New Beginnings in HR!
Welcome to Mr. Rick Prida, Talent Manager. Rick comes with over 20 years of professional HR experience. Rick is a very passionate, energetic professional who considers himself to be a team player!
Mrs. Luisa Lopez has transferred full-time to HR as our Personnel Clerk, keeping us on our toes.
Ms. Lori Sparkes, our new Receptionist transferred to us from NW 2nd St where she worked as a CNA & RDSP for many years. With the above new members and Elizabeth Das, our staff development director, I am excited about our new team and I look forward to new adventures!

MCPRS is always developing and moving forward, and the Training Department is busy bringing new staff up to speed. Innovative workshops have been scheduled throughout the year with exciting changes. The Active Treatment curriculum has been revamped to bring it up to speed with new AHCA regulations and more in line with adult learning principles. New material was incorporated to comply with just-released federal guideline behavior management requirements.

We will be hosting a Therap User Group seminar at the Central facility in July. What is a user group? A user group is a group of Therap users in the same state or area who meet to troubleshoot, network, discuss state and Regional issues, and learn about the newest Therap releases. It is an open forum to check in with Therap and learn from and share with other Therap Users in our area. They also can contain training on any portion of Therap’s system. We are excited about hosting this seminar once again—since it affords all of us an opportunity to learn and refresh our ideas.

Community Committee for Developmental Handicaps (CCDH), continues to conduct their administrator and inclusion workshops at Central providing increased MCPRS public exposure and community outreach.

In addition, fresh workshops for new supervisory staff are planned. Here is a list of some of the development workshops we have planned for the year:

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<tr>
<th>Workshop Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>New Nurse’s Workshop</td>
<td>Special Presenter Training coming in October 2015</td>
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<td>Therap Workshop</td>
<td>Quality of Life</td>
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<td>Active Treatment Workshop</td>
<td>“Raising the Bar: Best Practice Strategies for a Fulfilling Life”</td>
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<td>Lead DSP Supervisory Training</td>
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<td>Client Trust Funds</td>
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<td>Patient Care Workshop</td>
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<td>External Workshop</td>
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Look for other Postings on our Monthly Employee Training Calendar!
MCPRS recognized its Direct Support Professionals during the week of September 7th thru September 13th 2014. The HR Department put together breakfast, brunch and a Hawaiian themed buffet style lunch, where all DSP’s were served home cooked meals. Hawaiian themed music, raffles, games & “Caught you Doing Something Good” helped create many memories.

We honored & recognized our Direct Support Professionals who became registered and/or have completed their assigned CDS lessons.


On November 7, 2014, MCPRS recognized employees for years of dedicated service at Divieto Italian-American Fusion Restaurant, located at 10650 NW 41st Street, Doral, FL 33178.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO TO MAKE MCP GREAT!!

What is Going on in the Nursing Department

MCPRS has always been determined to find ways of improving on the excellent care provided to the individuals we support and to promote and maintain their health and wellbeing. The nursing department has done a recent change in the table of organization that will allow for closer oversight and training of the residential nursing and DSP staff for a year-around readiness approach.

PROMOTIONS

The promotion of Ms. Dunia Pena Salgado, RN as the second ADON, who now oversee the Braddock and NW2nd St. facilities and the re-assignment of, Gertrudis Hong, RN to now oversee the Sunset and 80th St. facilities, will allow MCPRS to continue moving forward in meeting not only the individuals health care needs but to further develop the current and new hired nursing and DSP staff skills and knowledge.

The promotion of Ms. Karina Checa, RN as the new Health Care Coordinator at NW 2nd Street. Karina has shown passion for what she does and has the care we need for the people we support.

NURSE OF THE YEAR

Martha on behalf of the individuals supported Congratulations & Thank You for being one of our Florence Nightingales!

Left: Maura Bourne, DON
Right: Marta Pantoja, Nurse of the Year Congratulations!!!!

Nurses Week
From May 6 to May 12, 2015

CAUGHT YOU DOING SOMETHING GOOD

We are fortunate to have wonderful nurses at MCP & we recognize all of you each & everyday!
Congratulations to the Winners of “Caught You Doing Something Good & to all of you nurses who love your profession!

Left: Maura Bourne, DON
Right: Marta Pantoja, Nurse of the Year Congratulations!!!!

Elizabeth Simon, AHCC- 80th St Facility for her continued dedication & always going the extra mile!

Myrlande Blaise, RN – NW 2nd Street Facility honored for always being 100% compliant with policies & procedures like Almsa & Therap!

Martha Pantoja, LPN-Braddock Facility for always celebrating special client birthdays such as recent sweet sixteen!

Rosa Rodriguez, LPN – Sunset Facility for volunteering during Special Olympics on her own time throughout the years!
The Life Long Learning Program (LLLP) has nine “extraordinary” teachers who are a “cut above the rest”. Through their many talents, creativity and collaboration, they continue to make the Life Long Learning Program a “highlight” of the students day. On behalf of the students who attend the LLLP, “THANK YOU FOR STICKING WITH US AND HELPING US Learn”.

“Education is the power to think clearly, the power to act well in the world’s work, and the power to appreciate life” Brigham Young

Teachers Receiving Goodie Bags prepared by Human Resources
Special Olympics Miami-Dade County posted the 2015 MATP conducted at Miami Cerebral Palsy Residential Services on their Facebook and here is what they had to say:

The Special Olympics Motor Activity Training Program is designed for athletes with severe or profound intellectual disability who are unable to participate in Official Special Olympics sport competitions because of their skill and/or functional abilities. The Motor Activity Training Program is designed to prepare athletes with severe or profound intellectual disability, including athletes with significant physical disabilities, for sport-specific activities appropriate for their abilities.

Another exciting day for MATP in Miami-Dade County! MCPRS students Aisha, Mark and Steven along with other students Athletes from Miami Central Senior High, Neva King Cooper Educational Center, G. Holmes Braddock & Citrus Grove Middle School participated in the MATP Culminating event at the NFL YET Center. They participated in various stations: Warm up, wheelchair obstacle, batting, catching ball, and basketball. MCP had an arts and craft table station, where participants were making cards after exercising.
Saint Patrick Day Celebration

Dance this dance with me. The perfect combination of dreaming and moving. Every direction is the right one. Only follow the music and it will direct your way. All the notes are leading you to another sphere. Just let our mind fly away so your feet dance.

St. Patrick’s day is an annual highlight at the LLLP. This year’s musical event was presented by Pipe Major, Mr. Nigel McDonald, who honors the individuals by playing his musical instrument “The Bag Pipe.” The students enjoy the music, dancing, food and drinks. Thank you Nigel for your continued support and volunteer work, and for bringing live music into our lives.

CARNIVAL

The Life Long Learning Program Annual Spring Carnival was held on Tuesday, April 28, 2015.

Students had an afternoon of fun-filled games, magic show, photo booth and refreshments that reflected true carnival spirit. Activities were located throughout the building.

The main objective of this event was to give students the opportunity to learn new skills while interacting with peers and staff.

The carnival featured a wide assortment of games such as; bowling, domino, ball in bucket, basketball, ring toss and table top games. The most popular activity that got students attention was a magic show put together and performed by Diana Morency (Classroom 8 Teacher).

Fresh lemonade, pink lemonade, cheese cake, mini cucumber cream sandwiches, cold peppermint tea and fruit sherbet where enjoyed by all. The success of this event was a result of hard work and dedication from students, staff and teachers. We look forward to our next Life Long Learning Program 2016 Spring Carnival.
The Life Long Learning Program had its first annual Oktoberfest, which is a cultural experience from Munich, Bavaria, and Germany featuring German beer, Bavarian food and traditional music. The students and staff brought a little of Germany to the Life Long Learning Program by dressing up in the traditional folklore clothing with 80th Street winning the contest of best dressed. Traditional folklore music was played with lots of dancing and singing. Of course the highlight of the event was the food and drinking of beer (non-alcoholic). Lots of fun was had celebrating Octoberfest. Students are looking forward to the second annual Octoberfest this year.
World Boxing Cares Inc. at the Life Long Learning Program

World Boxing Cares, Inc. is an organization where professional boxers support their local community by simply making a difference. Anthony Suarez, a nurse from the Sunset facility, is a member of this organization and through his efforts coordinated a day of boxing with professional boxers and the students. The students at the LLLP participated in competitive activities involving punching bags and sparring in the ring. All were champions that day and had a great time.

Left to right: Freddie Delgado, Francisco Palacios and Antonio Suarez, Nurse at Sunset Facility

Left to right: Antonio, Aisha and Francisco

Left to right: Antonio and Stephen

Left to right: Freddie and Debbie

Left to right: K.O from Philip to Francisco

Left to right: Orlando and Antonio

Left to right: Raquelita showing what she's got!

Left to right: Hard to Hit Delio and Angel

Left to right: Sparring: Francisco and Freddie

Kim giving good jabs
Creativity flowing at the LLLP

On a weekly basis students participate in an art class where they practice fine motor activities all while creating a “masterpiece”

Horticulture at the LLLP

Our Horticulture enrichment activity takes place every Thursday. Nine individuals, one from each classroom participates in this activity for a period of eight weeks and a new session begins to give other students the opportunity to participate, if they are interested. At the beginning of each session, three to four participants go to Home Depot to purchase the needed materials - different plants, pots and other materials to conduct their activity. The students seem to enjoy planting and watch the development and blooming of their flowers. They appear to understand the concept that plants are part of living things.
**BINGO Tournament at the LLLP**

On a monthly basis students participate in a bingo tournament for cash prizes, this is always a blast.

**A SPA DAY at the LLLP**

Speak your Style without having to say a word!

**What’s COOKING at the Life Long Learning Program**

Good meals from our Chefs, Left to right: Robert and Stephen
Bowling League- “MCP Players”

The Life Long Learning Program continues to provide opportunities for inclusion, socialization and activities within our community. The “MCP Players” Bowling League keeps scoring at the Bird Bowl bowling alley twice a month. Using every stretch of the imagination and body parts, the students enjoy bowling regardless of it being a strike or a gutter ball. It’s all in the fun of friendship. We are striking it rich with our peers.
This past year MCPRs had the privilege of seeing the following performances at the Adrian Arsh Center of Performing Arts—The Consul; Cosi Fa Tutiti and The Pearl Fishers. In addition to these performances, Cerise Sutton, Director of Education of the Florida Grand Opera, conducted a live performance at the LLLP for all the students, which they enjoyed.

“It is essential to do everything possible to attract young people to opera so they can see that it is not some antiquated art form but a repository of the most glorious music and drama that man has created.”

Bruce Beresford

Opera in full swing in the Cafeteria
**Holiday Festivities at the Life Long Learning Program**

The month of December is always a busy month at the Life Long Learning Program in preparing for the Holiday festivities. Activities such as holiday decorations, choir rehearsals, holiday party, gift exchange and planning for the Christmas Gala sponsored by the Resident Government Committee are just a few activities. The teachers of the Life Long Learning Program, Resident Government Committee Members, volunteers and students all come together to make the Holidays a fun and memorable experience.

**STUDENTS FAVORITE CHRISTMAS SONG:**

“CON MI BURRITO SABANER VOY CAMINO A BELEN”.......
The Eightieth Street Facility sponsored the 2nd annual Spa Day which was held on October 11, 2014. Individuals from all facilities made appointments and came out to enjoy getting pampered. They enjoyed relaxing music, one on one attention and beautiful nail care. They received a nice manicure and hand massage. They were able to choose the color and design of their nails. This year’s profit went toward the residents Christmas party. We are looking forward to the 3rd annual Spa Day to be held October 2015.

Total amount raised: $119.15

The Braddock Facility sponsored an annual “Flea Market Event” held at the Life Long Learning Program on October 14th 2014. The Residential Government Committee members helped to design the posters, the fliers and set up the displays. Goods were donated by our in-house staff. Additional items were purchased to ensure that there was something for everyone. Students and staff found great items at discount prices. Items ranged from books, jewelry, car covers and phone adapters. For our young ladies jewelry and clothing were the “Best Sellers”. This year’s profits went towards the RGC sponsored Christmas Party. Look forward to more bargains at our 2015 3rd “Annual Flea Market”.

Total amount raised: $60.00

We want to thank everyone for your support during our Fall Festival, held on October 17, 2015 fund raiser. Residential Government Committee (RGC), could not have done it without your patronage and the hard work of all of Sunset’s staff, specially our very dear Nurse, Rosa Rodriguez, who worked relentlessly to find us donations and entertainment for the individuals and staff, their families and friends. Job well done, Sunset!!!

Total amount raised: $1571.84

This year Second Street hosted a Halloween activity. Individuals from a variety of facilities and programs were invited to participate and celebrate the occasion. Highlights of the event included fun with painting and decorating pumpkins. Participants were provided with arts and crafts materials, and DSP assistance in decorating and making their own personalized pumpkins.

A costume contest with the DSPs judging was held. Four winners from the four MCP facilities won. Our first prize winner for having the scariest costume was Anthony Washington from the 80th Street Facility. The individuals enjoyed a wonderful afternoon. Snacks and drinks were served and, of course, great music lightened up the party. Total amount raised: $150.00
For the 3rd year since its launch, the Resident Government Committee has continued their commitment of “Giving back to their Community”. This year the RGC members chose the month of February to hold a stuffed animal toy drive under the title of ‘Give a Heart’. The members unanimously chose Miami Children’s Hospital as this year’s recipient. The outpouring of stuffed animals from our staff was heartfelt. The President and Treasurer of the RGC delivered the stuffed animals to MCH. After the representative of the MCH Foundation offered information and descriptions of the many departments that this generous donation could go to, and after thoughtful and personal consideration, the members chose the Hematology/Oncology department. During our visit Miami Children’s Hospital was in the process of renovating for their 65th Anniversary and a renaming of the hospital to Nicklaus Children’s Hospital. A few weeks after our donation MCPRS, Inc. received a letter from Miami Children’s Hospital thanking us for our generous donation. The RGC gives a heartfelt “Thank you” for all who continue their commitment to give back to their community.

2014 RGC Christmas Celebration

The Resident Government Committee held its annual Christmas celebration at a new venue. With the financial success of the 2014 Facility/LLL fund raising activities and the desire of the residents to “do it up bigger”, the search was on to find a new experience for the annual Christmas celebration. The Banquet Hall, located within our community, was that experience. Participants had a grand Christmas celebration with family and friends that “they” personally invited. The ‘Black Tie Affair’ was by invitation only. The menu consisted of several tasty hors d’oeuvre, an open bar (serving non-alcoholic beer, sparkling cider and other beverages) and a delicious dessert. Students, their families, friends and staff all participated in celebrating the holidays with dancing, singing and games. And before the event came to a close, our in-house Santa Claus came to hand out Christmas gifts to “all” participants.
Visit from Miami Dade College, School of Education to the Life Long Learning Program

On March 18th, the Life Long Learning Program had the privilege of hosting Dr. Uhle’s technology class from Miami Dade College. The LLLP provided them with a tour and showed them the Internet Café in action, as well as communication devices utilized by the students. They were able to see the staff utilize tablets for collecting data through our Therap electronic data collection system. Here is what Dr. Uhle had to say:

“I cannot thank you enough for the wonderful tour you gave my students this morning. We were all absolutely blown away by the wonderful things that MCPRS is doing in our community. To see a place like that "in action" can be life-changing; many people do not even know places like MCPRS exist. I am thankful that you took the time to share with us, allowing us to interact with people, welcoming us with open arms. I would like to continue this opportunity in future semesters, as it has been by far the most meaningful part of our assistive technology course.

Thank you, again, on behalf of Miami Dade College, School of Education.”

FAREWELL to our much Loved
Angie De Armas

Angie first started at MCP as a classroom teacher and later went on to become an RSC at the Braddock facility. She also held the position of assistant to the executive director and more recently the past year was our H.R. talent manager. No matter where Angie has been deployed – staff, parents, and clients alike all report how much they enjoy working with her and to this day is greatly missed in all prior positions she’s held.

While the decision to resign from MCP was difficult for Angie, she has sold her home in Miami and has started a new chapter in her life. Angie has relocated full-time to her home in the Keys. There she plans to dedicate more time to family, pursue personal interests, and be more involved in supporting the family business.

Please join me in bidding Angie a great farewell and wishing her all the best in her new endeavors, and providing her with the gratitude she so deserves and is worthy of – for her many years of exemplary service to MCP/UCP.

Special Thanks to Maria Angie De Armas our previous Talent Manager for the professional work she offered the human resources department. We are extremely grateful for having worked side by side with Angie. We wish Angie much success!

FAREWELL to our Gentleman
Orlando Carbonel

Orlando was employed with Miami Cerebral Palsy Residential Serves, Inc. since July 12, 1999 as a DSP/Driver in the Transportation department. The level of service that Orlando provided cannot be duplicated. Orlando was always a true professional whether it was coming in early for medical appointment or staying late to help rescue a broken down vehicle on the side of the road or the facility. Orlando certainly left a good example to follow to the MCPRS family.

Congratulations! We’ve worked together just long enough for us to know that you deserve to enjoy your retirement after so many years of hard work. We wish you much happiness and the best of luck on this new adventure in your life!

Through the years, you’ve grown with us, giving your time with loyalty and dedication. Today, we honor the contributions you’ve made and the milestones you’ve achieved.
FAREWELL to our Historian
Elaine Lanaris

On March 12th 2015, Miami Cerebral Palsy Residential Services bid adieu, to Elaine Lanaris, Director of Nutritional Services after almost twenty-five years of dedicated and selfless service to the individuals of MCPRS.

As the Dietician to ninety-six fragile individuals with multiple and diverse nutritional requirements, Elaine was aware from the onset of her career with the Agency, that her position did not permit the latitude of the trial and error process. Consequently, from the get go, she became involved in all aspects of the individuals’ lives and aligned herself with her fellow Team Members, all of whom paid pivotal roles in the individuals’ overall wellbeing. It is no small wonder therefore, that Elaine left Miami Cerebral Palsy Residential Services as it’s historian - one who performed from a sound knowledge base, comprised in part of, the Medical Services Department, the families, fellow Team Members, Direct Support Professionals and most importantly, the individuals themselves.

She gave Miami Cerebral Palsy Residential Services Inc., its individuals, their Parents and Guardians and her fellow Team Members everything she had and emerged smelling like a rose. At this time, and we are sure with deep contemplation, Elaine has chosen to broaden her professional spectrum. She left Miami Cerebral Palsy Residential Services Inc. at the pinnacle of her game. As we said our heart-felt goodbyes at one of our best attended and certainly most emotionally-charged gatherings to date, we should be reminded that it is only fitting to allow another Organization an equal opportunity to benefit from the unique expertise of this very special person who has so much to share and so much professional territory yet to conquer.

FAREWELL to our Professor
Kellen Hassell

After 6 years with MCP and nearly 10 years with the UCP, New York City community, it was time for Dr. Hassell to tackle new challenges and pursue additional professional opportunities. Effective Friday December 5th, 2014, Kellen no longer serves as the Administrator/QIDP of the Braddock Facility.

In his resignation letter Kellen Stated:

“I consider myself incredibly fortunate to have had this opportunity. And in departing, know that my direct focus will shift slightly further away from a population and professional calling I deeply connect with. However, I can reflect on invaluables lessons learned and countless unforgettable moments experienced.

Although I must bring my tenure with the organization to a close, and am confident in my decision, I know that I will miss being here. I appreciate your support and direction over the past 6 years. It has been an honor to serve as Braddock’s Administrator/QIDP, and to have been a part of MCPRS. Thank you Again.

After my time with MCPs, I have continuously sought to contribute at the highest level onto this incredible group of people-you, our management team, and most importantly, to the individuals who reside at the Braddock Facility-in advocacy and leadership of the best developmental supports and medical services.”

Kellen left MCP to accept a full-time professor position in the Health Care department at FIU. We continue to work closely with Kellen since his departure. He is current a member of our Human Rights Advocacy Committee and always keeps MCP in mind with the FIU interns program and special student projects.
SUNSET PIANO DONATION

We are happy to share with all of you, that Sunset Facility received the donation of a piano, which is in excellent condition. Our benefactor, Mr. Juan Carlos Gonzalez, wanted to give his mother’s piano to someone that he could be sure would enjoy it and put it to good use. He did not want to sell it or just give it away to any charity. Mr. Gonzalez chose Miami Cerebral Palsy because he lives nearby Sunset Facility and appreciates the work we do. Mr. Gonzalez went as far as sending out a technician to ensure the piano was well-tuned. Thank Mr. Gonzalez for your generosity. We look forward to having you attend future recitals!

MCPRS is grateful for ParkShore pharmacy for the donation of $250.00 dollars in gift card for Nursing Appreciation Week.

Once again Pilar Gomez, HRD, on behalf of business Telecommunication Services, Inc. provided all the individuals supported by MCPRS as well as the DSP’s with beautiful holiday gifts. As the gifts were not good enough, Pilar spent the whole morning dancing and singing with the students. Thank you Pilar and BTS for your continued support!

We at MCP are grateful to Cerise Sutton, Director of Education of the Florida Grand Opera, for coming to the LLLP and performing for the individuals. We also want to thank Curtis Aubathareh for always thinking of MCPRS and providing us with opera tickets.

Another year with Bauducco foods thinking about MCPRS with the donation of tons of boxes of Panettones and packs of Toasts for clients and staff.

Thank you Bauducco!

Ana Paola Capaldo, Esquire an MCPRS faithful volunteer, has many talents and one of them is helping the student at the LLLP prepare for the Holiday Choir presentation. Thank you Anna Paola for giving of yourself and making a difference.

MCPRS would like to thank Chori Perros Productions for allowing us to host their filming of “The Baller” with Dwayne Johnson “The Rock” and for their contribution of $5,000.00 for the use of our parking space. We are hoping they will come back to do another shoot. Center back: “The Rock” with production crew in the background!

MCPRS thanks Senior Care Consultant Group for their donations of bags, pens, lanyard and a whole lot of other goodies for Nurses Appreciation Week.
M.C.P.R.S. RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

80th STREET
11750 S.W. 80th Street, Miami, FL 33183
(305) 274-5014
Fax: (305) 274-7056

BRADDOCK
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LIFE LONG LEARNING PROGRAM
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