet he earns a refund himself with each filing.

“I like doing something worthwhile – it makes me feel good, it’s a very good feeling of satisfaction,” he said. “These are good people at Community Access. I’m very impressed with what they do here. We’re lucky to have places like this.”



Truly enlightened and successful companies understand that the business of commerce exceeds dollars and cents, in fact reaching far into the essence of the community. Without the community – the collective consumer – business flounders.

More importantly, businesses are run by people and people care about others.

Community Access Unlimited provides businesses with access to the community in a way that brings value to them, to CAU and its members and to the community as a whole. The CAU Community Network is a collaboration between the agency and local businesses that enables companies to partner with a social services agency serving the community, thereby extending their own community outreach.

The benefits of partnering with CAU include: collaboration with other Union County businesses; increased employee volunteerism

opportunities and related morale development; public expression of corporate values; and improved community relations.

Donations to CAU’s Project Hope Chest and people with disabilities help create pathways for young adults toward more productive futures as members of the community. Favorable lines of credit and construction loans enable CAU to build homes within the greater community. Providing support for education and health programs helps develop smarter and healthier consumers. And supporting events through employee participation creates outside connections and strengthens morale, cornerstones of a successful business.

Through the Community Network and other less formal support from the business community, as well as volunteering opportunities, CAU and its community partners support people and neighborhoods to create healthier and more stable communities, one member at a time.



Future Massage Therapists Send Gifts

The students and faculty of the Therapeutic Massage and Training Center of Westfield helped ease the tension of CAU youth members leaving foster care and re-entering the community by making a significant donation to the agency’s Project Hope Chest during last year’s holiday season.

Young people often come to CAU with their few belongings in a plastic bag. Project Hope Chest enables youth members transitioning into the community from supervised living to live more independently by starting them off with a package of household items basic to home life. CAU members receiving Project Hope Chest support transition from the Division of Youth and Family Services system into CAU, then through supervised living stages and finally into the community. The Hope Chests typically are filled with donations from individuals and businesses.

Students and faculty of Therapeutic Massage and Training Center donated throughout November and December to build their own hope chest that consisted of home goods; blankets; clothes and interview suits; food; first-aid materials; and entertainment. Donations filled a massage therapy table.

Arlene Reardon, owner and executive director of TMTC, started the donation drive as a way to connect her students with the community.

“Massage therapists touch individuals every day,” Arlene said. “We ease pain, bring relief and rejuvenate people, making them stronger. This donation is very much in line with our mission. We’re simply touching these young people in a different way.”

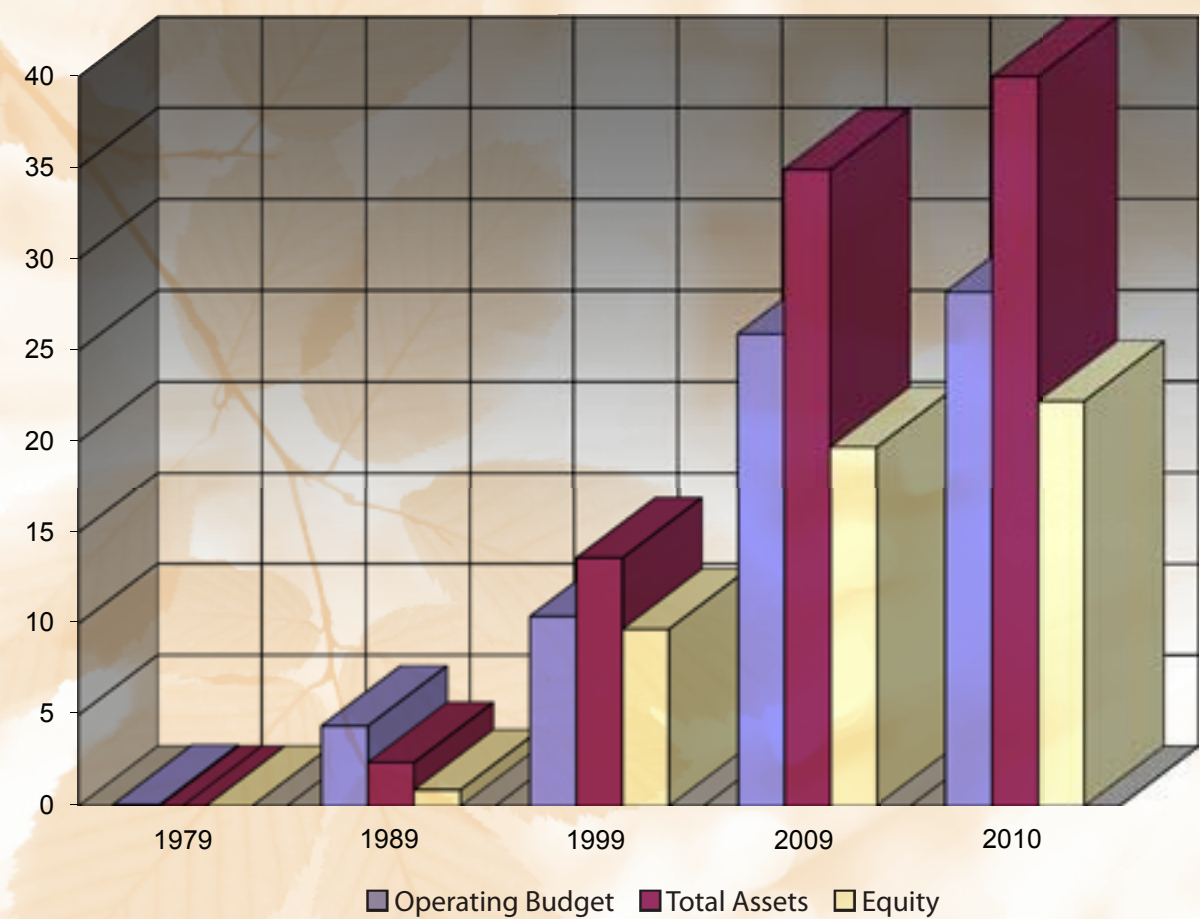
Dejane Burwell is a CAU youth moving through the transition process.

“It gives you hope, knowing that people care,” she said.

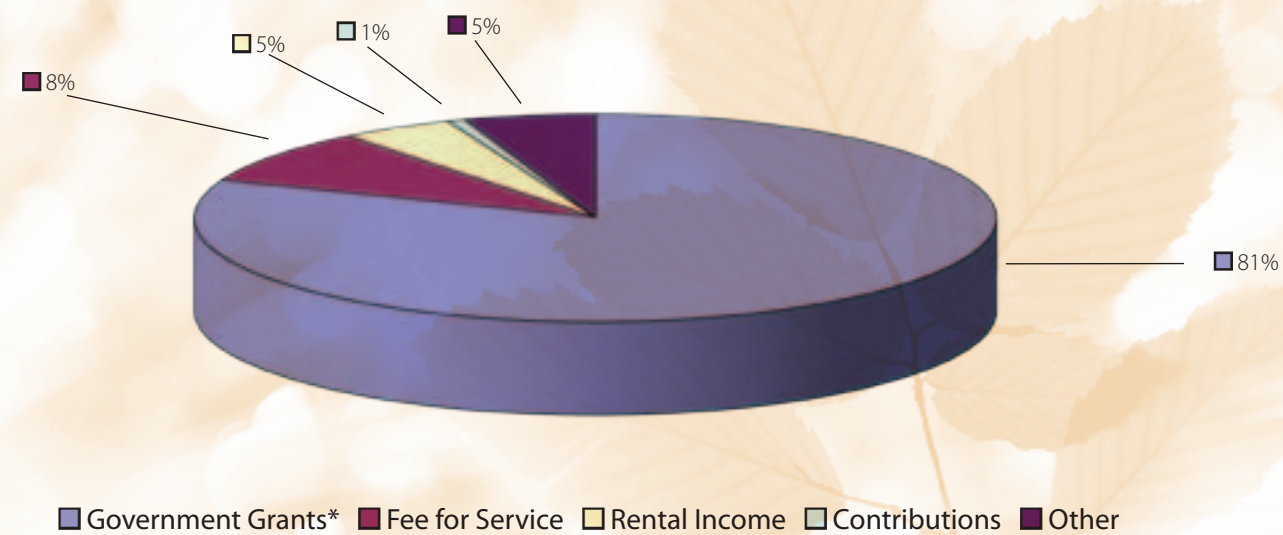


FINANCIALS

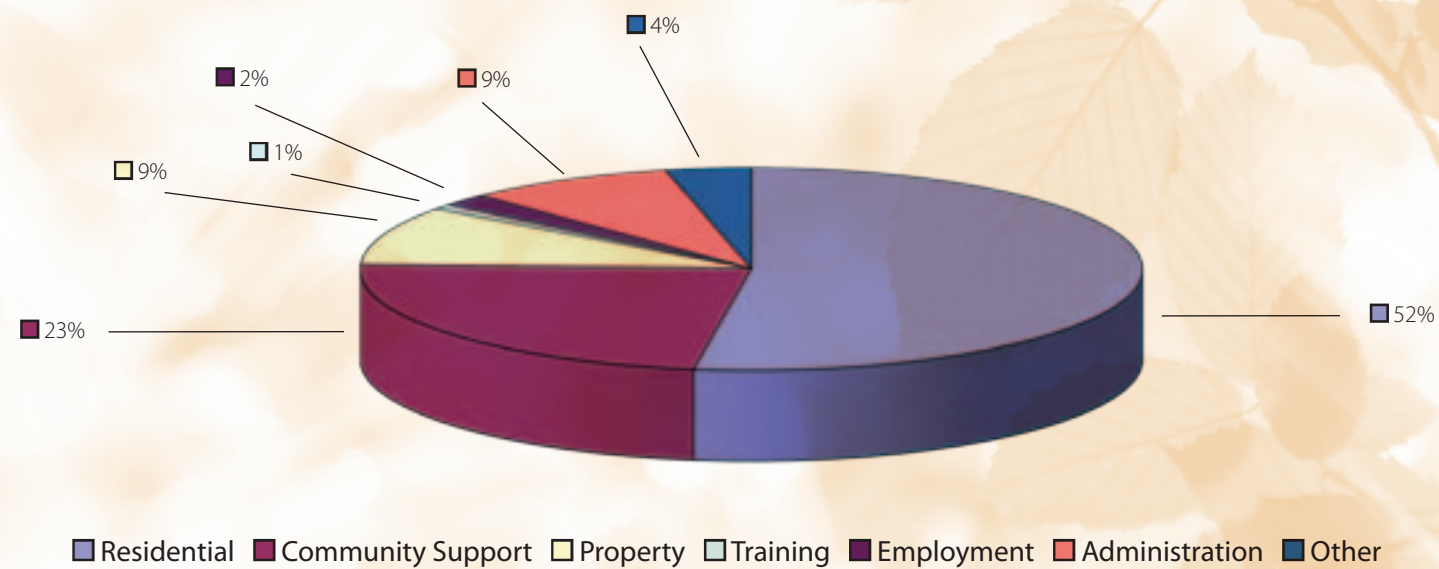
Financial Performance 1979-2010



Revenue 2010



Expenses 2010



*The State of New Jersey fulfills its responsibility of caring for its vulnerable citizens by contracting with agencies such as CAU to provide direct services.

FINANCIALS

COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

	December 31, 2010	2009 (Restated)
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 11,685,441	\$ 9,417,615
Grants and contracts receivable	555,504	404,025
Other current assets	3,917,126	3,249,849
Total current assets	16,158,071	13,071,489
Other assets		
Investments	10,606,834	8,834,123
Tenants' security deposits	286,553	269,969
Security deposits and other assets	641,059	593,284
Construction in progress	1,174,492	1,015,473
Land, building and equipment – net	11,226,368	11,066,471
Total assets	\$ 40,093,377	\$ 34,850,809
Liabilities and net assets		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 13,224,350	\$ 11,300,962
Accrued payroll and payroll taxes	879,009	724,895
Grants and contracts payable	240,154	94,342
Security deposits payable	287,234	263,975
Refundable advance	6,556	29,920
Deferred credit – L.P. Purchase – current	107,352	107,352
Mortgage payable – current	3,161	--
Credit line payable	185,000	--
Total current liabilities	14,932,816	12,521,446
Other liabilities		
Tenant deposits payable	286,552	269,968
Deferred credit – L.P. Purchase	2,263,300	2,370,652
Mortgage payable – net of current	375,322	225,000
Total liabilities	17,857,990	15,387,066
Net assets		
Unrestricted	20,030,625	17,232,864
Temporarily restricted net assets	2,204,762	2,230,879
Total net assets	22,235,387	19,463,743
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 40,093,377	\$ 34,850,809

See independent auditor's report and notes to consolidated financial statements.

COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

	2010 Unrestricted	2010 Temporarily Restricted	Total	2009 Unrestricted	2009 Temporarily Restricted	Total (Restated)
Public support and other revenue						
Public support	\$ 22,531,522	\$ 269,197	\$ 22,800,719	\$ 20,898,554	\$ 212,740	\$ 21,111,294
Government grants	86,973	--	86,973	74,346	--	74,346
Special events net of direct expenses of \$43,269 and \$36,973 for December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively	9,000	--	9,000	15,473	--	15,473
United Way contributions	101,217	58,300	159,517	95,526	75,500	171,026
Other contributions	22,728,712	327,497	23,056,209	21,083,899	288,240	21,372,139
Total public support						
Other revenue	2,458,180	--	2,458,180	1,934,613	--	1,934,613
Fee for service	1,262,326	--	1,262,326	1,239,246	--	1,239,246
Rental income	705,879	--	705,879	463,493	--	463,493
Investment income	744,508	--	744,508	931,539	--	931,539
Other revenue	5,170,893	--	5,170,893	4,568,891	--	4,568,891
Total other revenue						
Total public support and other revenue	27,899,605	327,497	28,227,102	25,652,790	288,240	25,941,030
Net assets released due to satisfaction of purpose or time restrictions	353,614	(353,614)	--	206,631	(206,631)	--
Total public support and other revenue	28,253,219	(26,117)	28,227,102	25,859,421	81,609	25,941,030
Expenses						
Program services	13,327,041	--	13,327,041	11,486,054	--	11,486,054
Residential programs	504,883	--	504,883	524,465	--	524,465
Employment programs	5,866,101	--	5,866,101	5,865,058	--	5,865,058
Community support services	213,955	--	213,955	281,500	--	281,500
Training programs	936,411	--	936,411	893,032	--	893,032
Other programs	20,848,391	--	20,848,391	19,050,109	--	19,050,109
Total program services						
Supporting services	2,163,512	--	2,163,512	2,158,543	--	2,158,543
Management and general	2,443,555	--	2,443,555	2,770,931	--	2,770,931
Property expenses	4,607,067	--	4,607,067	4,929,474	--	4,929,474
Total supporting services	25,455,458	--	25,455,458	23,979,583	--	23,979,583
Total expenses	2,797,761	(26,117)	2,771,644	1,879,838	81,609	1,961,447
Changes in net assets						
Net assets at beginning of years	17,232,864	2,230,879	19,463,743	15,578,026	2,149,270	17,727,296
Prior period adjustment	--	--	--	(225,000)	--	(225,000)
Net assets, at beginning of years – restated	17,232,864	2,230,879	19,463,743	15,353,026	2,149,270	17,502,296
Net assets, end of years	\$ 20,030,625	\$ 2,204,762	\$ 22,235,387	\$ 17,232,864	\$ 2,230,879	\$ 19,463,743

See independent auditor's report and notes to consolidated financial statements.

SUPPORTERS

PLATINUM PLUS - \$10,000+

Hyde and Watson Foundation
Sovereign Bank
TD Charitable Foundation
Union County Savings Bank
Union Foundation

PLATINUM - \$5,000-\$9,999

Bank of America Foundation
Catholic Human Services
EJ Grassmann Trust
Karma Foundation
Harold J. Poltrock, Esq.
Prudential Foundation
Sovereign Bank
TJX Foundation Inc

GOLD - \$2,500-\$4,999

Griffin Alexander, P.C.
Hudson City Savings Bank
Sopher Financial Group
Spencer Savings Bank
Woodruff Developers LLC

SILVER - \$1,000-\$2,499

Amerigroup Charitable Foundation
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Corbett Exterminating Corp
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JTE Spirits
Kaiser Dairy
Liberty Mutual Insurance
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Martini's Bistro & Bar
Medieval Times
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NY Jets
NY Knicks
NJ Nets
Olive Garden
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