



# THE MILE POST

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

## CONTINUOUSLY GROWING

From the Desk of the  
Chief Executive  
Officer



Growth is not measured solely by the number of individuals we serve, but by the quality of services we provide and the impact we create. As we continue to welcome new participants into our programs, we remain focused on person-centered supports, innovation, and continuous improvement.

Equally important is our commitment to employee retention and workforce development. Our employees are the foundation of our success. By fostering a positive workplace culture, investing in professional growth, and recognizing the contributions of our team members, we are creating an environment where talented professionals can thrive and build long-term careers. This past June, we celebrated employees who have dedicated their work to Hudson Milestones for 30, 20, 10 and 5 years of longevity service.

Compliance and operational excellence remain at the forefront of our efforts. Maintaining regulatory standards is not simply a requirement—it is a reflection of our commitment to accountability, safety, integrity, and quality. We will continue to strengthen our systems, monitor performance, and embrace best practices that support a highly reliable organization.

As we look ahead, I am excited about the opportunities before us. Together, we will continue to grow responsibly, innovate thoughtfully, and remain steadfast in our mission of providing exceptional services that improve lives and strengthen our communities.

Thank you for your dedication, partnership, and commitment to excellence.

## 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 24, 2026 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 2027. Ads can be viewed/purchased at [View Tribute Ads | Hudson Milestones Tribute Journal 2026](#).

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 were re-elected for FY27-FY29 at the Triennial Membership Meeting of Hudson Milestones, held on June 17, 2026. These officers will continue to lead Hudson Milestones during a time with particularly challenging issues needing to be addressed.

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# DINNER DANCE 2026



## BUILDING A STRONGER FUTURE THROUGH PLANNING, TECHNOLOGY, COMPLIANCE, AND SAFETY

*Jose Rosario, Director of Finance & Operations*

As nonprofit organizations continue to navigate an increasingly complex environment, it is essential that we remain focused on the systems and practices that support long-term success. Within Finance and Operations, our commitment extends beyond daily business functions—we are dedicated to building a resilient organization that can thrive well into the future. **OUR STAFF ARE THE HUB OF THE AGENCY!**

One of the most important initiatives we continue to strengthen is **succession planning**. Effective succession planning ensures that institutional knowledge, leadership capabilities, and critical operational functions are preserved and transferred to future leaders. By identifying and developing talent throughout the organization, we create opportunities for growth while safeguarding continuity of services for the individuals and communities we support.

Workplace technology also remains a key driver of organizational excellence. Investing in modern systems, cybersecurity, data management, and process automation allows us to work more efficiently, improve communication, and make informed decisions. Technology is not simply a tool—it is a strategic asset that enhances our ability to fulfill our mission while supporting employees in their daily work.

Equally important is our commitment to maintaining and exceeding regulatory standards. Compliance is more than meeting minimum requirements; it reflects our dedication to accountability, transparency, and quality. Through ongoing policy reviews, staff training, internal monitoring, and continuous improvement efforts, we strive to uphold the highest standards of operational excellence and stewardship.

Finally, workplace safety remains a shared responsibility and a cornerstone of our organizational culture. We are committed to providing a safe and secure environment for employees, individuals served, visitors, and community partners. By promoting awareness, preparedness, and proactive risk management, we strengthen our ability to prevent incidents and respond effectively when challenges arise.

Together, succession planning, technology advancement, regulatory excellence, and safety preparedness form the foundation of a strong and sustainable organization. As we look toward the future, Finance and Operations will continue to champion these priorities to ensure our nonprofit remains resilient, innovative, and mission-focused for years to come.

To donate, simply visit us on the web

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



## BEYOND RESIDENTIAL AND DAY HABILITATION SERVICES: EXPLORING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES IN NEW JERSEY

*Donna Dolan, Director of Compliance*

Many families are aware of Residential Services through the Community Care Program and Day Habilitation Services through the Supports Program. However, New Jersey offers a wide range of additional services and supports that individuals with disabilities and their families can access throughout their lives.

### Services for Children

#### **New Jersey Early Intervention System (NJEIS)**

The New Jersey Department of Health, Division of Family Health Services, operates the New Jersey Early Intervention System (NJEIS). This program provides services and supports for infants and toddlers from birth to age three who have developmental delays or disabilities.

Website: <https://www.nj.gov/health/fhs/eis/families/>

#### **Children's System of Care (CSOC)**

The New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) Children's System of Care (CSOC) assists children and youth with developmental and intellectual disabilities, behavioral health needs, and their families by connecting them to appropriate services and supports.

Website: <http://www.performcarenj.org/families/disability/index.aspx>

### Services for Adults

#### **Division of Disability Services (DDS)**

The New Jersey Division of Disability Services serves as a single point of entry for individuals seeking information about disability-related programs, services, and resources available throughout the state.

Website: <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dds/home/>

*(Cont'd...)*

*(Cont'd from Beyond Residential...)*

#### **Division of Aging Services (DoAS)**

The Division of Aging Services provides programs and resources that support older adults, individuals with disabilities, and their caregivers in maintaining independence and quality of life.

Website: <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/doas/home>

#### **Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS)**

The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) helps individuals with disabilities prepare for, obtain, and maintain employment through vocational counseling, training, job placement assistance, and other employment-related services.

Website: [https://careerconnections.nj.gov/careerconnections/plan/foryou/disable/vocational\\_rehabilitation\\_services.shtml](https://careerconnections.nj.gov/careerconnections/plan/foryou/disable/vocational_rehabilitation_services.shtml)

Understanding the full range of available resources can help individuals and families access valuable supports at every stage of life. If you are unsure which program may best meet your needs, consider reaching out to these agencies directly for guidance and additional information.

### MEET OUR NEW ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Hello my name is Jaime Berman and I am excited to join the Hudson Milestones organization. I bring 18 years of experience in the human services field, including 15 years in leadership and supervisory roles. My strong commitment and passion for supporting individuals has driven my career growth. I value teamwork to create supportive environments for both the individuals we serve and the staff. As Assistant Director I look forward to collaborating with the team to continue providing exceptional services for the residential program.



## DEVELOPMENTAL INTERVENTION

*Samantha Pineda, Child Development Specialist*

Early Intervention services are provided to families for children birth to three years old with developmental delays/ disabilities. These services use play-based learning to promote children's development while building independence, preparing for school, and coaching families in strategies that encourage their child's progress through everyday routines.

My journey began when I earned my bachelor's degree in health science with a concentration in communication disorders. Working with children has always been a passion of mine, and I am grateful to play a meaningful role in supporting their growth and development in the early stages of their lives. For the past year, I have had the opportunity to work with Hudson Milestones Early Intervention program as a Child Development Specialist. In that time, I gained valuable knowledge through mentorship, collaboration, and hands-on experience working with children and families.

I am excited to share that I will be entering a new phase at graduate school, pursuing my goal of becoming a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist. I'm looking forward to furthering my education while continuing to support my Early Intervention families. As I study to transition from Child Development Specialist to Speech-Language Pathologist, I am eager to continue learning, growing, and expanding my experience in Early Intervention through my career with Hudson Milestones.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH FROM EARLY INTERVENTION & RESPITE

*Jasmine Overton, EI/Respite Coordinator*

Being part of a community is a big deal at Hudson Milestones, and a key part of our mission is providing our community with resources, support, and services. If you're reading this, you're part of our Hudson Milestones community, and we appreciate you!

To grow our community, we're going outside! This means attending parent appreciation days, hosting information tables at resource fairs, and visiting schools around Hudson County. To share our mission with the community we've given a presentation to the Hudson County Children's Interagency Coordinating Council (CIACC) and attended Parent Appreciation Day at Joseph H. Brensinger Elementary School (PS#17). During these events we share information on all the amazing programs and events Hudson Milestones has to offer from Early Intervention to Residential, to The Dinner Dance, Musical Milestones, and the Arena.

Our next community outreach event is "Together We Grow" in Lincoln Park, hosted by the Hudson County CIACC's Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities subcommittee. Don't forget to stop by our table and say, Hi! While we share with the community why Hudson Milestones is the place to be!

## DAY HAB 2.0

*Kathleen Ruiz, Director of Day Support Services*

Day Hab 2.0 continues to create meaningful experiences through new and exciting activities. Participants are taking a structured music class where they are learning to play instruments such as the ukulele while preparing for the Musical Milestones Concerts in August. The group will perform 2 concerts one for all clients and another for external guests. All HM employees will have the chance to attend one of the performances.

We are also continuing our fitness programs including Zumba with Alyssa and Stanlaw Fitness led by board member Mike Stanlaw. We have introduced a weekly Vitamin D Day, giving clients the opportunity to enjoy outdoor activities. Thanks to board member Pete Amadeo clients can visit the Field of Dreams or take part in other community outings of their choosing.



## EXPERIENCING LIFE WITH HUDSON MILESTONES

*Ta'shina Williams, Bayonne Day Habilitation Supervisor*

My name is Ta'Shina Williams, and I recently joined Hudson Milestones as the BDH Supervisor. Moving from Texas to New Jersey has been a big transition, but one thing that has stood out to me is the shared commitment to supporting individuals in the IDD community with dignity, respect, and genuine care.

I come from a background in ABA and residential services, with over five years of experience working alongside individuals with developmental disabilities. During my time thus far with Hudson Milestones, I have witnessed and experienced many moments of guidance with the Hudson Milestones community and the Bayonne Department of Day Habilitation Services staff. I have seen a profound level of engagement, understanding, and attention from staff to client in ways I have never seen, this included is the level of consistency and compassion from BDH staff. Clients look to staff not as authority figures or staff workers but as family. It is evident that the relationships built with the clients are meaningful and rooted in trust.

In the time I have been here, I have seen firsthand the dedication and care that make this team so special. As I continue settling into my role, I look forward to learning from the team, supporting our staff, and helping build on the strong foundation that already exists.

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS

*Kathleen Ruiz, Director of Day Support Services*

Excitement is building at Hudson Milestones as five dedicated athletes recently competed in the Special Olympics preliminary round on May 9, 2026. Their hard work and team spirit were on full display as they gave their best performances while preparing for the upcoming state competition. 2 of our competitors are seasoned athletes who have proudly represented Hudson Milestones for more than 10 years. They are a true inspiration for all through their commitment and perseverance.

This year will be especially memorable for 3 of our new athletes who will be experiencing their first overnight stay during the Special Olympics Opening Ceremonies and main events weekend on June 5. The opportunity to compete on a larger stage is an exciting milestone that reflects how far they have come. As they prepare for the big weekend the entire Hudson Milestones community is cheering them on. Whether they bring home a medal or not they are already winners in our eyes. They're going for the gold and they will always be Hudson Milestones champions.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman of the Board  
**Sally Medeiros**

Vice Chairman  
**Lynette Medeiros**

Treasurer  
**Lauren Nardini**

Secretary  
**Karen Gray**

Parliamentarian  
**Feliciano Lim**

## 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**

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.



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# UPCOMING EVENTS



JULY	3rd—AGENCY CLOSED (Independence Day) 6th—AGENCY CLOSED (Independence Day Holiday)
AUG	7th—WRP Board Game Madness 16th—PLAY Dance 22nd—WRP Bayonne Bridge Walk
SEP	7th—AGENCY CLOSED (Labor Day) 13th—PLAY Dance 18th—WRP Glow in the Dark Party 26th—WRP Lego Land American Dream Mall
OCT	2nd—WRP Apple/Pumpkin Picking 12th—AGENCY CLOSED (Columbus Day) 25th—PLAY Dance 31st—WRP Halloween Boogie Party
NOV	11th—AGENCY CLOSED (Veteran's Day) 13th—WRP Tye Dye & Mocktails 15th—PLAY Dance 21st—WRP Silent Party 26th—AGENCY CLOSED (Thanksgiving Day) 27th—AGENCY CLOSED (Thanksgiving Holiday)
DEC	5th—WRP Holiday Express 25th—AGENCY CLOSED (Christmas Day)

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



**ACRONYM KEY:**

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

**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

365-381 CLENDENNY AVENUE

JERSEY CITY, NJ 07304