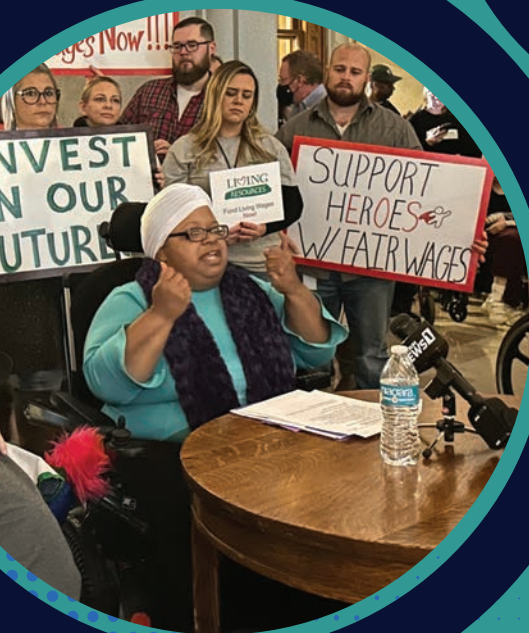


CP State

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-23



Welcome

2022 – A new leader, a new direction for CP State

The Cerebral Palsy Associations of NYS underwent significant changes in 2022, not the least of which was longtime Executive Director Mike Alvaro assuming the role of President/CEO after Susan Constantino's retirement at the beginning of the year.

Advocacy was a major focus for CP State and resulted in significant legislative wins:

- A 5.4% Human Services COLA
- An 11% Interim Plus rates provided for all 853 and 4410 schools
- Repeal of the 2011 MRT #26 cut to Article 16 clinics

The year also saw critical action by OPWDD to remove the vacancy cut in response to our lawsuit, and development of a true champion in the legislature for our field in Senator John Mannion.

At the same time, we have significant challenges: an unprecedented workforce crisis that is unlikely to abate any time soon, lack of awareness of disability issues in the legislature and the community-at-large, and continued increased regulatory obligations.

All creating levels of uncertainty that demand attention. CP State's response has been twofold: improve what works and innovate what doesn't.

We are laying the groundwork for more effective advocacy strategies, providing support through pioneering grant opportunities like our Telehealth Grant and the Community Health Outreach Project, forging partnerships with mental health system providers, increase DOH's understanding and funding for clinic services, and obtain support for Affiliates as they make necessary workforce adaptations, like using Litmos for online staff training.

In short, we will continue to advocate for people with disabilities and the people who help them live the lives they choose. We look to 2023 to strengthen CP State and to best support our Affiliates as we work together toward fulfilling that collective mission.

Sincerely,



MIKE ALVARO
President/CEO



LOUIS B. TEHAN
Board Chairman

Who We Are

Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State (CP State) is a multi-service organization encompassing nearly 30 Affiliates and 19,000 employees providing services and programs for more than 100,000 individuals with disabilities, as well as resources for families.

CP State Staff

President & CEO

Mike Alvaro

Vice President, Advocacy & Government Relations

Barbara Crosier

Director of Special Projects & Online Learning

Tim Ferguson

Vice President, Reimbursement & Regulatory Compliance

Deb Williams

Director of Communications & Advocacy

Bill DeVoe

Office Manager

Cheryl Bradway

Accountant

Mary Beth Durocher

Director, Community Health Outreach Project

Cindy Morris

Executive Secretary

Angela Anderson

Administrative Assistant

Kelsey Massyk

2023 Board of Directors and Officers

Chairman

Louis B. Tehan

Vice-Chair

Debra Colley, Ph.D.

Treasurer

Stephen C. Lipinski

Secretary

Barbara N. Scherr

Directors At Large

Leisa Alger

Mary W. Boatfield

Karen Geller-Hittleman

Rick Guidotti

Brian P. McLane

James E. Peace

Matthew Kaufman, MD

Active Past Chairs

Thomas J. Caserta, Jr., Esq.

Robert M. DiFrancesco

Emeritus Directors

Ann B. LeMark

Cora Baliff

Idajean Windell, Ed.D.

What We Do

Our Mission

The mission of CP State is to provide for the exchange of ideas, education and communication between groups and people interested in advocacy for people with cerebral palsy and other developmental disabilities, as well as people with significant other disabilities for which the Corporation's local Affiliates provide support.

This mission will be accomplished by providing statewide leadership, support and coordination for the efforts of local Affiliate organizations; and by providing constructive influence and access to the processes of governmental change, policy-making, legislation and regulation affecting the agency, its Affiliates and its constituents.

Statewide Committees

CP State provides Affiliates with a broad array of supports and services. Our work includes educational programs and ongoing informational support through our statewide committees, which meet throughout the year.

- Corporate Compliance/ Quality Assurance
- DD Advocacy Team
- Development/Public Relations
- Education/Early Intervention
- Emerging Leaders
- Employment/Vocational/ Day Services
- Finance
- Guardianship
- Health & Clinical Services
- Human Resources
- Medical Directors' Council
- Regulatory Reform/ Streamlining
- Residential Services
- Home Service Program
- Traumatic Brain Injury

Technical Assistance

CP State provides technical assistance, information, and direct assistance to Affiliates regarding critical issues including:

Rate Appeals (Tuition, Clinic, Residential, Day, SED, DOH, OPWDD) – COVID Policy Information/Updates – Changes to Day Program – Residential Program Oversight and Development – Respite Programs – Implementation of Special OPWDD Initiatives – New Regulations and Rate Methodologies – Assistive Technology/Durable Medical Equipment – Medicaid & Medicare Billing Issues – Fiscal and Program Audits and Surveys – Office of Medicaid Inspector General Audits and Surveys – OMIG Effectiveness Reviews – Required Documentation for “Medicaid in Education” – Preschool Re-Approval Process – New Applications and Regional Need Process for Expansion of SED Programs – Comptroller's Audits of Preschool Programs – Justice Center Issues and Concerns – Re-Configuring SED Program Models to Eliminate the Need for 1:1 Aides – Article 16 & Article 28 Issues – Article 28 Certificate of Need – FQHC CON & Rates- Health Homes and Care Coordination Initiatives – VBP, DSRIP and BIP Initiatives – Medicare Changes-Capital Appeals -Modification of Class Ratios – School Policies and Procedures– School Staffing Credentials – Renewal of EI/ 4410 Corporate Practice Waiver – EI Insurance Reimbursement – Assistive Technology in EI – Emergency Preparedness- Paid Family Leave-Call In Pay and other Human Resources Issues.

Download a copy of this annual report at www.cpstate.org.

Advocacy & Government Relations

CP State and its partners in NYDA employed many advocacy strategies in 2022, in order to influence legislation during the 2022-23 Session and the priorities reflected in the New York State Budget.

These efforts included:

- Multiple rallies at the capitol, drawing thousands of staff, advocates and individuals with disabilities to Albany.
- Creating multiple one-click messaging campaigns on:
 - A Cost of Living Adjustment
 - Early Intervention Rate Increase
 - OMIG Reform
 - Clinic Rate Increase
 - 4410 and 853 School Funding
- With all campaigns combined, advocates sent more than 100,000 messages to the Governor and local representatives.
- In 2022, CP State added more than 3,500 people to its growing advocacy database. More than 17,000 New Yorkers used CP State's one-click advocacy tool to send messages to elected officials.
- CP State and NYDA conducted successful social media "Days of Action," resulting in increased activity on our advocacy campaigns, as well as an increase in social media audience.
- CP State reached more than 14,000 unique users every month on its social media channels, promoting awareness and creating new advocates.



Advocacy & Government Relations

The enacted 2022-2023 New York State budget provided a 5.4% COLA for the I/DD services sector, marking the first significant investment in more than a decade.

Among the results of our Advocacy:

OPWDD

- 5.4% Human Services COLA – including OPWDD, OMH & OASAS providers (\$496.8M added to the system)
- Repeal of the 2011 MRT #26 cut to Article 16 clinics
- Statewide Healthcare Facility Transformation Program (SHCFTP) – added OPWDD community-based programs as eligible for Phase IV funding.
- Nurses Across NY Loan Forgiveness Program - includes underserved populations/DD
- \$136.3 million for OPWDD Healthcare and Mental Hygiene Worker Bonuses

On top of almost \$2B in ARPA funding for our field (paid out through September of 2022)

SED

- 11% Interim Plus rates were provided for all 853 & 4410 on July 1, 2022
- The Healthcare bonuses were expanded to include clinicians in Early Intervention and special education (4410 & 853) schools
- Our special education schools are able to retain annual surpluses of 11% in 2022-23 through 2024-25, 8% in 2025-26, 5% in 2026-27, and 2% in 2027-28 and thereafter.

Other

- Medicaid 1% across the board increase – for DOH Medicaid programs including Article 28 clinics, Early Intervention
- Fair Pay for Home Care – Provides for a \$1.50 increase to the home care minimum wage this year and another \$1.50 increase next year for a total of a \$3 increase.
- Telehealth payment parity
- Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program

A complete summary of the 2022-23 budget can be found at www.cpstate.org.

Legislative Wins

The year began with a big win:

The Vacancy Cut Lawsuit brought via NYDA restored over \$240 million in cuts to the system.



CP State's advocacy was key in the following bills passing both Houses:

- OMIG reforms - A.7889-A (Gottfried) /S.4486-B (Harckham)
- Preferred source contracting - S.7578 (Mannion) /A.8549 (Burdick)
- Supported Decision Making – S.7107-B (Mannion) A.8586-B (Simon)
- Access to Programs Commission - S.7688 (Thomas) A.8816-A (Epstein)
- Early Intervention Rate Study - S.5676 (Rivera) /S.6579 (Gottfried)
- Information for Patients on Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy Patients (SUDEP) -S.67-A (Hoylman)/A.7807-A (Epstein)
- OPWDD Timely Processing of Applications - S.8442 (Mannion)/A.9920 (Abinanti)
- Interim plus rates S.9134 - (Mannion) /A.10192 (Benedetto)
- Reconciliation after surplus - S.9132 (Mannion)/A.10191 (Benedetto)

2023 Budget Priorities

CP State was instrumental in identifying budget priorities for the 2023-2024 New York State budget:

- **\$782.3M (\$234.7M state share) for 8.5% Cost of Living Adjustment**
- **\$418.4M (\$125.5M state share) for workforce investment.**
A Direct Support Wage Enhancement to provide agencies with \$4,000 per eligible employee to be used for the purpose of enhancing the hourly rate of pay for all staff that have direct care/support responsibilities for individuals with I/DD.
- **Approximately \$1.2 B total funding sought (\$360M State Share)**

What we stopped in 2022

CP State's advocacy was key in preventing many problematic bills. They included:

- Right to remain at JRC after aging out of education
- Cameras required in all common areas
- Bill of Rights

Community Health Outreach Project

The Community Health Outreach Project (CHOP) is a grant-funded program that provides financial assistance for the purchase of equipment, medical care, and other supports needed by individuals with intellectual, developmental, and other significant disabilities when all other funding opportunities, such as Medicaid or Medicare, have been deemed unavailable.

Funded by the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation, CHOP assisted more than 1,650 individuals representing 46 counties within New York State during 2022. More than \$1.3 million was awarded to provide supports for individuals so they could remain active in their homes and communities.



Cabrini's faith in supporting our efforts to address a whole-person approach to health, including the social determinants that contribute to overall health status, most assuredly has been rewarded by the significant improvements in the individuals served by this grant.

By removing financial barriers and offering assistance unavailable to individuals through other sources, CP State continues to improve living conditions while promoting quality of life.

Funding has been received to continue CHOP in 2023.

DDPC Outreach Grant

In 2022, CP State administered a grant from the DDPC to increase rural outreach and advocacy through regular self-advocacy meetings, information sharing and improved access, and community outreach and networking.

CP State held focus groups with grant participants across New York State to better understand participation, deliverables, progress, issues, expectations and recommendations. Grant participants were individuals who had cerebral palsy and other complex disabilities. Prior to the grant, programs in rural areas across the state were isolated. Participants, families and staff struggled to connect and collaborate outside of their region and agency.

CP State provided a vehicle for self-advocacy, program experimentation, structure, culture, integration and for collaboration across New York State.

Telehealth Grant

In 2020, CP State was awarded a 5-year grant to implement a telemedicine triage program for people with disabilities. Telehealth kiosks have avoided costly emergency room visits and will save participating Affiliates an estimated \$90 million over the life of the grant.

The grant, which ends in 2024, has provided 38,221 services to more than 8,300 individuals. Nearly 50 agencies are participating in the grant, providing 1,200 telehealth sites.

CP State is currently working with OPWDD and DOH to determine how to make this service sustainable after the grant ends. For certified residences, we are asking OPWDD to include the cost in the rates for providers so all individuals have access to the service. In addition, we are exploring ways to bill this for individuals living in the community.

\$90M
**IN SAVINGS OVER
THE LIFE OF THE GRANT**



Litmos Learning Management System

CP State is pleased to offer access to Litmos, an innovative and easy to use online Learning Management System. The built-in tools make it easy for you to integrate e-learning into your organization's training plans.

The system also comes with a complimentary, searchable course library of more than 260 courses, including many of the training courses Affiliates need.

The system allows agencies to:

- Reduce classroom time for new hires.
- Easily train staff working any shift, at any location.
- Present training records to auditors with ease.
- Automatically ensure compliance training.

CP State has a growing user base of 20 CP State Affiliates and 20 non-Affiliates or shared plans.

Conferences & Summits

2022 Annual Conference

On October 24, CP State held its Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs, NY, with a theme of "On Track for Success."

On the first day of the event, Commissioner of OPWDD Kerri Neifeld updated attendees on the many changes her administration is looking to implement to partner with providers. Afterward, the commissioner cut the ribbon on our first NY State of Expression art museum, highlighting the works of artists with disabilities. There were 45 works on display, each created by an artist who receives services at a CP Affiliate.



On Tuesday night more than 400 people joined us to celebrate staff at our Affiliates. Nearly 100 people – from DSPs, to social workers, to maintenance staff and more – took the stage to receive a staff appreciation award.

HR Conference

CP State held the 5th Annual Human Resources Professionals Conference For the Disability Provider Community on June 28-29. This was an in-person event attended by 120 HR professionals from across the state. Topics included "The Impact of Trauma and Grief on Direct Support Staff Due to the Pandemic", a discussion on "The Future of Employee Benefit Plans", "Diversity and Equity Policies", and "Direct Support Professional Recruitment & Retention."

Clinical Conference

CP State held the 4th Annual Conference on Multi-Disciplinary Clinical Care for Patients with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities on November 4. This event was attended by 145 clinical staff, bringing together experts of different backgrounds in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities to discuss how to provide the highest quality of interprofessional care. Sessions included "Aging and Dementia in People with IDD", "Dysphagia Recognition & Choking Prevention", and "Psychosocial Effects or COVID-19 and Other Recent Stressors on People with IDD."

CP State hosts first summit on I/DD and Mental Health

CP State, along with MHANYS and NYAPRS, hosted a summit on Improving the Lives of People with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities and Co-existing Mental Conditions on November 30. The summit addressed multiple and growing issues related to diagnosis, access to care, treatment modalities, and follow-up care with mental health services. Earlier in the year, CP State released "At the Crossroads", a policy paper that looked at this issue.

NYS Elks & Home Service Program

CP State continues its partnership with the NYS Elks Association to provide additional support to the Home Service Program.

Since 1964, the Elks have donated more than \$30M to CP Affiliates.

Between Major Projects Grant Awards, Home Service Director wages, and funding for vehicles, the Elks gave \$446,730 to Affiliates in the 21-22 Lodge Year.

\$446,730

FUNDED TO AFFILIATES IN 2022



Communications

Rebranding and Website Redesign

In 2022, CP State conducted a rebranding and alignment that included redesigning the CP State logo and website.

The website has a cleaner, modern look, and a simplified site structure for easier navigation.

At launch, all CP digital properties were renamed to align with the CP State domain name, making it easier for the public to find us.



Monthly with Mike

In April 2022, CP State President and CEO began publishing a monthly e-newsletter called "Monthly with Mike."

This column presents an outlet for a more editorial reflection and prospective thinking on disability issues and how they impact the field.

The newsletter is sent to executives, association leadership, high-level OPWDD staff, and other influential stakeholders.



It's time to talk about the 'D' word.

The Orwellian concept found in *Animal Farm* states that "all are equal, but some are more equal than others." The dyslexian underpining of this declaration unfortunately captures quite well the current state of affairs when concerning health and education equity for people with intellectual and



RETHINK. REWRITE. RESET... THE 'JUSTICE' CENTER

While there are some who think we need to derive extend inclusion and be politically correct at all times, there are others that believe that access has to be in the latter camp. You may be shocked, but I'm not. One area that the disability field seems to have collectively taken to accept as-is and as part of the provider landscape is the Justice Center in New York State. I believe it's time to essentially point out that the emperor has no clothes. More specifically, I contend that the Justice Center is perhaps the

Financial Statement

CEREBRAL PALSY ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW YORK STATE, INC.

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS		
REVENUE AND SUPPORT:		
Membership dues	\$ 1,379,146	\$ 1,374,683
NYS Elks	446,700	426,700
Conferences	275,137	191,590
Grants	1,573,058	880,114
Other	346,557	322,327
Paycheck protection loan forgiveness	-	148,800
	<u>4,020,598</u>	<u>3,344,214</u>
Total revenue and support		
EXPENSES:		
Advocacy	96,130	87,144
Education	711,975	739,352
Member support	2,840,516	1,974,363
Management and general	322,745	283,243
	<u>3,971,366</u>	<u>3,084,102</u>
Total expenses		
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	49,232	260,112
NET ASSETS - beginning of year	<u>715,761</u>	<u>455,649</u>
NET ASSETS - end of year	<u>\$ 764,993</u>	<u>\$ 715,761</u>

Questions?

Contact us at info@cpstate.org or at (518) 436-0178.

Download a copy of this annual report at www.cpstate.org.



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