

Abilities Newsletter



September 2026



Welcome to the
September Edition of
our agency wide
newsletter!

Table of Contents

Hackettstown - Page 1

Contract Corner - Page 2

Staff Appreciation - Page 3

Employment Pathways - Page 4

Upcoming Webinar - Page 5

Administrative - Page 6

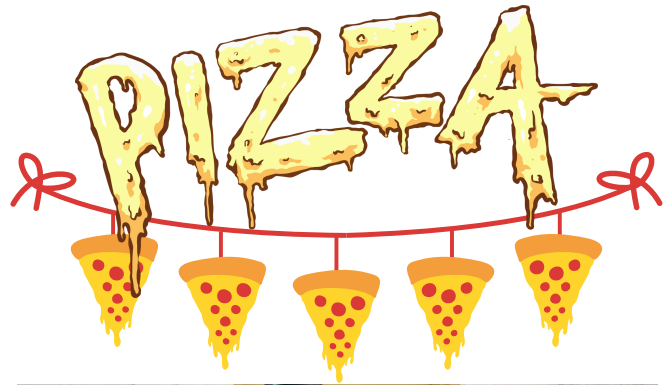
Cheesecake Order Form - Page 7

Save The Date - Page 8

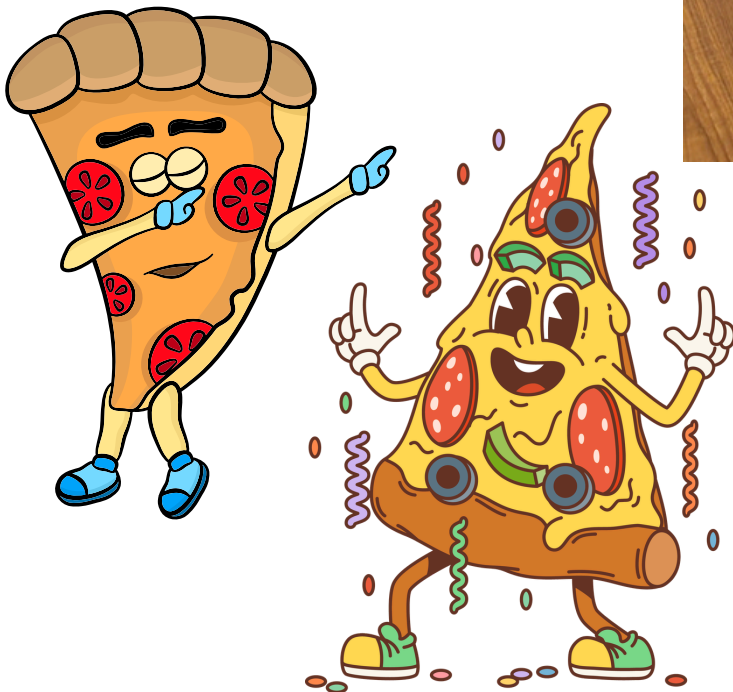


To view the full
newsletter, visit
abilitiesnw.com!

Hackettstown



*This month we celebrated
with a pizza party in
recognition of Staff
Appreciation & DSP Week!*



Contract Corner

Hot off the CRP floor

Hello from CRP We hope everyone had a great summer and is now looking forward to all the fun fall things!!! BRING ON THE PUMPKIN SPICE!! Fortunately, we have been extremely busy in the past few months & we are loving it.

We are gearing up for another go-round with contract work with several different companies.

Remember, if you know of anyone looking for any of the fulfillment services we provide please give them our name!

CRP staff shout out to Bryanna!!



Bryanna joined the CRP floor in March 2025 as a Vocational Trainer.

Since she joined us, she has broken out of her shell and has become a true team player. Bryanna has an amazing amount of enthusiasm and energy. She has a special talent for getting all consumers involved in all activities going on. Bryanna provides encouragement and praise to all the consumers we serve. We are grateful for the energy, motivation, and positive attitude Bryanna brings everyday

It is a great pleasure having her apart of our team!

Staff Appreciation



Thank you to all our hardworking and dedicated staff, we appreciate you! We are incredibly grateful for all who joined us for this year's Staff Appreciation event.

Congratulations again to our staff who were recognized for 2026:

Bryanna Nero- "Stars and Stripes" Award

Emmanuel Sarpong- "Red, White and You" Award

Stacey Hawkins- Youth/ES of the Year

Paige Petrole- Thrift Associate of the Year

Sharon Witner- DSP Hero of the Year

Mike Warring- Van Driver of the Year



Check out the Google Album for more pictures from the event-

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/thK5bNB9abMzBn9b7>

Employment Pathways

Employment Pathways client writes, self publishes first book

For EP client Brittany Zappulla, nothing means more to her than the concept of family. In her first book, “La Mia Famiglia: Grandma, Grandpa and Me”, Zappulla reflects on the memories she made growing up around her grandparents, Joseph and Grace (Her father’s parents).

What the book is about:

The book entails all the memories that Zappulla made while growing up around her grandparents. From the bi-weekly cookouts during the summer, to the sleepovers She had with her grandparents.

“We used to have a cookout almost every other weekend during the summers and those cookouts were always at Grandma and Grandpa’s house in the Diamond Hill development. On top of the cookouts, Thanksgiving was a big holiday we always had at their house. Grandma always made so much food, and it was always so good.”

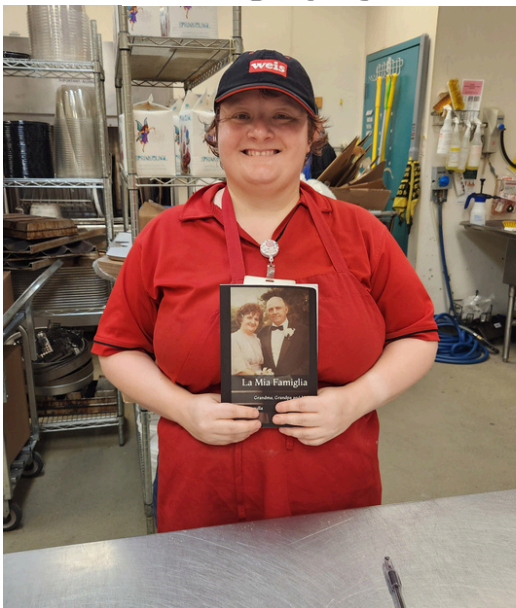
The memories aren’t all sunshine and rainbows though; Zappulla writes about the sadder days as well, including the funerals of both grandparents in 2006 and in 2021.

“I think the harder of the two passings was Grandpa’s funeral in 2006 because he was the patriarch of our family. Grandpa always had a solution to a problem, and when he passed away, it was really hard for us to try to work out things amongst ourselves. Grandpa was a supportive force in our family.”

So why write the book?

Zappulla says preservation was a huge part of the reason for writing the book.

“When you die, a lot of the memories you have of growing up usually die with you, but putting on paper allows those memories to be preserved. “La Mia Famiglia” is Italian for “My Family” and family was cardinal especially for my grandfather; family meant everything to him and that’s something I try to preserve.”



About the author

Brittany Zappulla works part time and is currently attending online classes at Southern New Hampshire University for an associate’s in information technology. In her spare time, she loves to play video games and build model kits. She is on the Autism spectrum but has come a long way.

“When I was young, I was antisocial to the point where even the littlest things would set me off. I’ve come a long way since then, but I admit I still have a lot to learn.”

Making the Future More Secure for Loved Ones with Special Needs

Thank you to  **Abilities** of Northwest Jersey Inc. for hosting!
An Affiliate of Allies Inc.

WEBINAR

**Wednesday,
January 20th, 2027
6-7pmEST**



**Donald T. Brown,
ChFC, ChSNC**

Gain more peace of mind regarding “What will happen when I’m gone?” by learning how to most effectively support your loved ones. Topics include:

- protecting government benefit eligibility
- the basics of special needs trusts and ABLE accounts
- writing a letter of intent

Information will be presented in a practical, plain-spoken manner, and participation is encouraged. Content is also relevant for professionals seeking basic answers to financial topics impacting those they support. Participants are welcome to a resource kit and complimentary consultation.



REGISTER:

Go to https://zoom.us/meeting/register/1ZBuM8LHTUeRIUwdt_e78w to receive your access link.

Questions? Contact Elizabeth at eneumann@nlgrouppmail.com or (848)200-7155.


Special Needs
Funding Coach.com

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Administrative



<https://abilitiesnw.com/events/>



2nd Annual
Run for the Pickles
5k/2k PupStrut K9 Walk

Sun. Oct. 4
Warren County
Community College
475 Rt. 57 Washington, NJ



Race Starts @11am



Mega Bite!
RUNS
megabiteevents.com



Back by popular demand! We're excited to announce our **Second Annual Cheesecake Sale Fundraiser!** After the tremendous support and success of last year's event, we're bringing back this delicious opportunity to make a difference while enjoying a sweet treat!

All orders/payments are due by October 5th and should be sent to the main office. Sales person is responsible for pick up of orders on their sales sheet on the **day of delivery, November 10th.**

Please use the order form on the next page to order. **Checks can be made payable to "Abilities of Northwest Jersey"**

EST. 1982

2025



of Northwest Jersey Inc.
An Affiliate of Allies Inc.
Unlocking Potential • Empowering Success



Put a "0" if necessary Double Check all numbers

Sheet Totals

Save The Date

save the date

Blue Denim *ball* 2.0

April 17, 2027
Belvidere, NJ

