



LDA  
**LIFE AND LEARNING**  
SERVICES

**EVEN STRONGER TOGETHER!**

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to present the 2014 Annual Report for The Advocacy Center and LDA Life and Learning Services. 2014 was a momentous year for us!

In January of 2014, the Boards of Directors of our two agencies voted to formally affiliate, with a full merger slated for early 2015. Both organizations saw the potential for creating a more robust capacity to better meet the needs of individuals of all ages who have disabilities and their families.

As our combined logo shows, our philosophy throughout the year was: "We Are Stronger Together". Our focus in 2014 was on building relationships and engaging staff and stakeholders in developing our identity as a new organization, all while continuing to place the highest priority on meeting the needs of people who have disabilities and their families.



You will see in the following pages that we reached the lives of thousands of people through our many programs, supports and services. 2014 was an eventful year, and set the stage for great developments in 2015, which we look forward to reporting on soon.

All the best,

Stephen G. Schwarz  
Board President, 2014

Colin Garwood  
Executive Director, 2014

CONTACT US

# 2014 ANNUAL REPORT



# 2014 in Numbers

**7,942** people participated in workshops to build knowledge and skills.

**5,851** readers received *The Bridge* newsletter.

**3,211** callers received information and technical assistance to help them advocate for themselves or a family member.

**718** people received information through outreach events.

**437** families received funding for needed goods and services through our Family Reimbursement Program.

**8** people received funding through Individual Supports & Services to assist them in living independently in the community.

**230** people worked with an advocate on complex advocacy issues, such as appropriate educational services.

**192** people worked with service coordinators to plan and coordinate supports.

**300** people participated in the “Shifting Perspectives: Strengthening Community” conference, featuring Al Condeluci, Ph.D, and Carol Blessing, LMSW, to discuss inclusion, social capital, and community.

**251** youths enjoyed activities of their choice with the one-on-one support of a Together Including Every Student (TIES) volunteer in 33 school districts.

**45** people from across New York graduated from Partners in Policymaking®, ready to create positive change in their communities.

**484** people received information and advocacy assistance from WNYADD, Inc., our affiliate agency.

**8,634** people in **57** counties received information, education, and advocacy assistance through our Parent Training & Information Center (PTIC) Community Partners:

- Long Island Advocacy Center
- Northern Regional Center for Independent Living
- Parent Network of Western New York
- Parent to Parent of the Capital District
- Westchester Independent Living Center





**52** people directed their own budgets, staff and support through Fiscal Intermediary Services.

**64** people received supports in supportive, supervised or community living settings.

**27** people received supports and services to build skills in daily living, transportation, community inclusion, self-advocacy, independent choice, and access to their community through Community Habilitation Services.

**220** people received employment supports.

**20** people were new placements in ACCES-VR Intensive.

**92%** of individuals in OPWDD extended were employed as of December 2014.

**25** people participated in LDA's Employment Track program.

**6** people in Employment Track moved to employment or were referred to ACCES-VR for job development.

**138** people worked with service coordinators to plan and coordinate supports.

**346** people received educational supports through:

- Assessment (40)
- Educational Consulting (38)
- Tutoring, Skill-building and College Coaching (56)
- Learning to Achieve Self Reliance (80)
- Education and Workforce Navigation (32)

**280** educators and other professionals and **120** parents participated in LDA's Conferences on "Helping Kids & Teens Cope with Anxiety", featuring Aureen Pinto Wagner, Ph.D.

**25** people participated in Friends Helping Friends, a group to develop self-advocacy skills and opportunities to become leaders in their communities.



# WNYADD Closes Its Doors

WNYADD, the affiliate agency of The Advocacy Center, closed its doors in 2014 after more than thirty years of providing advocacy to individuals who have disabilities and their families.

Over the years, the staff of WNYADD supported thousands of individuals and families in the region and educated thousands through workshops. Changes in the way New York's Protection and Advocacy (P&A) System was administered statewide resulted in the consolidation of P&A supports through one statewide agency and the termination of many regional agencies' funding to provide

local support. As a result, WNYADD dissolved as an organization.

Roger G. Nellist, Esq, served as an advocate, attorney, and Executive Director of WNYADD. His coworkers described Roger as compassionate, brilliant, humorous, calming, and dedicated.

Roger retired in 2015 after providing more than 30 years of service to people who have disabilities, their families, and the community.



*Thank you, Roger, for your wisdom, your energy, and your commitment to protecting the rights of individuals who have disabilities. You have made the world work better for the many lives you touched.*

## Community Partners & Collaborations

We are honored to partner with many individuals and organizations throughout the year to share information and empower people with disabilities and their families.

Al Sigi Community of Agencies  
Arc of Livingston/Wyoming Counties  
The Arc of Orleans County  
B. Thomas Golisano Foundation  
Center for Dispute Settlement  
Center for Human Services Education  
Future Care Planning Services  
Heritage Christian Services  
Holy Childhood  
Institute for Innovative Transition at URM  
Manasi Ladrigan, MD

Leadership Education in  
Neurodevelopmental and related  
Disabilities (LEND)  
Midwest RSE-TASC  
Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES  
National Coalition Building Institute  
Nazareth College  
New York State Dispute Resolution  
Association (NSYDRA)  
No Boundaries Lacrosse  
Parent Network of WNY  
Pieters Family Life Center

Roberts Wesleyan College  
Rochester City School District  
Rochester Knighthawks  
Rochester RazorSharks  
Self Advocacy Association of New York State  
(SANYSS)  
St. John Fisher College  
Stepping Stones Learning Center  
Strong Center for Developmental Disabilities  
Tourette Association  
University of Rochester  
Wayne County Department of Public Health

# 2014 Financial Highlights

## LDA, The Advocacy Center & WNYADD, Inc. For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2014

	2014	% of Total
<b><u>Revenues</u></b>		
State & County Program Contracts	\$ 2,144,756	21.0%
Federal Program Income	623,654	6.1%
Medicaid	6,664,348	65.3%
Grants - Other	125,503	1.3%
WNYADD Affiliate	128,302	1.3%
Fee for Service	168,331	1.6%
Other	129,744	1.3%
Donations & Fundraising	221,528	2.2%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 10,206,166</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>		
Program Services	\$ 8,505,898	84.1%
Affiliate Program Services	105,407	1.0%
Administration	1,355,171	13.4%
Board Governance	-	0.0%
Fundraising	148,071	1.5%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 10,114,547</b>	
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 91,619</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Financial Information extracted from the 2014 Independent Auditor's Report  
from Mengel Metzger Barr & Co., LLP

### LDA Leadership Team

Colin Garwood, Executive Director  
Amanda Hartman, Deputy Executive Director  
Jason Blackwell, Residential Services Director  
Theresa Brechue, Quality Assistance Director  
Cristy Houde, Information Technology Director  
Ida Jones, Organizational & Workforce Development Director  
Krystyna Staub, Development Director  
James Van Overbake, Finance Director

### The Advocacy Center Leadership Team

Colin Garwood, Executive Director  
Allyn Stelljes, Deputy Executive Director  
Janet Austin, Director of Individual Consumer Services  
Jenny Hutkowski, Director of Parent Training & Information  
Pam Merkle, Coordinator of Information Technology  
Joyce Steel, Director of Family Advocacy

## Funding Partners

NYS Medicaid  
NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities  
US Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs  
NYS Education Department  
United Way of Greater Rochester  
Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc.  
Cornell University, with NYS Developmental Disabilities Planning Council  
Monroe County Office of Mental Health  
NYS Developmental Disabilities Planning Council  
University of Rochester Medical Center, LEND Program  
RochesterWorks!  
Anonymous Private Foundation  
Hillside Children's Center, with NYS Office of Children and Family Services

Pluta Family Foundation  
Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation  
Glover-Crask Charitable Trust  
B. Thomas Golisano Foundation  
Wyman-Potter Foundation  
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Alstom Signaling Foundation  
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Suzanne H. Lee Trust  
NYS Commission for the Blind



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*Thank you for your dedicated service and support of our agencies and the people we serve!*

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# 2014 Individual Donors

*Thank you for your generous support of our agencies and the people we serve!*

## **\$1,000+**

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*Thank you for your generous support of our agencies and the people we serve!*

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# 2014 Individual Donors—Gifts In Kind

*Thank you for your generous support of our agencies and the people we serve!*

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 Albright-Knox Art Gallery  
 Adam Anolik  
 Laura Arrington  
 Janet Austin Cruz  
 Balance Acupuncture & Wellness Center  
 Baycreek Paddling Center  
 Biaggi's Ristorante Italiano  
 The Bird House  
 Black & Blue Steak & Crab  
 Blackfriars Theatre  
 Seneca Brashear  
 Brickwood Grill  
 Brown Hound Bistro  
 Brown's Berry Patch  
 Laura Burgart  
 Gloriela Burns  
 Century Liquor and Wines  
 Charlotte Furniture and Appliances  
 The Cheesecake Factory  
 Classified Scanning & Shredding  
 Classy Cookie & Deli  
 Kate Clemont  
 Community Arts Connection Artists  
 Debbie Curtis  
 Delmonico's Italian Steakhouse  
 Delta Sonic  
 Desiato's Deli & Subs  
 Anthony Dimonda  
 Paul DiStefano  
 Downstairs Cabaret Theatre  
 Eastern Mountain Sports  
 Issac Elliott  
 Elmgrove Discount Wine and Spirits  
 Equal=Grounds  
 Fleet Feet Sports  
 Freewheelers  
 Gallea's Tropical Greenhouse and Florist  
 Garth Fagan Dance  
 Geneva Bicycle Center  
 George Eastman House

Georgetown Liquors  
 Geva Theatre  
 George Gray  
 Greek Peak Mountain Resort  
 Harbor Town River Boat Co., Inc.  
 Hedonist Artisan Chocolates  
 Hilton Garden Inn Rochester/Pittsford  
 Home Depot  
 Hunt Hollow Ski Club  
 Jenny Hutkowski  
 Images by Gregory Schaffer  
 Imprintable Solutions, Ink  
 Inikori Dance Studio  
 Joseph Jackson  
 Perry M. Jacobstein  
 Steven A. Jarose  
 Edward Kennedy, Jr.  
 Jeffrey Levinson  
 Liberty Mutual Insurance  
 The Little  
 Locust Hill Country Club  
 The Lodge at Woodcliff  
 Clifford & Mary Lucas  
 Marketview Liquor  
 Dr. Raymond Mayewski  
 Dr. Robert McCann  
 Anne McCune  
 Memorial Art Gallery  
 The Mendon Cyclesmith  
 Bruce & Pam Merkle  
 Suzanne Nash  
 Nazareth College Arts Center  
 Nolan's Rental, Inc.  
 O'Connor Chevrolet  
 Obaida Omar  
 One World Goods  
 The Ox & Stone  
 Mike Paolotto  
 Park Ave Bike Shop  
 Park Ave Salon & Day Spa  
 Walter Parkes

Payment Processing Consultants, Inc.  
 The Pedallers Bike Shop  
 Pelican's Nest Restaurant  
 Pellegrino's Deli & Cafe  
 Photographic Landscapes  
 The Pita Pit  
 Plum Garden  
 Pomodoro Grill & Wine Bar  
 Mary Richardson  
 Rochester City Ballet  
 Rochester Fitness & Cycling  
 Rochester Knighthawks  
 Rochester Museum and Science Center  
 Rochester RazorSharks  
 Rochester Red Wings  
 Rock Ventures  
 RV&E Bike and Skate  
 Salvatore's Pizzeria  
 Sam's Club - Greece  
 Seabreeze Amusement Park  
 Seneca Park Zoo  
 Shadow Lake Golf & Racquet Club Grill & Tap Room  
 Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion State Historic Park  
 Mr. & Mrs. Shaun Speicher  
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 Stokoe Farms  
 Susan B. Anthony House  
 Swain Resort  
 Tantalos Photography  
 Tastebuds Catering  
 Towner's Bike Shop  
 Towpath Bike  
 James Van Overbake  
 Village Bakery & Cafe  
 Sheridan Vincent  
 Walmart  
 Wegmans Food Markets, Inc.  
 Annie Wells



# 2014 Donors—Organizations & Foundations

## Organizations

### \$5,000+

Faraci Lange Attorneys  
O'Connell Electric Company, Inc.

### \$1,000-4,999

Dependable Trucking  
First Niagara Financial Group  
Holley Pharmacy  
Lattimore Physical Therapy  
North American Breweries  
The ROI Companies  
Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC  
Wegmans Food Markets

### \$500-999

Barclay Damon, LLP  
The Bonadio Group  
Excellus BlueCross BlueShield  
Gray & Feldman, LLP  
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The Islamic Center of Rochester  
KeyBank  
Mason Digital, LLC  
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Once Again Nut Butter Collective, Inc.  
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Spall Management/Corporate Woods Associates, LLC  
Stokes, Visca & Company, LLP  
Titan Insurance & Employee Benefits Agency, LLC  
Upstate Special Needs Planning

### \$100-\$499

Al Sigl Community of Agencies  
Avalon Document Services  
Brighton Dental Group  
Canandaigua National Bank & Trust  
CBCS  
Charlotte Furniture and Appliances  
DeCarolus Truck Rental  
Dennie's Manufacturing Inc  
EFP Rotenberg, LLP  
EFS Auto  
Foodlink, Inc.  
Genesee-Wyoming Railroad  
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Innovative Solutions  
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Lifetime Assistance, Inc.  
MetLife Financial Group of Upstate NY  
NY State Senate 56th District Office Team  
Park Ave Bike Shop  
PUSH Fitness Center  
Social Endeavors  
Usherwood Office Technology  
Warner School/University of Rochester  
Williamsville SEPTSA

### Up to \$99

Irondequoit Police Department Sunshine Club  
Walmart Inc. Store #1744



## Foundations

### \$10,000+

B. Thomas Golisano Foundation  
Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation  
Glover-Crask Charitable Trust  
Pluta Family Foundation, Inc.  
United Way of Greater Rochester  
William G. McGowan Charitable Fund

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

The Florence M. Muller Foundation  
Jane & William Napier Charitable Lead Trust  
Wyman-Potter Foundation

### \$1,000-4,999

Fred & Floy Willmott Foundation  
P. Kenneth Dennis Foundation  
Suzanne H. Lee Trust

### up to \$1,000

Alstom Signaling Foundation  
Ames-Amzalak Memorial Trust in memory of Henry Ames, Semon Amzalak and Dan Amzalak  
Judith Lasker Kaufman Fund  
Seneca Foods Foundation  
Women's Club of Pittsford

## Memorial & Honor Gifts

In Memory of John C. Arrington  
Shirley Roat

In Memory of Your Beloved Mother (Chodosh)  
Dr. Gerald & Maxine Rosen

In Honor of Christopher Rembold and In Memory of Paul Merkle  
John & Gayle Rembold

In Memory of Alexandra Taylor Rowe  
William J. Rowe

In Memory of Ms. Julie Rosenberg  
Robert Rosenberg  
Mitchell Schmidt



# Celebration of Champions

*an evening to benefit*

## The Advocacy Center & LDA Life and Learning Services

Building on eight years of success with The Advocacy Center's Evening of Art & Jazz and LDA Life and Learning Services' Partners in Learning Luncheon, our first Celebration of Champions as partners was a night to remember!

The event was hosted at Locust Hill Country Club on Saturday, September 13, 2014. While the weather outside was blustery, more than 350 guests inside enjoyed lively company, hot music from Mambo Kings, and a spirited auction. Don Alhart and Jennifer Johnson of 13 WHAM-TV shared the podium as Emcees, and both did a remarkable job of presenting the heartwarming stories of our

Community Awards recipients. Senator Ted O'Brien, Senator Joseph Robach, and Assemblyman Mark Johns were on hand to recognize honorees from their districts with proclamations. Senator Patrick Gallivan sent a proclamation for his constituent.

Thanks to the support of corporate and private sponsors, as well as event guests, our two agencies raised more than \$38,000. Funds raised this night will support critical programs at both The Advocacy Center and LDA Life and Learning Services. Thank you to everyone who made this year's event a success!



### Community Award Winners

Community Impact Award

**Mariellen Cupini**

Stepping Stones Learning Center

Education Award

**Michael Hohman**

Founders Award

**Deb and Rich Vanderpool**

Self Advocacy Award

**James Britt**

Youth Award

**Curtis John "CJ" Clemont**

Outstanding Community Partner Award

**Walter Parkes**

Chairman of the Board of O'Connell  
Electric Company

### Champion Sponsors

**Faraci Lange**  
ATTORNEYS



**O'CONNELL**  
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# 2014 Celebration of Champions

## Thank you to our many volunteers!

Noor Abushagur  
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Jason Blackwell  
Molly Blackwell  
Carrie Burkin  
Andrew Decker  
Victoria Decker  
April Dixon  
Courtney Dolan  
Matthew Giordano  
Gretchen Jackson  
Jeff Jackson  
Joseph Jackson  
Christa Knaak  
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Seneca Brashear  
Laura Burgart  
Colin Garwood  
Perry Jacobstein  
Raquel Laude  
David Long  
Mary Richardson  
Stephen G. Schwarz  
Jean Sciacchitano  
Krystyna Staub  
Lisa Stephenson  
Mark Wolcott  
Rick Wright  
The Community Awards Committee



# Looking Ahead to 2015



become



## CONTACT US

**Address:** 1650 South Avenue, Suite 200  
Rochester, NY 14620

**Location:** The Wolk Campus of the  
Al Sigl Community of Agencies

**Phone:** 585-546-1700 or 800-650-4967 (Toll free in NY)

**On the web:** [www.starbridgeinc.org](http://www.starbridgeinc.org)

