

## Message from the President

In the late 90's, Lifespire's Board of Directors decided it was time to change our organization's historical name of ACRMD, and develop a logo and tagline to better demonstrate the true mission of our organization. Several years later, we developed a website which had remained largely unchanged for over half a decade. Over the years, I felt that our website had become uninteresting and stale, I had also received numerous complaints about the two red figures which represented our logo. Our logo was given several unflattering nicknames, and no one seemed able to figure out exactly what it represented.



Earlier this year, I hired a company to completely rebrand our website and to explore alternatives to our logo. Over the course of the summer, the Board of Directors was given an opportunity to explore several different logos and eventually selected the logo they liked best. Throughout the fall you will gradually see the new logo on official documents and signs. As this is a large and fairly expensive project, the change will be gradual and it is anticipated that it will take the next 12 months to replace most of our signs. Coinciding with our move to our new headquarters, this is a convenient opportunity to change the logo on our stationary and envelopes.

I hope that everyone will visit our website and provide me with feedback both on the contents as well as the "look." All comments and suggestions are welcome as we continue to redefine ourselves, grow, and expand over the next year.

Sincerely,  
Mark van Voorst  
CEO and President  
Lifespire, Inc

## New Lifespire logo



## Danish Royals Visited Lifespire

The Crown Princess and her husband, Crown Prince Frederik, visited Lifespire, Inc. to mark a new technology partnership between the agency and Denmark's Team Online.

Denmark's Team Online and New York's Lifespire, Inc. are partnering to optimize technology to help provide greater efficiencies and improved care to individuals with developmental disabilities. The royal couple inaugurated the partnership between Team Online and Lifespire, Inc., on Monday with a visit to Lifespire's Manhattan North Comprehensive Support Center located at 159 East 125th Street in New York City.



## Lifespire and CSEA Reach Tentative Agreement

After several months of negotiations I am pleased to announce that Lifespire's Management Team and the negotiating team from the Civil Service Employees Association, Inc., Local 762 reached a tentative agreement for the final year of the current Contract. If ratified by the members of the bargaining unit each full time employee will receive a Negotiated Service Award of \$1000.00. All Part Time Employees will receive a \$500.00 NSA. I am very hopeful that the agreement will be ratified by the members very quickly so that the Negotiated Service Award Checks can be mailed out in time for the Thanksgiving Holidays. On behalf of Lifespire I want to thank both the Lifespire and CSEA negotiating teams for their hard and lengthy efforts to finalize negotiations on wages and benefits for the final year of the existing contract.

## Lifespire Celebrates Family-Day Success!

On Sunday, September 25th, Lifespire celebrated family day, unifying consumers, staff and their families in a full-scale celebration. Bringing together individuals and their families, the day was filled with food, decorations, and games, celebrating the joy of coming together all under one Lifespire roof. Below are excerpts from a letter from one of the parents discussing the value of Family Day:



Sonia,

I wanted to thank you for putting together the family day party we had yesterday. Everyone had a really good time and I could tell that a lot of effort went into the planning of it. As soon as I pulled up to the house, I could sense the excitement in the atmosphere.....

One thing I noticed yesterday that was very apparent is that those boys and the staff give each other a sense of family. It feels like they finally belong to each other. As a parent, I can't ask for more than that in a placement for my son.... Thank you for all your hard work and please pass along my thanks to all the staff who made this day such a success.

Marianne Morgante / Account Clerk  
Buildings and Grounds, Bedford CSD

## Lifespire Consumers Meet the Prince & Princess of Denmark

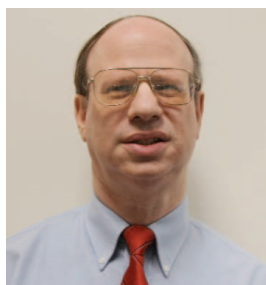


Lifespire's own Enrique "Chino" Gonzalez and Milka Rosario met with the Crown Prince and Crown Princess of Denmark on October 24th. Celebrating the new partnership between Lifespire and Denmark's Team Online, Enrique and Milka were chosen as some of Lifespire's most exceptional consumers. Both show the initiative to learn and develop skills

that will assist them in finding outside employment, and truly exemplify the amazing feats that Lifespire consumers can accomplish. The staff consider Enrique a "junior staff" since he really has demonstrated an ability to excel while in pre-voc. Not only is he able to complete his task, but he also assists his peers as well as the pre-voc staff in completing their own tasks. Milka has shown willingness to try any task that we introduce her to regardless of her language barrier as she is primarily a Spanish speaker. Enrique has been with Manhattan North CSC since June of 1997, and Milka has been attending Lifespire since 2003—as they continue to work hard, both Enrique and Milka are truly leaders within the organization.

## Lifespire Welcomes New Chairman of the Board

November 4, 2011—New York, N.Y.—After serving on the Board of Directors for Lifespire for nearly 14 years, Jeffrey Goodman was elected Chairman of the Board in September. Serving as Vice Chairman for the last two years, Jeff has been a fundamental component in the growth and development of the organization.



Over the last two months, Jeff has focused on visiting staff and consumers at various Lifespire facilities. As Chairman, he is dedicated to enhancing the commitment of Lifespire to continue to provide services of the highest quality to those they serve. While Lifespire has grown dramatically throughout his tenure on the Board, Jeff is looking to continue to deliver and expand upon the services of Lifespire.

"It's an honor to be a part of an organization that truly helps individuals to maximize their potential," said Jeff. "I look forward to continue to work with the Board, our staff, and our volunteers to continue to make a positive difference in people's lives."

For more information about Lifespire, their Board of Directors, or their programs and services, log onto [www.lifespire.org](http://www.lifespire.org).

## Lifespire Board Member named New Yorker Of The Week



After noticing a void in the community for activities for people with special needs, the latest "New Yorker of the Week" decided to start one of his own, which is still going strong 40 years later.

As he has almost every Sunday for the past 41 years Larry Hirsh can

be seen making his way around Jib Lanes in Flushing checking in with the bowlers to hear their scores. Since 1969 the program has grown from 20 bowlers to more than 140.



(212) 741-0100  
[www.lifespire.org](http://www.lifespire.org)