



# THE MILE POST

Tel #201-434-7783 / Fax #201-377-3877 / [www.hudsonmilestones.org](http://www.hudsonmilestones.org)

## 75 YEARS!!!

From the Desk of the  
Chief Executive  
Officer



Dear Friends of Hudson Milestones,

Congratulations to Hudson Milestones on turning 75 years old on March 26th!

Hudson Milestones has had a wonderful history of providing excellent services to people with special needs. It is a well-known story that a small group of parents were the grassroots organizers of the agency. Initially, only wanting to support each other in their lonely trek of raising a child with Down Syndrome, they gathered in their homes to learn from each other. Not until the 1970s did laws and regulations provide the basics in educational services for these children. Hudson Milestones opened its first brick and mortar program as a result.

Interestingly, children with autism were usually diagnosed as having childhood schizophrenia at this time. They received services, if any, through the NJ Division of Mental Health. By the 1980s, autism was recognized as a syndrome with an increase in numbers and of understanding.

Hudson Milestones Early Intervention and Developmental Day Care programs were pioneers in their fields, serving children with all types of developmental disabilities. Rapid growth at the agency ensured that people of all ages who needed services had a place to go. Serving those from birth through the end of life, Hudson Milestones was clearly established as an advocate for and a provider of excellent services. The CARF accreditations, among other accolades, confirmed that fact.

*(Cont'd on Page 2)*

## Wisdom From The Chairman

Sally Medeiros, Chairman of the Board

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT



This year's Annual Recognizing Excellence Awards Dinner Dance was held on April 25, 2025 at La Reggia in Secaucus, NJ. The event was a huge success both socially and financially, with over 250 people in attendance, including those we honored! The best part

of the evening though was seeing our clients, staff, Board and community members enjoying themselves. Our Virtual Ad Journal will continue to run until April 2026. Ads can be viewed/purchased at [Hudson Milestones Tribute Journal 2025 \(wizevents.com\)](http://Hudson Milestones Tribute Journal 2025 (wizevents.com))

I'd like to thank all of those who supported us. It is with the kindness and help of people like yourselves that Hudson Milestones is able to continue to provide services to individuals who are intellectually/developmentally disabled.

The current slate of officers will continue to hold office until the next Triennial Membership Meeting of Hudson Milestones, in June 2026. These officers will continue to lead Hudson Milestones during a time with particularly challenging issues needing to be addressed.

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In the past decade, Hudson Milestones has continued to evolve into an even more vital and vibrant agency for its targeted population. Always seeking to be better than it has been, building on a strong foundation, Hudson Milestones is an example of how services should be delivered.

Congratulations to Hudson Milestones, Board of Directors and to its' leadership teams for 75 years of superior services. Much gratitude is to be given to the dedicated staff. Much respect is due to the clients and their families. God bless you all!

A special thank you goes to Deborah Lorenzetti, Former Chief Executive Officer, who sent me this message on our anniversary, and for all her hard work during her 25 years of service to the agency. WE ARE HMSTRONG!

### THANK YOU FOR MAKING OUR ANNUAL DINNER DANCE DRIVE A SUCCESS

Jose Rosario, Director of Finance & Operations

On behalf of Hudson Milestones, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all who supported and attended our Annual Dinner Dance. Your support, enthusiasm and presence made the evening special as we celebrated our 75th Anniversary. Your generosity allows us to continue our mission of supporting those we serve and empowering families in our community.

We are especially grateful for the support of our Ad Journal which, this year, generated the most dollars in our 75 years of service! Thank you to our donors who are our board of directors, consultants, families, friends, staff and vendors.

We couldn't do it without you!

L-R: Jose Rosario, Dir. of F&O; Client FDN, award recipient; Teresa Maietti, CEO



L-R: Teresa Maietti, CEO; Sally Medeiros, Board Chairman; Karen Gray, award recipient



L-R: Sally Medeiros, Board Chairman; Donna Dolan, award recipient; Teresa Maietti, CEO



Robbins Reef Yacht Club, award recipient

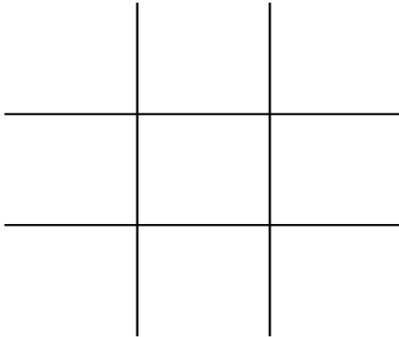


- A1A Restoration Group
- AAA Fire Protection
- Abrahams, Taryn
- Alam, M.D., Parvez
- Atienza, Narina
- BCG Advisors
- Belvedere, Tracey
- Bosch, Barbara
- Briamonte, Frank & Jane
- Camaya, Sairone (Cruz/Rizzo)
- Columbia Bank
- Connell Foley LLP
- Connolly, Jennifer (DFO Staff)
- Corpuz/Jarencio (Cruz/Rizzo)
- Cruz/Rizzo Eufracia & Benedicta
- Cruz/Rizzo Family & Friends
- Dave's Transmission
- DFO Staff
- Dolan, Donna
- Dolan, Jo-Ann
- Fields, Evanett
- Garguilo Landscaping LLC
- Gordon & Rees
- Gray, Karen
- Greenville Memorial Home
- Grossman, Peter
- Guitierrez (Cruz/Rizzo)
- H&N Custom Homes
- HC Commissioners
- HC Constitutional Officers
- Henn, Kurt
- Hinzpeter, Matthew
- Hoehl, John
- Inserra Supermarkets
- Jespersen, Kevin
- Jimenez, Cherise (QA Staff)
- Johnson Auto Group
- Lana's Unisex Hair Salon
- Loretta McGowan Foundation
- Louro, Daisy
- Maietti, Michael
- Maietti, Teresa
- McCabe, Diane
- Medeiros, Lynette
- Medeiros, Sally
- Midtown Pharmaceutical Srv.
- Morris Security Electronics
- Nardini Branco, Lauren & Luis
- Nardini, M/M Antonio
- Norton, Jeane
- Oti, Akenten
- Pambuenta/DimagibaY (Cruz/Rizzo)
- Paramount Exterminating Co.
- Pesci, Kristin
- Pinto Foundation
- PKF O'Connor Davies
- Provident Bank Foundation
- Prudential (David Salisbury)
- Reeves, Shonda
- Riberio, Ericka
- Rizzo, Frank (Cruz/Rizzo)
- Rock the 21
- Rosario, Jose
- Ruiz, Kathleen
- Salmeron
- Secaucus Town Hall (Gonnelli)
- Stanlaw Fitness
- Supplice, Vallery
- Svetik, Paul & Almeida, Leon
- Synogen Solutions
- The H-Hour (Ruiz)
- Torres, Ilana
- Traina, Joanne
- UNICO
- Velez, Maria
- Werner, Harriet and Debby
- White, Joseph
- Zienkiewicz, Kim

# Hello Summer! Residential News & Events 2025

As the summer season approaches, we're thrilled to welcome longer days, warmer weather, and new opportunities to connect, grow, and have fun! Our homes are especially excited to enjoy Tiki bars and great backyard furniture, perfect for soaking up the sun and celebrating summer BBQs in style.

Tic-Tac-Toe Game

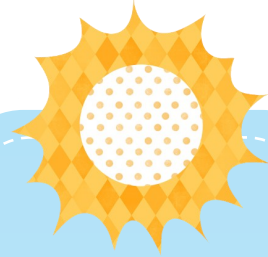


## Healthy Tips for Hot Summer Days

Stay safe and feel your best with these summer wellness tips:

- Drink water frequently, even if you don't feel thirsty.
- Use sunscreen with SPF 30 or higher and reapply often.
- Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing to stay cool.
- Take breaks in the shade or indoors during peak heat hours (11am-3pm).
- Snack on hydrating fruits like watermelon, oranges, and cucumbers.

By following these easy steps, we can fully enjoy summer while keeping our bodies nourished and protected.



As we welcome the sunshine and warmth of summer, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for your continued dedication and care. Your energy, compassion, and commitment bring joy to every season. Let's make this summer one to remember, filled with laughter, connection, and bright moments for the individuals we support. Thank you for all that you do!

— Vallery Supplice, Senior Director of Residential Services

### Important Events

- Special Olympics
- Labor Day BBQ
- Monthly Birthday & Play Dance Celebrations
- Holiday Express
- A week full of daily fun Events
- HM Staff Day
- Thanksgiving Celebration
- Christmas Celebration



DAY HABILITATION

Kathleen Ruiz, Director of Day Support Services

Day Habilitation is on an exciting journey of growth as we transition to what we call DH 2.0. This year, we're thrilled to welcome 11 new individuals into our Day Habilitation roster, and we anticipate adding 4 more by the end of summer. As we move forward with this transformation, preparations for DH 2.0 are in full swing. Each of our programs will soon have dedicated spaces where we can explore vital areas such as technology, sensory activities, life skills, and research & development. This exciting change will allow our clients to immerse themselves for 45 focused minutes each day in a specific subject, encouraging deeper learning and engagement. For those who cherish their familiar routines, we've also created a separate schedule to accommodate them. One of the highlights I'm most eager to share is our new outdoor gym and lounge area. Thanks to Teresa Maietti, we have reimagined the pen into a vibrant space for sporting events like volleyball and basketball. Furthermore, we owe a special thank you to the Nardini family for their generous donation of outdoor seating, creating a cozy spot for our cheering section! At Hudson Milestones, we are committed to fostering a Day Habilitation program that embodies innovation, inclusivity, and accessibility for all participants, ensuring that our community continues to thrive.

WEEKEND RESPITE

Kathleen Ruiz, Director of Day Support Services

We are excited to announce our upcoming Weekend Respite FY26, featuring a variety of new outings designed to create joyful experiences! New outings include but are not limited to attending the Bellville Car Show, indulging in delicious treats at the food truck festival, exploring new exhibits at the American Dream Mall, and enjoying a delightful tour and treat at Z-rolls, among other activities. On Friday nights, we will host heartwarming cooking tutorials where you can learn to make your own sliders, participate in a holiday bake off, and savor delicious chicken and waffles. There's so much to look forward to! We'll also continue to cheer for our friends at the Special Olympics and celebrate together with the spirited Holiday Express. Our commitment remains strong to provide innovative and engaging activities while ensuring a comforting and stable environment for the wonderful individuals we serve. We can't wait to share these experiences with you!



MARCH MADNESS

Kathleen Ruiz, Director of Day Support Services

In March, both day habilitation programs came together to celebrate March Madness, and it was wonderful to see everyone getting involved! All clients had the chance to participate in various activities. For those eager to show their athletic talents, they enjoyed a game of basketball. Some clients, who were focusing on building independent decision-making skills, stepped up to referee the match, while another client working on financial literacy managed the concession stand. We were also delighted to have a spirited group of cheerleaders who showcased their social etiquette! It was a day filled with participation and joy, and we were thrilled to have visitors from other departments join us. We eagerly anticipate the next big tournament, so keep an eye out for the upcoming summer games!



**QUALITY ASSURANCE & WELLNESS**

*Donna Dolan, Director of Compliance*

The Department of Quality Assurance is proud to announce the implementation of Hudson Milestones' first ever Wellness Committee. The Wellness Committee started as just an idea spear headed by a simple statement during a meeting of "What more can we do to help". From there it materialized into an actual group comprised of the Quality Assurance Assistant Director, Medical Compliance Officer, Quality Control Specialist and the Nurse. The purpose is to listen to concerns and assist with finding resolutions, team building and educating on different methods of stress management. Each meeting will focus on a particular job title or department where the staff will receive a survey that can be submitted anonymously and the agenda for the meeting will be based on the results of the survey. The first forum was held in April for the Residential Managers and was seen to be a great success. The next Wellness Committee Meeting will be held in July and will focus on the Residential Direct Support Professionals.



**DIVISION OF TALENT ACQUISITION & EMPLOYEE RELATIONS & RETENTION**

*Kristin Pesci*

It has been an exciting fiscal year 2025 for the Division of Talent Acquisition & Employee Relations & Retention and its many accomplishments! The Division and its efforts have successfully decreased vacancies Agency-wide. We have continued to do so by interviewing DSPs weekly, attending various job fairs and hiring events, and hosting a monthly Pre-Hire Training Week for potential new hires. The Division has also developed and implemented a newly updated Employee Engagement survey that will be distributed to new hires after their first month of employment. The goal of the engagement survey is to assess the onboarding process and the employee's experience as a new hire to gather feedback for improvement and growth and assist in retaining staff.

In the latest news about the Talent Acquisition Unit, we have a new Talent Acquisition Specialist, Anuradha Tandon. Anuradha comes to Hudson Milestones with many years of experience with Human Resources and Talent Acquisition/ Recruiting. Please welcome her when you see her!

In addition, we have recently implemented incentives for new recruits and current employees. We are excited to announce our Summer Weekend Incentive Bonus Program for applicable DSP new hires and current employees. Please look out for flyers pertaining to this new and innovative incentive program or contact us at [hmrecruiting@hudsonmilestones.org](mailto:hmrecruiting@hudsonmilestones.org) for specific information.

The TA Unit has also updated the Referral Bonus link and flyer on our Social Media platforms, and this has been distributed to all programs. Refer a friend and reap the rewards!

Lastly, did you know that Hudson Milestones was awarded the 2025 Top Workplace Award? Thanks to the efforts of our TA Units coordination of and of all our wonderful employees' participation in the survey, the Agency was granted this esteemed honor! Congratulations Hudson Milestones and HM employees!

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Chairman of the Board  
**Sally Medeiros**

Vice Chairman  
**Lynette Medeiros**

Treasurer  
**Lauren Nardini**

Secretary  
**Karen Gray**

Parliamentarian  
**Feliciano Lim**

Past Chairman of the Board  
**Arlene Rutkowski**

**EXECUTIVE STAFF**

Chief Executive Officer  
**Teresa Maietti**

Director of Finance & Operations  
**Jose Rosario**

Director of Compliance  
**Donna Dolan**

Director of Day Support Services  
**Kathleen Ruiz**

Senior Director of Residential Services  
**Vallery Supplice**

Chief Advisor of Auditing & Reporting  
**Akenten Oti**

Executive Secretary/Editor  
**Tracey Belvedere**

**IN NEED OF RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENT?**

*Teresa Maietti, Chief Executive Officer*

I am writing to extend an invitation to all families in need of placing a family member into a New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities residential facility, to visit one of our homes that currently has availability.



If you are interested in hearing and seeing what we are all about and most proud of, please call (201) 434-7783 to schedule a visit.



FOLLOW US ON



Instagram

# UPCOMING EVENTS



JULY	4th—AGENCY CLOSED 26th—WRP
AUG	17th—PLAY Dance 23rd—WRP
SEP	1st—AGENCY CLOSED 14th—PLAY Dance 27th—WRP
OCT	4th—WRP 13TH—AGENCY CLOSED 25th—WRP 26th—PLAY Dance
NOV	15th—WRP 16th—PLAY Dance 27th & 28th—AGENCY CLOSED
DEC	6th—WRP 19th—WRP 24th, 25th, 26th—AGENCY CLOSED

**ACRONYM KEY:**

AH = After Hour Program      GH = Group Home  
 DH = Day Habilitation        HM = Hudson Milestones  
 DSS = Day Support Services    RES = Residential Services  
 EIS = Early Intervention Services    WRP = Weekend Respite Program

*It's hard to forget someone who gave us so much to remember — R.I.P.*



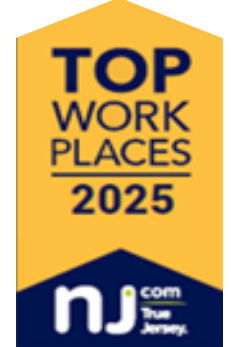
*Jan F.*



*Arlene R.*

### AND WE DID IT AGAIN...2 YEARS IN A ROW!!!

Hudson Milestones was selected as a 2025 New Jersey Top Workplace, back to back winner!



To donate, simply visit us on the web

<http://www.hudsonmilestones.org/donations/>



#### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Interested candidates email resumes to [hmrecruiting@hudsonmilestones.org](mailto:hmrecruiting@hudsonmilestones.org)

FOR AVAILABLE POSITIONS VISIT

[www.hudsonmilestones.org/employment-opportunities](http://www.hudsonmilestones.org/employment-opportunities)



## HUDSON MILESTONES

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