

**Nothing More,
Nothing Less
For All People
With Disabilities**

Access to Independence of Cortland County, Inc.

ACCESS NEWS

Summer 2010 NUMBER XXV

ATI Proudly Announces Strategic Staffing Changes

Earlier this summer Access to Independence implemented a series of strategic staffing decisions that grew the agency's paid staff resources by more than 30%.

In early July, ATI hired two new staff. Audrey Jones took over the Administrative Assistant reins of the Agency's Architectural Barrier Programs. Audrey joins the agency with a wide array of experience in the construction industry and she is currently working towards an Associate's Degree in Construction Technology.

Rayne Butler also joined the ATI team in early July as Medicaid Waiver Service Coordinator. Rayne recently completed her training to provide Service Coordination services to consumers of the agency's Nursing Home Transition & Diversion (NHTD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Medicaid Waiver programs. Rayne is gearing up to complete training to provide Independent Living Skills Training services to consumers, as well.

Also in July, ATI transitioned Karen Sanford into a new role as a Clerical Assistant. At the same time, ATI hired long-time volunteer, Phyllis Schriefer, to serve as a Clerical Assistant, as well. Both Karen and Phyllis now provide a variety of clerical and program support.

At the end of June, Sharon Radley, Medicaid Waiver Service Coordinator, transitioned from being part-time to full-time. In addition to continuing to provide Service Coordination services, Sharon will complete training to provide Independent Living Skills Training services, as well.

In early June, ATI transitioned a portion of Aaron Baier's time, as Youth Transition/Work Readiness Coordinator, to ATI's new Housing Education initiative. (See page 5.) In that capacity, Aaron will collaborate with local housing stakeholders to develop and implement an education campaign on critical housing issues for people with disabilities and the elderly in Cortland County.

2010 ADA Celebration Success!

More than 300 people participated in one or more of the seven events that Access to Independence (ATI) held throughout the month of July in recognition of the 20th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The July 17, ADA Celebration picnic, held at the Courthouse Park, was the most successful ever, with more than 140 attendees! Leading up to that event, more than 50 individuals participated in a "Stroll-and-Roll" from ATI's offices to the Courthouse Park.

Other events included the airing of a film on voting rights, an inclusive art exhibit, an ADA training, a Chamber of Commerce luncheon, and a reception at the Homer Center for the Arts.

This year's events would not have happened without the generosity of area businesses. Many thanks to all of you! (See page 3.)

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

Systems & Policy Changes.....	2
ADA Celebration Sponsors	3
ADA Celebration Photos	4
Housing Initiative	5
With Help From A Friend.....	6
Ticket-to-Work.....	6
2010 NDEAM.....	7
Youth Leadership	7
Affordable Care Act	8
Keeping Students Safe	9
Universal Design.....	10

New Faces...

Left: Audrey Jones is ATI's new Architectural Barrier Programs Administrative Assistant.

Right: Rayne Butler is ATI's Medicaid Waiver Service Coordinator.

Welcome!



Nothing More, Nothing Less: Influencing Systems and Policy Change

As Cortland County's foremost disability resource, Access to Independence (ATI) empowers people to lead independent lives in their community and strives to open doors to full participation and access for all. In addition to providing resources and advocacy to individuals with disabilities, ATI is dedicated to actively pursuing and influencing public policy and system changes that will lead to full equality for people with disabilities.

This past July, we celebrated the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). That landmark legislation aimed to ensure the civil rights of people with disabilities. It established a set of mandates that aimed to eradicate the discrimination of people with disabilities. While the ADA has indeed expanded opportunities for people with disabilities in America over the past 20 years, unfortunately the full promise of this legislation will only be achieved if the public remains committed to efforts to fully implement it.

Since its grassroots inception, ATI has consistently worked to engage public policy makers to enact and fund laws that aim to promote the civil rights of people with disabilities. One way ATI has performed this work is through educational efforts. ATI continuously works to increase community awareness of disability issues through outreaches, newsletters, special events, and trainings.

Another way ATI contributes to systems and policy change is through direct advocacy. For example, over the past seven years, ATI has implemented a consumer-driven systems advocacy network. During that same time, ATI has coordinated one of the State's 19 disability advocacy sites (Statewide Systems Advocacy Network – SSAN). ATI

has built a local disability advocacy network of more than 80 volunteers who take action on pressing disability issues, consistent with a State Disability Priority Agenda.

ATI's volunteer disability advocacy network increases public policy-maker awareness of disability issues through advocacy actions. Actions include making phone calls and sending letters to local, state and federal leaders to urge their support of key disability legislation. Action also includes attending forums and public hearings to provide testimony, and participating in protests to call attention to serious matters.

The effectiveness of the SSAN has been tremendous. While past accomplishments have included the passage of legislation creating the Most Integrated Setting Coordinating Council (MISCC) and the Nursing Home Transition and Diversion (NHTD) Medicaid waiver program, this year has proven to be one of the most successful ever. Access to Independence advocates celebrated several years of efforts when the NYS Senate passed key disability legislation that would require state law to conform with existing requirements under the ADA.

In addition to advocating for policy and system changes at the state level, Access to Independence also actively works at the local level to influence change. Access to Independence staff serves on the Boards of Directors for several area organizations, including Catholic Charities, the Cortland Youth Bureau, and the Cortland Area Communities that Care Coalition, among others. Access to Independence also works closely with the City Common Council and County Legislature as issues arise. Currently staff serves on the County's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and is working to improve the availability

of accessible transportation for people with disabilities in the County.

Staff also serves on the Boards of Directors for several state and national organizations, as well, including the National Youth Leadership Network (NYLN), NYS YOUTH POWER!, the New York Association on Independent Living (NYAIL), the New York State Independent Living Council (NYSILC), and the Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped (CBVH). Through each of these affiliations, ATI pursues ongoing dialogue to promote the civil rights of people with disabilities.

For more information on ATI's public policy and systems change initiatives, or to learn how you can become a volunteer disability advocate, contact Chad W. Underwood, by phone: 753-7363, or by email: cwunderwood@ati.cortland.org.

ATI Wants You!

ATI is currently accepting applications from individuals with and without disabilities to serve on its Board of Directors.

For more information, contact:

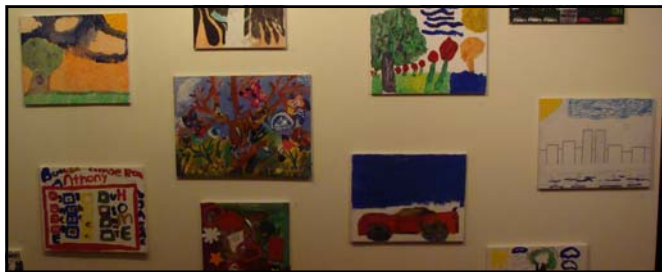
**Mary E. Ewing,
Executive Director
Phone: 753-7363**

Email: mewing@aticortland.org

**Visit our website at:
www.aticortland.org**

**Email us at:
info@aticortland.org**

**Call us at:
(607) 753-7363**



Thank You 2010 ADA Celebration Sponsors!

ADA Sponsor: First Niagara Bank

Mary Robillard, AVP, Area Sales Manager/Branch Manager
 Lisa Morgan, Branch Manager, Homer Office
 Walter Allen, AVP, Branch Manager, Cortlandville Office

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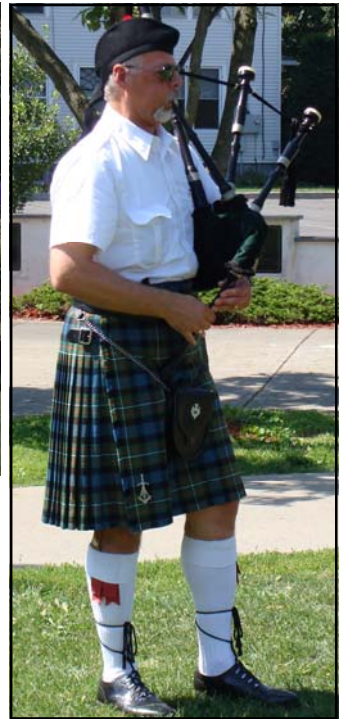
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Also Thanks To:

Cornell University-ILR, Cortland City Youth Bureau,
 Cortland Regional Sports Council, Grand Rental,
 Homer Center for the Arts & Schwann's Ice Cream



Eyes on the Future:

Vision Support Group

**1st Thursday monthly
5:00 - 6:00 pm
ATI Community Room**

Get support from peers with similar vision barriers.

Learn about assistive tools and technology.

For more information, contact Aaron Baier by phone: 753-7363, or by email: abaier@aticortland.org

CRAFT CLASSES

Every Thursday

1:00 - 3:00 pm

ATI Community Room

For more information, please call (607) 753-7363.

COMPUTER CLASSES

Basic: Mondays

Advanced: Thursdays

2:00 - 3:00 pm

ATI Computer Lab

For more information, please call (607) 753-7363.

Smart & Healthy Cooking

Discuss healthy eating habits & learn to prepare quick and easy meals!

Sept. 7 - Oct. 26 (Tuesdays)

ATI's Accessible Kitchen

For more information, please call (607) 753-7363.

ATI Launches Housing Education Campaign

In April, Access to Independence (ATI) launched a 15-month Housing Education Campaign in collaboration with the New York Association on Independent Living (NYAIL). ATI is one of 19 Independent Living Centers from across the State to receive funding for the project through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The purpose of ATI's Housing Education Campaign is to: (1) educate stakeholders about the current housing crisis in Cortland County; (2) to expand and preserve affordable, accessible, and integrative housing; and (3) to facilitate discussion about the issues and possible solutions.

Cortland County's housing stakeholders include: (1) residents with disabilities, seniors, and individuals at or below poverty level; (2) housing developers and landlords; (3) government agencies and legislative bodies; and (4) local housing service providers.

In March, ATI staff collaborated with leaders of Cortland's Catholic Charities, the Cortland Housing Assistance Council (CHAC), and the Office of the Aging, to attend a two-day, "Housing Policy Academy" training in Albany. That event aimed to promote the development of educational strategies to address the need to increase housing resources for people with disabilities and seniors.

On August 10th, ATI attended another training, entitled "Housing 101." At that workshop, staff gathered additional resources to further develop its capacity to implement the Housing Education initiative. The day-long training included more detailed information about housing needs, housing programs,

solutions to issues, and resources for building an effective education campaign.

Over the next 12 months, ATI aims to further its Housing Education Initiative on several fronts.

- ATI will provide written or oral testimony at hearings of State, county, city, or town legislative bodies, government agencies, and planning and zoning review boards to preserve or expand affordable, accessible, and integrated housing.
- ATI will aim to expand the knowledge of people with disabilities living in the community, including public-housing residents with disabilities, regarding housing rights, options and resources that will enable them to secure or improve their independent living arrangement.
- ATI will sponsor community-education activities and/or meetings to educate community stakeholders on the needs and desires of people with disabilities for more affordable, accessible and integrated housing.
- ATI will participate in meetings and events that offer an opportunity to inform housing developers, community development corporations, neighborhood associations and other stakeholders about the housing needs and concerns of people with disabilities and how to address them.

For more information on ATI's housing education initiative, contact Aaron Baier by phone at: (607) 753-7363, or by email at: abaier@aticortland.org.

“With Help From a Friend, You Can Reach the Stars!”

The Access to Independence (ATI) Peer Mentoring Program (PMP) aims to provide peer support, one-on-one training, job shadowing and career exploration opportunities to help individuals successfully transition into competitive community employment.

Kari joined the PMP as a mentee in 2007. Her primary goals were to build self-confidence, learn new vocational skills and receive support from her peers. At the time, Kari was working to secure her local high school diploma and held aspirations of working with horses and other animals.

Kari began meeting with her Mentor on a regular basis. Kari’s Mentor helped her with school work, to improve her writing skills, and to set realistic and measurable goals.

Kari attended PMP workshops and support groups to network and gain support from her peers. At the same time, she received valuable information and tools to help her hone her employment skills. Kari participated in job shadowing and career exploration opportunities at Hopko Design and Price Chopper.



She even volunteered at a local hospital. Kari attended several of ATI’s Employment Conference workshops where she had the unique opportunity to network with employers, participate in interactive workshops, and to listen to how other individuals with disabilities had successfully secured employment.

Kari successfully completed her high school work and continued on to college. She attended SUNY Morrisville’s Equine Science School for one semester.

During her time at SUNY Morrisville, Kari’s eyes were opened to a new world of experiences. She learned that life after high school was very different. To her dismay, Kari experienced difficulties with her studies. She also experienced some social distress. While Kari had some very “freeing” experiences, she found that she needed to be careful, set limits, and balance her personal and academic lives.

Despite her negative experiences, Kari took her lessons, and pressed ahead. Currently, Kari is working toward a Liberal Arts degree from Tompkins Cortland Community College. Kari is now taking her education more seriously and she continues to seek out new opportunities. She is even considering some opportunities to study abroad.

“I guess I just needed to slow down,” said Kari. “It helps that my family is close by.” Kari continues to seek assistance from the school, her family, and continues to utilize the PMP as she furthers her education. Kari has found her pace and is well on her way to achieve her goals.

Keep up the great work Kari!

Don’t Forget—Ticket-to-Work!

If you are a person receiving SSI or SSDI benefits and are over age 18 and under 65, Social Security sent you information regarding the *Ticket-to-Work* program. This program was established by Social Security to assist people receiving disability benefits to obtain services from an Employment Network (EN) or State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agency.

Ticket-to-Work is a voluntary program that can be the first step in utilizing the many work incentives created by Social Security to help you go back to work.

Once you make the decision to go back to work, you can take your ticket to any EN or state VR agency that provides services in our area. Once the EN or state VR agency accepts your ticket, they may begin to provide employment, VR, and other support services to help you obtain, regain, maintain, or even advance in your job endeavors.

There is no cost for any of these services. If you are not satisfied with the services from one agency, you have the right to give your ticket to a different agency to provide services. More importantly, once you begin receiving services, Social Security will postpone Continuing Disability Reviews (CDR) until you are no longer enrolled with an EN or a state VR agency.

For more information, contact Sue Lewis, Independent Living Coordinator and Certified Benefits Counselor, by phone: (607) 753-7363, or by email: slewis@aticortland.org.



Above: Kari, a former PMP participant is well on her way to gaining the skills she needs to become employed!

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2010 NDEAM: Talent Has No Boundaries!

Access to Independence (ATI) has begun planning for this October's annual celebration of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). This year's theme is: *Talent Has No Boundaries: Workforce Diversity INCLUDES Workers With Disabilities.*

Once again this year, ATI is collaborating with Cortland Works Career Center (CWCC), J M Murray Center (JMMC), Employment Connection, Workforce Investment Board (WIB), and the Office of Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities (VESID) to recognize and promote the employment of people with disabilities by way of a series of inclusive events throughout the month of October.

ATI will jump-start this year's NDEAM celebration with a Reception on October 1. ATI will host the reading of a NYS Proclamation declaring October 2010 as Disability Employment Awareness Month. The event will also recognize the progress made toward equal employment opportunity and the successes of individuals with disabilities who have achieved community employment.

ATI will host its 2010 Annual Employment Conference on October 15th, 22nd and 29th. Consistent with this year's NDEAM theme, the Conference will feature interactive workshops that focus on the many talents and abilities that people with disabilities bring to the

workforce. In addition to the workshops, each conference session will feature managers from area businesses. Each session will also feature individuals with disabilities who have successfully secured and maintained community employment. One session will feature representatives of the area's various employment and vocational service-providing agencies.

ATI will also host two trainings on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). On October 12, Fran Pizzola, ATI Community Education Coordinator, will facilitate a workshop titled, "Hidden Disabilities: The Legal, Practical, and Human Issues". On October 26, Pizzola will facilitate a second workshop titled, "Serving Customers with Disabilities: Reaching Out and Expanding Your Market." Both workshops are free and open to the public.

On October 20th, ATI will collaborate with Cortland County Schools to facilitate this year's Disability Mentoring Day (DMD). Each year, on DMD, area youth are matched with a local business to participate in a job-shadowing experience.

For more information, or to sign-up for any of ATI's 2010 NDEAM events, contact Aaron T. Baier, Youth Transition / Work Readiness Coordinator, by phone: (607) 753-7363, or by email: abaier@aticortland.org.

Youth Leadership Forum

On August 10, Aaron Baier, ATI's Youth Transition / Work Readiness Coordinator, joined more than 20 young leaders from across the State to attend the YOUTH POWER! 2010 Statewide Youth Leadership Forum in Albany. The three-day conference, themed "Together We Stand for Change," provided participants with an opportunity to network and to learn about advocacy and activism.

This year's Youth Leadership Forum featured an agenda packed with interactive workshops and guest speakers. Daniel Hazen, a human rights advocate, spoke about the U.N. International Convention on Rights for Persons with Disabilities. Additional speakers included representatives from the national activism group ADAPT.

Representatives from the Office of Mental Health, Office of Children and Family Services, Office of Persons with Developmental Disabilities, and the NYS Education Department attended the event as well.

YOUTH POWER! is seeking new members to use their voices to influence policies, regulations and laws. For more information, call Stephanie Orlando, Director of YOUTHPOWER! at: (518) 432-0333 x21. You may also contact Aaron Baier, by phone: (607) 753-7363, or by email: abaier@aticortland.org.

Cortland Youth In Power Group

Achieve more with your abilities...learn how to succeed with your disability!

Last Wednesday, Monthly - 4:00 - 5:00 pm

CYB - Teen Center, 35 Port Watson Street

For more information, call (607) 753-7363.

ATI Peer Mentoring Program

Every Thursday from 3:00 - 4:00 pm

ATI Community Room

For more information, contact Aaron Baier

by phone at: (607) 753-7363,

or by email at: abaier@aticortland.org.

Update on the Affordable Care Act: Some Answers to Your Questions!

In our last newsletter, we provided readers with a summary of the provisions of the **Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)**, which was signed into law by President Barack Obama on March 23, 2010. Since that time, we have received many questions from you about what exactly it means for your particular situations. Below are answers to some of your questions on the impact the new law will have on you over the next few years.

1. Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan.
 - ◆ New plan will provide a range of health benefits, including primary, specialty and hospital care, as well as prescription drugs for people who are unable to obtain health insurance due to a pre-existing condition.
 - ◆ Eligible residents of New York will be able to apply for coverage through the state's Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan program, run by Group Health Incorporated.
 - ◆ To qualify for coverage, you must be a U.S. citizen or national, or be lawfully present in the US. You must have been uninsured for at least the last six months before you apply. You must have had a problem getting insurance due to a pre-existing condition.
 - ◆ Premiums will be approximately \$400 - 500/month plus deductibles and out-of-pocket limits.
 - ◆ For more information, contact the NYS Dept. of Insurance, Consumer Services Bureau at: 800-342-3746.
2. Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Donut Hole.
 - ◆ In June 2010, an estimated 4 million seniors and people with disabilities who hit the donut hole will began receiving a \$250 check to help cover this expense.
 - ◆ In 2011, if you hit the prescription drug donut hole, you will get a 50% discount on brand-name drugs. Every year thereafter, you will pay less for your prescription drugs in the donut hole until there's complete coverage of the donut hole in 2020.
3. Denial of Coverage to Children Based on Pre-Existing Conditions.
 - ◆ The new law includes new rules to prevent insurance companies from denying coverage to children under the age of 19 due to a pre-existing condition. This is effective for health plan years beginning on or after September 23, 2010 for new plans and existing group plans.
4. Insurance Companies Rescinding Coverage.
 - ◆ In the past, insurance companies could search for an error on a customer's application and use this error to deny payment for services when he or she got sick. The new law makes this illegal.
5. Lifetime Limits and Annual Limits on Insurance Coverage.
 - ◆ Insurance companies will be prohibited from imposing lifetime dollar limits on essential benefits, like hospital stays. This is effective for plan years beginning on or after September 23, 2010.
 - ◆ Insurance companies' use of annual dollar limits on the amount of insurance coverage a patient may receive will be restricted for new plans in the individual market and all group plans. In 2014, the use of annual dollar limits on essential benefits like hospital stays will be banned for new plans in the individual market and all group plans.
6. Covering More People for Medicaid.
 - ◆ States will be able to receive federal matching funds for covering some additional low-income individuals and families for whom federal funds were not previously available under Medicaid.
7. Increases access to services at home and in the community.
 - ◆ The new Community First Choice Option allows states to offer home and community-based services to individuals through Medicaid, rather than institutional care in nursing homes effective, October 1, 2011.
8. Free Preventive Care for Seniors.
 - ◆ The law provides certain free preventive services, such as annual wellness visits and personalized prevention plans for seniors on Medicare, effective January 1, 2011.
9. Voluntary Options for Long-Term Care Insurance
 - ◆ The law creates a voluntary long-term care insurance program called CLASS to provide cash benefits to adults who acquire a disability.

For more information on how the **Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)** might effect you, please contact Sue Lewis, Independent Living Coordinator and Certified Benefits Counselor, by phone: (607) 753-7363, or by email: slewis@aticortland.org.

Keeping All Students Safe: End Seclusion & Restraint!

A recent report by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) revealed hundreds of cases in which children were abused as a result of misuses of seclusion and restraint in public and private schools. Many of these interventions were used disproportionately on some of our most vulnerable students – children with disabilities, including those with emotional or behavioral disorders.

Unlike facilities that receive federal funding, there are no federal laws that address how and when seclusion or restraint can be used in schools. State regulations and oversight vary greatly and have often failed to protect children. Furthermore, many states do not provide any guidance or assistance regarding behavioral interventions.

There are many alternatives to restraint and seclusion, including positive behavioral intervention and supports and use of other de-escalation techniques. Efforts to reduce restraint and seclusion should be part of a strategy for school-wide safety and should include the development of district-wide policies, training for all educational staff, crisis preparation, inter-agency cooperation and student/parent participation. Proactive approaches need to be used that are safe, effective, and evidence-based.

In March of this year, our area's Congressman, Michael Arcuri, joined with 261 other Members of the U.S. House of Representatives to pass the **Keeping All Students Safe Act (HR 4247/S. 2860)**. This legislation would prevent and reduce the use of physical restraint and seclusion in schools. The legislation is the first national effort to address this problem and would

ensure the safety of all students and school staff. Specifically, the act would establish minimum standards that:

- (1) prohibit school personnel from managing student behavior by using any mechanical or chemical restraint or physical restraint that compromises student health and safety;
- (2) prohibit such personnel from using physical restraint or seclusion, unless such measures are required to eliminate an imminent danger of physical injury to the student or others;
- (3) require States to ensure that a sufficient number of school personnel receive state-approved crisis intervention training and certification in effective student behavioral management techniques;
- (4) prohibit physical restraint or seclusion from being written into a student's education plan, individual safety plan, behavioral plan, or individual education program as a planned intervention; and
- (5) require schools to establish procedures to notify parents in a timely manner if physical restraint or seclusion is imposed on their child.

The **Keeping All Students Safe Act** is currently pending action in the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Please join me in urging Senator Charles Schumer (1-202-224-6542) and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (1-202-224-4451) to support this meaningful legislation and to urge its adoption prior to the end of the current legislative cycle.

For more information on Access to Independence's public policy and systems change initiatives, or to learn how you can become a local volunteer disability advocate, please call (607) 753-7363.



NEW YORK ASSOCIATION ON
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*The 20th Anniversary of the
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2010 Conference
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Barrier-Free + Accessible Design + Assistive Technology = Universal Design: Part IV

One of the cornerstone programs for Access to Independence of Cortland County, Inc. (ATI) is its Architectural Barrier Program. That program aims to increase the physical accessibility of homes and businesses in the community.

While ATI manages a number of different architectural barrier programs, they are all facilitated under the umbrella concept known as Universal Design. Universal design means that all products and environments should be usable by everyone, to the greatest extent possible, regardless of age, ability or situation. It relates to the old or young, no matter what ability, whether excellent or limited, and in ideal or difficult circumstances. Simply put, universal design accommodates limitations. ATI lives by the Universal Design concept in each and every one of its projects.

Over the past five years, ATI has provided ramps, home modifications and assistive technology solutions to more than 100 individuals through a variety of funding sources. Since the 2006 start of the agency's DHCR *Access to Home* program (\$700,000 in funding from the State's Department of Housing

and Community Renewal), ATI has completed a total of 65 projects, including the installation of ramps and electric wheelchair lifts and the renovation of bathrooms, kitchens and bedrooms. The program has also funded a variety of other accessibility modifications, including installation of grab bars, interior door modifications, windows, floors, and a fire alarm system for a person with a hearing impairment. The program enables people who have disabilities to stay at home rather than have to move to a nursing facility. We hope to secure additional funding for this program in the coming year.

During the same time period, ATI has completed nearly 20 smaller home modification projects throughout the community using nearly \$40,000 in funds raised from a variety of foundations, including the J. M. McDonald Foundation.

In 2009, ATI was awarded a five year, \$750,000 grant from the Central New York State Developmental Disabilities Service Office (DDSO) to provide environmental home modifications and assistive technology to qualified individuals with developmental disabilities.

Since that time, we have completed more than 30 of these projects!

In 2009, ATI was also approved to provide Environmental Modification services (accessibility construction) on a fee-for-service basis for qualified participants in New York's Nursing Home Transition and Diversion (NHTD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Medicaid Waiver programs. While we have only completed a handful of projects through this program, we are currently managing a potential caseload of more than 25 projects.

Please remember, accessibility in the home is not just for people with disabilities. If you think about it, home accessibility is important for all people from youth to seniors; remember the Universal Design concept!

For more information on ATI's various architectural barrier programs, including our accessibility construction and aging-in-place services, please contact Rob Ferri, Architectural Barrier Programs Coordinator, by phone at: 753-7363, or by email at: rferri@aticortland.org. You may also visit our website: www.aticortland.org. Accessibility is what we do!

Got rent?

The Cortland Housing Authority has a rental assistance program that may be able to help you!!

The Section 8 Housing Program helps qualified people meet their monthly rent bills by paying a portion of their rent directly to their landlord.

Interested persons may pick up applications at the Housing Authority offices located at 42 Church Street or 51 Port Watson Street Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm or

Call 607-753-9364 or 607-753-1771 to request to have an application sent by mail



CORTLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Cortland Housing Authority has 380 high quality apartments available in its senior/ disabled and family developments throughout Cortland County. A single person could earn up to \$31,800, and a family of five up to \$49,100 and still qualify to live in one of our apartments.



We have senior/disabled **efficiency** and **one bedroom** apartments located in the City of Cortland. We also have **one bedroom** senior/disabled units in Homer, McGraw, Marathon, Truxton and Cincinnatus.

Our large family apartments (**3, 4 and 5 bedrooms**) are located in the City of Cortland. We also have **two and three bedroom** family apartments scattered throughout the county in Homer, Truxton, McGraw, Cincinnatus and the City of Cortland.

There are short waiting lists for apartments in most of our developments.



Call 607-753-1771 today for an application.

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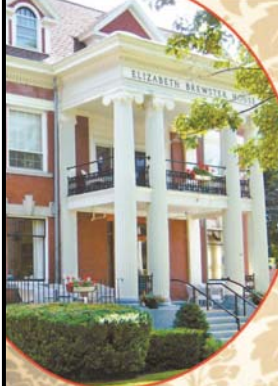
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