

## Message from the President

I am extremely proud to announce that Lifespire will be working to release a new version of the Code Amber Alert Tag, which will help accelerate the treatment and care of those in need—potentially saving hundreds of lives.



The Code Amber Alert Tag is a convenient way to provide information about medical conditions, life threatening allergies, or blood type. Health insurance information and other medical history details can also be readily accessible.

Similar to a card you would receive from a local supermarket, the alter tag has a bar code. However instead of granting the individual access to savings, the Quick Response code grants access to vital medical history. When the Quick Response code is scanned by a Smartphone or any electronic device with a scanning capability, the link will open to the individual's very general medical history—including name, address, and emergency point of contact.

The first responder will be able to connect with the emergency contact, and be given the PIN. If the PIN is provided, the physician or first responder will have access to a wealth of information such as a detailed medical history, current and past medications, family contact information, their healthcare proxy, and their service provider.

This new tag will replace hours of phone calls, sending of documents, and anxiety in the wait for information access. The first-responder will now have almost instant access to critical information that is so vital in saving someone's life.

Lifespire will be one of the first organizations on the east coast to release this new technology in fall of 2011. Please continue to log onto our website for the scheduled release date of the Amber Alert Tag.

Sincerely,  
Mark van Voorst  
CEO and President  
Lifespire, Inc

## The Lifespire Alert Tag— How Lifespire is Working to Revolutionize Emergency Care



Lifespire, Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping developmentally disabled individuals reach their life's aspirations, is working to release a new version of the Amber Alert which will help accelerate the treatment and care of those in need, and potentially save hundreds of lives.

## Lifespire Raises over \$200,000 at 11th Annual Golf Classic

On Monday, August 1, over 100 golfers joined Lifespire for their 11th Annual Golf Classic at the Garden City Country Club. Lifespire, currently celebrating their 60th anniversary, honored Melissa Rabinovich, Executive Editor of New York 1 News as well as the parent of a child with special needs. Despite the difficult economic climate, Lifespire was able to raise over \$240,000 toward their mission to provide individuals with developmental disabilities the support and assistance necessary to succeed.

Melissa Rabinovich, a well known leader throughout the nonprofit community, was chosen because of her work with the developmentally disabled and for her services to the Staten Island community.

"Melissa covered some of Lifespire's projects out in Staten Island—and it was after we had asked her to be our honoree that we learned she was the mother of a child with special needs (Emanuel's Syndrome)," said Elia Cintron, Executive Officer Administrator and Coordinator of the 2011 Golf Classic.

With shrinking funding streams and contributions declining, a successful fundraising event is not only a sign of hope for the sector as a whole, but vital to the constituents in which the organization serves.

"Our success lies with our friends and associates who believe in our work year after year and continue to support us," said Cintron. "In a climate where many nonprofits are choosing to cancel their fundraisers, and with government cuts impacting agencies such as ours, we are very fortunate to be able to continue to have these events be so successful."

## National Direct Support Professionals Week

Lifespire was very happy to celebrate National Direct Support Professionals Week (Sept. 11th - 17th). We honor and thank all of our direct support workforce and the tremendous difference they make every day in the lives of the people we serve. This year we had a special raffle that included the names of direct support professionals. This was just one of many celebrations that occurred across our programs. Congratulations to our winners!



Raffle Grand Prize Winner Errol Vassell



## Intermediate Care Facility groundbreaking ceremony

On Wednesday September 13th 2011 Lifespire held a groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of its new eight person Intermediate Care Facility which is being constructed at 315 James Street in the Town of Connelly NY. The new facility is designed to provide both a residential opportunity as well as "in home" day programming for eight individuals who are presently being served in an OPWDD Developmental Center. All eight individuals are elderly and have serious medical concerns. The facility is intended to become operational in early Spring 2012.

## Lifespire featured on NY1

NY1 will have guests from Lifespire to introduce the newly released Lifespire Book: A Story of Advocacy during the first week of October. President/CEO Mark van Voorst will be joined by Board Member Larry Hirsch, who is mentioned throughout the book, and Board Member Robert Krakow, who wrote the introduction.



## Mittie McFadgen Receives 2011 William B. Joslin Outstanding Performance Award

Her hard work and dedication were brought to light as Mittie McFadgen, employed by the Bronx Comprehensive Services Center at Lifespire, accepted the 2011 William B. Joslin Outstanding Performance



Award. The NYSID celebrated 54 "Outstanding Performer" nominations at their eighth annual Award Program, and of these individuals, McFadgen accepted the award alongside her Res Hab Specialist, Diane Thomas, and her MSC Trainer, Ramon Perdomo.

McFadgen attends the Bronx Comprehensive Services Center at Lifespire—an organization committed to the principle that all individuals with a developmental disability are able to become contributing members of their family and community—where she participates in the prevocational program. McFadgen is responsible of assembling and packaging items such as crew socks, cutlery, special occasion gift bags and paper products, which can be found at local community resources.



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