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Nothing Less  
For All People  
With Disabilities*

**Access to Independence of Cortland County, Inc.**

# ACCESS NEWS

**Fall 2017**

**NUMBER LIV**

## ATI Gears up for it's 20th Anniversary

As we embark on our 20<sup>th</sup> year of service to the Cortland Community, we can't help but to reflect on the progress our community has made to help make independent living a reality for so many people with disabilities.

Over the past 20 years, Access to Independence has evolved from a one-person volunteer office in the County Office Building, to a staff of 12 with 5,000 sq. ft. of office space in downtown Cortland. During that time the Agency has accomplished so much with the help of loyal supporters like you. We have served thousands of people with disabilities, their family members and their caregivers. We have worked with hundreds of businesses and business leaders. And we have collaborated with every single school district and disability service provider in the area to affect change.

It can be challenging to share with you all that we do, especially if you have never accessed our services. If you are not familiar with the work of our staff (all of whom are people with disabilities or caregivers of people with disabilities), visit our website or Facebook page to learn about the impact we have on people in our community.



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### QUARTERLY QUOTE:

*“Gratitude makes sense of our past, peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow”*

*- SK*

## ATI Announces 2018 Goals

On October 17, 2017, the Access to Independence (ATI) Board adopted the following 2018 Goals:

- Increase community awareness of disability issues, the lack of equal human and civil rights for people with disabilities, and the opportunities that exist to increase independent living for all.
  - ◊ Launch innovative public relations strategy, enhance collaborative partnerships, expand consumer participation in community groups and launch regional outreach.
- Increase community capacity to provide demanded services to people with a wide variety of disabilities, their families and caregivers, and other service providers, including social/recreational, transportation, home health aide, employment and youth transition services.
  - ◊ Expand Sunday Strikers initiative, expand social/recreation programming, increase Agency work readiness / youth transition capacity, and increase Agency architectural barrier programming capacity.
- Increase all aspects of accessibility in the community so that people with disabilities realize improved access to all systems, including commerce, government, education, healthcare, citizenship and employment, among others.
  - ◊ Promote sustainable collaboration with community groups on pressing issues, expand advocacy efforts around key disability issues (housing, LTSS, LGBT and diversity), revamp local disability action network, and explore alternative business outreach and engagement strategies.
- Increase ATI's capacity to fulfill its mission, vision and values by executing strategic administrative (operations, fiscal and human resource) initiatives in order to ensure that ATI remains relevant and provides value to its stakeholders and to the community as a whole.
  - ◊ Execute technology enhancement initiative, launch human resources streamlining initiative, facilitate focus groups to assess community unmet needs, and execute Agency's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary campaign.

### ATI Board of Directors Elects New Members / Officers

On October 17, 2017, the Access To Independence (ATI) Board of Directors re-elected one Board Member to a second two-year term and elected four new Board Members to their first two-year term.

New and returning elected Board Members include: Laura Eaton, Matthew Husar, Mary Beth Mathey and Larry Woolheater. Returning Board Members include: Zach Curtis, Dorothy Dumond, Evan Geibel, Eden Harrington-Hall, Alexandra Huntington-Ofner, Barbara Morris and Lisa Perfetti.

At the same meeting the Board of Directors elected officers for the next year as follows: Mary Beth Mathey, Chair; Lisa Perfetti, Vice-Chair; Eden Harrington-Hall, Treasurer; and Alexandra Huntington-Ofner, Secretary.

Many thanks go out to each and every Board Member for their dedication to ATI's governance.



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# A Night to Shine at the Masquerade Charity Gala!

Access To Independence celebrated its 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Masquerade Charity Gala on October 27, at the Lynne Parks '68 SUNY Cortland Alumni House. The event netted just over \$4,000 to fund programs and resources for people with disabilities in Cortland County. 65 people attended the event.

Access To Independence hosted staff, volunteers, Board Members, sponsors and community supporters to an evening of amazing food from M & D Deli, music by Lonnie Park, and a silent auction with over \$5,000 worth of items to bid on. There were raffles and a wine pull where everyone won by purchasing a high quality bottle of wine and a chance at an additional gift certificate. Everyone enjoyed the backdrop of black and gold balloons for pictures. There was also a costume contest with the top three costumes taking a prize.

In addition to such a fun evening, the Gala served as a great way to bring donors and longtime supporters together for a great cause. There were 19 sponsors this year, the most ever for the annual event.

Special thanks to major sponsors: Cortland Regional Medical Center and Empire Construction. Additional thanks to all of the other sponsors, silent auction package donors and to all who attended. Thank you for making the 2017 Masquerade Charity Gala a smashing success!

## Access To Independence extends deep gratitude to our sponsors:

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## Transition Perspective – by Anne Marie Piche

It has been another successful year for Access to Independence's (ATI) various nursing home transition programs. ATI's Open Doors program helps people living in nursing facilities to return to their own homes or other independent living situations.

The NYS Department of Health designed Open Doors to identify and reach out to residents of nursing facilities who receive Medicaid. As a transition specialist, I work to provide people living in these facilities with unbiased information about home and community based services. I am grateful to have assisted eight individuals transition from these institutions so far this year.

It can be difficult for someone in a nursing facility to get access to information necessary to set up services needed to get back home. Where do you turn for help? That is where Open Doors comes in, providing information and assistance. Our primary objective at ATI is to help people with disabilities to achieve important goals, such as returning to independent living.

We are fortunate to have caring people at ATI who answer the calls to assist in all levels of support in the transition process. We continue to be available to people years after their transition to answer questions or to help to find solutions to new challenges that might arise. All of this contributes to long term success.

Since Medicaid started transitioning its oversight of programming to private insurance companies, new challenges have surfaced that impede people's abilities to escape nursing home placement. The Open Doors program is filling an important role by providing needed information and guidance to those who find themselves in nursing facilities. There is often no one to provide answers to the many questions that arise and to advocate for a way to return home. At ATI, we have people who will help and won't leave you alone to figure things out on your own.

For more information, contact Anne Marie Piche, ATI Transition Specialist, by phone: 607-753-7363; or by email: [apiche@aticortland.org](mailto:apiche@aticortland.org).



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

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Interested persons may pick up applications at the Housing Authority offices located at  
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## ATI's 2017 Local Systems Change Outcomes

As 2017 draws to a close, we reflect on the past year and acknowledge the accomplishments and progress made toward a more inclusive and accessible community. Access to Independence (ATI) is thankful for the many volunteer advocates that helped to advocate for changes to make systems more accessible for people with disabilities. As a result of ongoing advocacy over the past year, ATI recorded 36 systems change outcomes in the areas of education, employment, health care, commerce, social recreation and citizenship.

A systems change is a new policy, practice or structural change made by an entity, such as a business or government agency, to accommodate the needs of people with disabilities. Systems changes often happen as a result of direct advocacy from agencies or from individuals who report an issue and take action to request a change.

Access to information is a critical aspect of being able to participate fully in our community. As such, ATI undertook several initiatives in the areas of education, health care and social / recreation to increase the access that people with disabilities have to information. Local school districts incorporated the ATI-developed Community Resource Guide for transition-aged youth into their websites and provided the information during IEP meetings and open house events. Further, medical facilities and faith-based organizations began displaying information on independent living centers, ATI services and other resources for people with disabilities.

Once people have the information they need, they will want to access those services in the community. For this, physical accessibility is critical. The City of Cortland and the town of Cortlandville repaired and upgraded at least eight sidewalks and crosswalks over the past year to make them more accessible. Further, local businesses, medical facilities, faith-based organizations and recreation facilities renovated restrooms, added accessible parking, added automatic doors and made other accessibility improvements.

It is critical that the laws and regulations that govern our community are representative and inclusive of people with disabilities. ATI staff and volunteers with disabilities successfully advocated for the adoption of an updated Cortland County Consolidated Plan for Housing, which sets a foundation for strategic growth for affordable, accessible and integrated housing in our community. Advocates also successfully realized the adoption of a Cortland County Emergency Preparedness Plan that sets initial regulations to aid Cortland County residents, especially those with disabilities, in the event of a natural disaster or other wide-spread emergency.

While ATI takes pride in these changes, it acknowledges they could not have happened without the support of our community and partners. Local advocates who stay vigilant and report local issues and who travel with us to Albany and Washington, D.C., are essential to ATI and the work we do. ATI also appreciates the work of local businesses, government entities, medical facilities, recreation facilities and faith-based organizations who work with us to realize positive change. For more information on local systems change initiatives, please contact Aaron T. Baier, Systems Advocacy & Architectural Barrier Program Coordinator, by phone: 607-753-7363, or by email: [abaier@aticortland.org](mailto:abaier@aticortland.org).

## VITA Announces 2018 Return

Access to Independence will once again host the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program on weekends beginning in January 2018. If you qualify for the Earned Income Credit in 2017, you can have your taxes done for free by IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers.

Starting in January, you can call 211 to set up an appointment. Just dial 2-1-1 or call 1-877-211-8667 during regular business hours to speak to an operator.

VITA volunteers will serve several locations during tax season, so look for their flyers around town or check their website at [www.cortlandfeetaxes.org](http://www.cortlandfeetaxes.org) for times and locations. The flyers will include a checklist of "things to bring" on the back so that you will be prepared for your appointment.

## Access To Independence Helps Families in Need with Food

Did you know that in 2016, more than 5 million children and adults benefited from food drives. Community food drives help make sure families have access to emergency food assistance when they need it.

In early October, Access to Independence staff discussed ways it wanted to give back to the community during the upcoming holiday season. It didn't take long for staff to agree to focus on stamping out hunger over the holidays. In just under a month, staff and family, Board Members, and consumers donated more than 100 boxes and cans of non-perishable food items to the cause. ATI delivered the goods to the YWCA "Aid to Victims of Violence" program just prior to Thanksgiving.

Now, Access to Independence staff is collecting canned and non-perishable dry food to donate to Catholic Charities of Cortland County to distribute to those in need during the Christmas Season. ATI hopes to deliver 100 boxes and cans of non-perishable food items to this cause as well.

For more information on the Access to Independence Christmas Food Drive, or on how you can help with the effort, contact Rick Hinkle, Clerical Assistant & Food Drive Coordinator, by phone: 607-753-7363; or by email: [rhinkle@aticortland.org](mailto:rhinkle@aticortland.org). Thank you for your help and happy holidays!

## Craft Club Smashing Success

Access To Independence's monthly Craft Club now meets every Wednesday from 10:00 – 11:00 am in the ATI Community Room. Different craft/art activities are featured in four week sessions. Last month, the Craft Club experimented with watercolor painting on a tree-free paper called Yupo. The results were a wonderful juxtaposition of paint, water and creativity!!

Our next venture continues the watercolor theme, this time on cold-pressed watercolor paper with torn paper collage imagery.

For more information on ATI's Craft Club, contact Katrina Martin, ATI Program Assistant, by phone: 607-753-7363; or by email: [kmar-tin@aticortland.org](mailto:kmartin@aticortland.org).



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## ATI Saves State \$5.1 Million

Access to Independence (ATI) has saved NYS more than \$5.1 million since 2004 through its efforts to transition or divert individuals out of costly institutional settings and into community-based settings.

Since 2004, ATI has diverted (prevented) 74 individuals from institutional placement with an average cost savings of \$34,000 each. ATI has also transitioned 66 individuals from institutional settings back to the community with a cost savings of just under \$40,000 each. ATI transitioned or diverted 28 over the past twelve months, more than in any year prior.

As a frame of reference, it costs the state roughly \$78,000 per year to pay for a person to live in a nursing home. It costs the state \$65,000 for a person living in the community using Medicaid Waiver (MW) services, and just \$14,000 for a person that does not access MW services.

## Cortland County Housing Consortium

### Upcoming Meeting Schedule:

Nov. 28, 2017: 8:00 - 10:00 am  
Feb. 27, 2018: 8:00 - 10:00 am  
May 22, 2018: 8:00 - 10:00 am  
Aug. 28, 2018: 8:00 - 10:00 am

### All meetings are held at:

Access to Independence  
26 North Main Street, Cortland, NY

For more information,  
call 607-753-7363,  
or contact Aaron Baier by email:  
[abaier@aticortland.org](mailto:abaier@aticortland.org).

## Access To Independence to Host First Friday

Coming up on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, from 5:00 - 8:00 pm, ATI will participate in the Cultural Council of Cortland County's Art Trail. ATI will display watercolor paintings on Yupo from the Craft Club in its Community Room. The Cultural Council is set to sponsor pianist Josh Oxford to perform on his piano. Don't miss out on this inclusive recreation event for all to enjoy!



*Proudly Presents:*

### **Preserving Community Integration in the MLTC Era: A Community Dialogue**

**Thursday, December 14, 2017  
11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**ATI Community Room**

**\*\* A light lunch will be provided. \*\***

#### *Featuring:*

**Simeon Goldman, Esq., Disability Rights New York  
Casandra Hamilton, Director of Action for Older Persons**

This facilitated community dialogue will address how professionals, service providers, organizations and individuals can advocate for seniors and those with disabilities to insure that Managed Long Term Care (MLTC) plans are providing services in the most integrated setting. The 1999 Supreme Court Olmstead ruling asserts that in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), states have an obligation to provide services to individuals with disabilities in the most integrated setting, appropriate to their needs.

**Please RSVP by December 11, 2017.  
Call (607) 753-7363.**



Accommodations available upon request.

26 North Main Street, Cortland, NY  
(607) 753-7363  
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## **JOIN OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS!**

**Access To Independence (ATI) is recruiting  
people with disabilities to serve on its  
Board of Directors.**

For more information, please contact:  
**Chad W. Underwood, CEO,**  
by phone: (607) 753-7363; or  
by email: [cwunderwood@aticortland.org](mailto:cwunderwood@aticortland.org)

## **ATI Celebrates 2017 Disability Employment Awareness Month (DEAM)**

In October, Access to Independence (ATI) collaborated with local partners of the Taskforce to Increase Disability Employment (TIDE) to facilitate several events in celebration of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (DEAM). This year's NDEAM theme was "Inclusion Drives Innovation".

TIDE kicked-off this year's NDEAM recognition with an October 4, Business Leader Breakfast. TIDE held the event at the Cortland Elks Lodge, with Wal-Mart's Store Manager, Chad Bogacz, providing the keynote address. The breakfast recognized the successes of local businesses and individuals in the active hiring and retention of people with disabilities. It provided an opportunity for business professionals, employers, and community members to network and discuss the benefits of including people with disabilities in the workforce.

On October 11, a "Building Blocks for Employment: Innovative Solutions to Workforce Inclusion" workshop featured panelists Marty Gold of Challenge Workforce Solutions, Michael Kennedy of the Self-Advocacy Association of NYS, John Shirley of SUNY Cortland Career Services, and Jim Williams of Legal Services of CNY. The panelists led a discussion on overcoming barriers to employment, including knowledge of legal issues, self-advocacy, the development of a support network, and how to use volunteer work and internships to build employment skills.

On October 18, youth from around Cortland County participated in the annual Disability Mentoring Day (DMD). Also known as Cortland County Mentoring Day, participating youth shadowed local business leaders in fields that matched their interests. Youth gained valuable hands-on experience in careers of their choice.

TIDE aims to mobilize community partners to: raise community awareness of, build community capacity for, and eliminate attitudinal and physical barriers to Employment First for people with disabilities. TIDE believes that employment should be the first option for all people with disabilities. The next TIDE meeting is Monday, November 27, 2017, from 10:00 – 11:00 am. New members are welcome to attend at any time.

For more information on the Taskforce to Increase Disability Employment (TIDE), or on ATI's youth transition and work readiness services, please contact Rachel Anderson, Independent Living and Community Education Specialist, by phone: 607-753-7363, or by email: [randerson@aticortland.org](mailto:randerson@aticortland.org).

## **ATI Holds Gratitude Social Event**

On November 15, 2017, Access To Independence held its first Annual "Gratitude: The Attitude" Social Event. This program offered participants an opportunity to reflect on things they were grateful for in their lives. The following Gratitude tips were the springboard for discussion on how becoming grateful can change your life.

- Express gratitude directly by phone or in-person visit.
- Write a gratitude letter today and then read it to the person on their birthday, on Christmas or on another significant holiday.
- Write a letter to someone who has been especially kind and caring to you whom you have never properly thanked. Then, hand deliver it. By doing "gratitude visits" you get a boost right away that often lasts (for a week or sometimes even a month or more.)
- Vary the things you are grateful for to keep your energy and enthusiasm for gratitude exercises fresh and meaningful. Do your gratitude routine after a hardship or when you are most in need of a boost.
- Have a gratitude partner with whom you can share your gratitude list and who prompts and encourages you if you forget or lose motivation.

Access To Independence has already launched planning for its next social event. ATI will host consumers in February to its 1<sup>st</sup> Annual "Cabin Fever Festival". This event will showcase fun activities as well as opportunities for participants to join in storytelling. Food and door prizes will be included as part of the festivities.

For more information on ATI's Social Events, contact Katrina Martin, ATI Program Assistant, by phone: 607-753-7363; or by email: [kmartin@aticortland.org](mailto:kmartin@aticortland.org).

## 2017 ATI Board / Staff Retreat

On Friday, November 3, Access to Independence held its 2017 Annual Board / Staff Retreat. Board Members and staff convened at the Adirondack Room of Greek Peak Mountain Resort to build momentum for a successful launch of 2018 initiatives.

Sara Bollinger, an independent consultant from the Syracuse area, spent two hours with participants to help build synergy around strategic plan implementation and evaluation. Sara served as CEO for Enable and was Executive Director for Health Planning at HealthConnections.

Over the next year, ATI is set to practice what it has learned by developing and implementing action plans to build capacity to help fill unmet community needs, as spelled-out by its 2016 Needs Assessment and 2016 – 2021 Strategic Plan.

Many thanks go out to all Board Members and staff participants, as well as to Sara for facilitating a meaningful dialogue for all. Additional thanks to Greek Peak for access to a team building environment like no other in the area!

## Consumers Gain Access to Technology

Did you know that Access to Independence offers all of its consumers free access to six computers, internet access, a scanner and a printer. Access to Independence welcomes current and new consumers to the ATI Consumer Computer Lab.

ATI's Computer Lab offers consumers the ability to access informational resources and key publications, to stay connected with others by email or social media sites, to complete job search activities, and to perform any other computer-based task!

Each of the six workstations are equipped with Windows 10 Operating Systems, Internet access and Microsoft Office Professional 2017 productivity software. Consumers also have access to a variety of office supplies and printing and scanning capabilities.

For more information on the Access to Independence Consumer Computer Lab or Resource Loan Closet, contact Rick Hinkle, Clerical Assistant, by phone: 607-753-7363; or by email: [rhinkle@aticortland.org](mailto:rhinkle@aticortland.org).



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## **Don't Miss Out on Medicare Extra Help: Low Income Subsidy**

The Medicare Part D Extra Help program, also known as Low Income Subsidy (LIS), aims to help people with limited incomes pay for prescription drugs. If you qualify for Medicare Extra Help, you will pay less in drug premiums, copayment or coinsurance. You will also be covered during the Coverage Gap and will not have to pay a Part D late enrollment penalty.

Several changes have been announced for 2018. If you receive Medicare Extra Help, you should receive notification about applicable changes to your plan before or during the Fall Open Enrollment period.

If you receive an orange notice, you do not need to take any action. This is the "Change in Extra Help Copayments" notice, and you may have already received it. This notice explains if the Extra Help copays will change in 2018. Copays usually change a small amount each year. Read the notice to learn how much you will pay for your covered drugs in 2018 and save it for your records.

If you receive a blue notice, you might need to take action. There are two kinds of blue notices, and they are both called Reassignment Notices. The first kind of Reassignment Notice is sent out to people whose Medicare Advantage Plans or Part D drug plans are leaving the Medicare program. If you receive this notice, it means that you will be reassigned to a new Advantage or Part D plan in 2018. If you want to choose your own plan, you will have to choose it by December 31, 2017. If you do not take action, you will be automatically enrolled in a different plan that may or may not fit your prescription drug needs.

The second kind of blue Reassignment Notice is sent to people whose Advantage or Part D plan premiums have risen above the Extra Help benchmark (the maximum premium amount that Extra Help will cover). If you receive this notice, it means that you will be assigned to a new plan in 2018. If you want to choose your own plan, you will have to choose it by December 31, 2017. If you do not take action, you will be automatically enrolled in a different plan that may or may not fit your prescription drug needs.

If you receive a gray notice, you should be prepared to take action, because it means that you might lose your Medicare Extra Help eligibility and pay more in the coming year. There are two kinds of gray notices. The first kind of gray notice is a "Loss of Deemed Status" Notice. This notice is sent to people who will no longer qualify to get Extra Help in 2018. If you get this notice, but you think it is a mistake (because your income hasn't changed or you are still below the income and asset level), you should reapply for Extra Help right away so you don't lose coverage in 2018.

The second kind of gray notice is the "Low-Income Subsidy Choosers" Notice. You will receive this notice if you picked your current drug plan (instead of being automatically enrolled in one), and your plan premium is increasing above the Extra Help benchmark amount in the coming year. If you receive this notice, it means that you have to change your plan to one with a lower premium. If you do not switch to a plan with a premium below the Extra Help benchmark, you will pay part of the premium in 2018.

For more information on Medicare Extra Help notices, call Susan Lewis, ATI Independent Living Coordinator, at 607-753-7363.

## **Social Security Announces 2018 COLA**

The Social Security Administration recently announced it would award a 2% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for 2018, beginning in January. This increase will effect people receiving SSA retirement, SSDI and SSI.

Social Security Benefit recipients should check to see if the increase will effect their eligibility for other programs like Medicare Extra Help, SNAP, and Medicaid. If you need help figuring this out, call Sue Lewis, ATI Independent Living Coordinator, at 607-753-7363.



**Emergency Preparedness  
Core Advisory Group**

**Upcoming Meetings**

**February 15, 2018:  
11:00 am - 12:00 Noon**

**May 17, 2018:  
11:00 am - 12:00 Noon**

**August 16, 2018:  
11:00 am - 12:00 Noon**

**November 15, 2018:  
11:00 am - 12:00 Noon**

**All meetings are held at:**

**Access to Independence  
26 North Main Street, Cortland, NY**

**For more information,  
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[randerson@aticortland.org](mailto:randerson@aticortland.org)**

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For more info: [cortlandareact.org/rx](http://cortlandareact.org/rx)      **real Truth:** 

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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 **\$34,850** and a family of five up to **\$53,750** and still qualify to live in one of our apartments.



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**“Nothing More, Nothing Less for All People with Disabilities”**

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November 22, 2017

Dear Friend:

I invite you to join the Access to Independence Board Directors and staff in celebrating our 20 years of community service by making a gift to Access to Independence. You can do this by sponsoring an upcoming event or by making a donation of any amount to our 2018 *Friends of the Center* campaign.

Over the past 20 years, Access to Independence has evolved from a one-person volunteer office in the County Office Building, to a staff of 12 with 5,000 sq. ft. of office space in downtown Cortland. During that time the Agency has accomplished so much with the help of loyal supporters like you. We have served thousands of people with disabilities, their family members and their caregivers. We have worked with hundreds of businesses and business leaders. And we have collaborated with every single school district and disability service provider in the area to affect change.

Over the past year, Access to Independence provided services to more than 500 people with disabilities, their caregivers and their family members. We helped 28 people transition from or avoid nursing home placement, saving the State \$1.5 million. We substantially contributed to 36 systems changes at the local, state and national level. We secured funding and managed from start to finish more than 50 home modifications to make them more accessible.

It can be challenging to share with you all that we do, especially if you have never accessed our services. If you are not familiar with the work of our staff (all of whom are people with disabilities or caregivers of people with disabilities), visit our website or Facebook page to learn about the impact we have on people in our community.

I hope you will consider a donation to Access to Independence during this holiday season. Your annual gift funds programming for people with disabilities right here in our community.

Donate **TODAY** to help our community increase awareness of disability issues. Donate **TODAY** to help us publicize the lack of equal human and civil rights for people with disabilities. Donate **TODAY** to help us increase the opportunity for all people to live as independently as possible.

Please call or email us with any questions, and thank you in advance for your generosity and support!

Happy Holidays,

Chad W. Underwood, MPA  
Chief Executive Officer

26 North Main St.  
Cortland, NY 13045  
ph: 607-753-7363  
fax: 607-756-4884

e-mail:  
[info@aticortland.org](mailto:info@aticortland.org)

website:  
[www.aticortland.org](http://www.aticortland.org)

***Resources and Advocacy for People with Disabilities***



“Nothing More, Nothing Less for All People with Disabilities”

2018 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- 12th Annual Access to Independence Bowl-4-Abilities – March 24, 2018
Support more than 150 consumers, friends and family enjoy a half-day of bowling, food and door prizes at this inclusive recreation event.
Yes, we will sponsor this event with \$250! (4 sponsors needed)
Yes, we will sponsor this event with \$100! (10 sponsors needed)
28th Anniversary: Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Celebration – July 2018
Support our annual event that celebrates the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
Yes, we will sponsor this event with \$250! (4 sponsors needed)
Yes, we will sponsor this event with \$100! (15 sponsors needed)
13th Annual Employment Conference – October 2018
Support our annual event that provides independent living skills training and networking opportunities for individuals with disabilities seeking community employment.
Yes, we will sponsor this event with \$100! (10 sponsors needed)
7th Annual Masquerade Charity Gala – TBD
Support our premiere annual ‘friendraiser’ by celebrating our accomplishments and looking ahead to future endeavors with friends, family and caring community members, while enjoying exquisite food and music.
Yes, we will sponsor this event with \$250! (8 sponsors needed)
Yes, we will sponsor this event with \$100! (15 sponsors needed)
Community Room / Consumer Computer Lab – full year
Help us to continue offering the community access to our large community room for functions or meetings. Also, help us to continue offering consumers the use of a computer lab with 6 computers.
Yes, we will sponsor the ATI Community Room / Computer Lab with \$500! (4 sponsors needed)
Mary E. Ewing Scholarship Fund for Independent Living – full year
Support the cost of providing a \$150 scholarship to a graduating senior who emulates the spirit of independent living in each of Cortland’s five high schools. Help us to build a sustaining fund for decades to come!
Yes, we will support the Mary E. Ewing Scholarship Fund with \$150! (10 sponsors needed)
Newsletter – Access News – February, May, August and November 2018
Help us to distribute quarterly newsletters jam-packed with useful information to more than 4,500 people!
Yes, we will sponsor the newsletter (business card size ad) with \$100! (20 sponsors needed)

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