

# THE REZ GAZETTE

SPIN Residential Services Quarterly Newsletter

**SPIN was proud to be part of the Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services' 33rd Annual "My City My Place" Brighter Futures Awards!**



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The SPIN Choir shared their talent and choir member David participated in the Self Advocate Panel. Thank you to Philadelphia's Mayor Cherelle L. Parker, who helped honor the Community Members who were being celebrated.

Congratulations to  
Dominic Muniz, Hair Wizards, Employment Award,  
Jeanine Pittman, Spiritual/Inspirational Award, and  
Niessa Snodgrass, Physical Award.  
Thank you for all you do!





# BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



Eric C blew out candles on his colorful cake!



Nikki P's 86<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration!



David S enjoyed a delicious strawberry cake!



LaMark celebrated in style!



Kristen F partied with friends at Mega Pizza!



William J had a delightful birthday dinner surrounded by friends!



Elsie Mae celebrated 85 with cake, pizza, family & friends!



# BIRTHDAYS!



## May

May 1st – Randee S  
May 2nd – Paul R  
May 5th – Carol A  
May 9th – Kevin B, Monica M  
May 13th – Wilbert H  
May 16th – Benjamin M  
May 18th – Timothy T  
May 19th – Gary R  
May 20th – Terry M  
May 21st – Corvette J  
May 25th – Tina N  
May 29th – Mitchel G  
May 31st – James B



## June

June 1st – Charles S, Kathleen C  
June 6th – Darrell M, Elsie P, Ken D  
June 12th – Helen G  
June 18th – William J  
June 20th – Brian B  
June 22nd – Bianca M  
June 25th – Anthony D  
June 26th – Cora B  
June 28th – Melissa R  
June 29th – Deborah S

## July

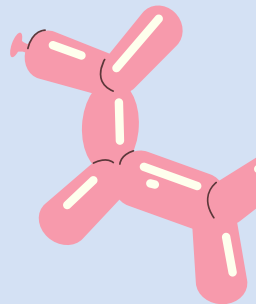
July 1st – Barbara R, Gary M, Kim E  
July 4th – David A  
July 10th – Alex B, Tony F, Tommy B  
July 12th – Terrence G  
July 14th – Katie T, Charlie A  
July 15th – Mike F  
July 20th – Lisa H  
July 21st – Sherry H

## August

August 2nd – Patricia S, Kathy C, Brian H  
August 5th – Lorraine L  
August 6th – Robert S  
August 7th – Bernadette F  
August 8th – Thomas S  
August 9th – Judith H  
August 12th – Charles D  
August 13th – Arthur C  
August 16th – Julian E  
August 17th – Natalie S  
August 18th – Chi Kim L  
August 19th – Jason Boyne  
August 20th – Diane J, Jason B  
August 23rd – Mary H  
August 31st – Tyrone C



TIME TO  
Celebrate

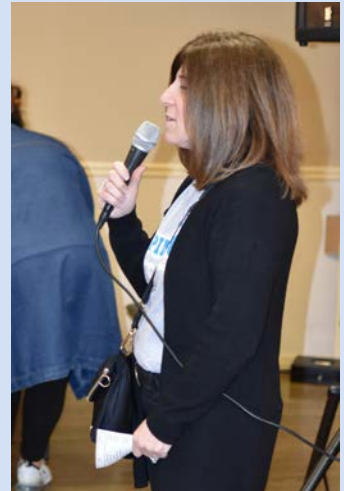




# SPINGO Returns



The Lehigh team celebrated the return of SPINGO, A Lehigh Bingo Bash with a sell out crowd! The West Coplay Maennerchor welcomed Bingo players of all levels to support SPIN Lehigh. Everyone enjoyed 15 rounds of bingo, special BINGO rounds and the chance to win amazing prizes donated by families and SPIN Supporters!







# DREAM

## SPIN'S DREAM TEAM

*Drink water • Relax and be mindful • Eat healthy food  
Awareness of health risks • Move your body*



SPIN's DREAM team hosted Relaxation Events at SPIN Community and Fitness Center in Philadelphia and Ave C in Lehigh during the month of April, to highlight the many ways people relax. Stations were set up to have a massage, sample healthy drinks and foods, perform yoga and so much more!

How do you relax?



# Tech Corner



**1392 Cecil B. Moore Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19122**

- Monday – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Tuesday – 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Wednesday – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Thursday – 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

To schedule an appointment outside of office hours, please email [techowl@temple.edu](mailto:techowl@temple.edu).

TechOWL can help you...

### Get Assistive Tech

TechOWL has many programs that can help you get assistive technology for different needs.

### Explore Assistive Tech

TechOWL has a statewide lending library with over 1500 devices that anyone in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania can use. Free demonstrations and consultations.

### Learn about Assistive Tech

TechOWL provides free presentations and trainings for Pennsylvania organizations, universities, schools, groups, and more. Check out pre-recorded and asynchronous learning opportunities.

### How to borrow from the TechOWL Lending Library:

- go to <https://techowlpa.org/library/>
- Register online using an email address & create a password
- Check out the items online
- Items are sent directly to you via UPS

Temple Tech Owl recently hosted a webinar and shared a variety of free communication apps! Check out all of their resources and events at <https://techowlpa.org/>

## COUGHDROP

- <https://www.mycoughdrop.com>
- 2-month free trial
- Subscription & lifetime purchase options available
- Free boards available on web browser
- Cross platform
  - iOS
  - Android
  - Web browser
  - Amazon

## SPOKEN

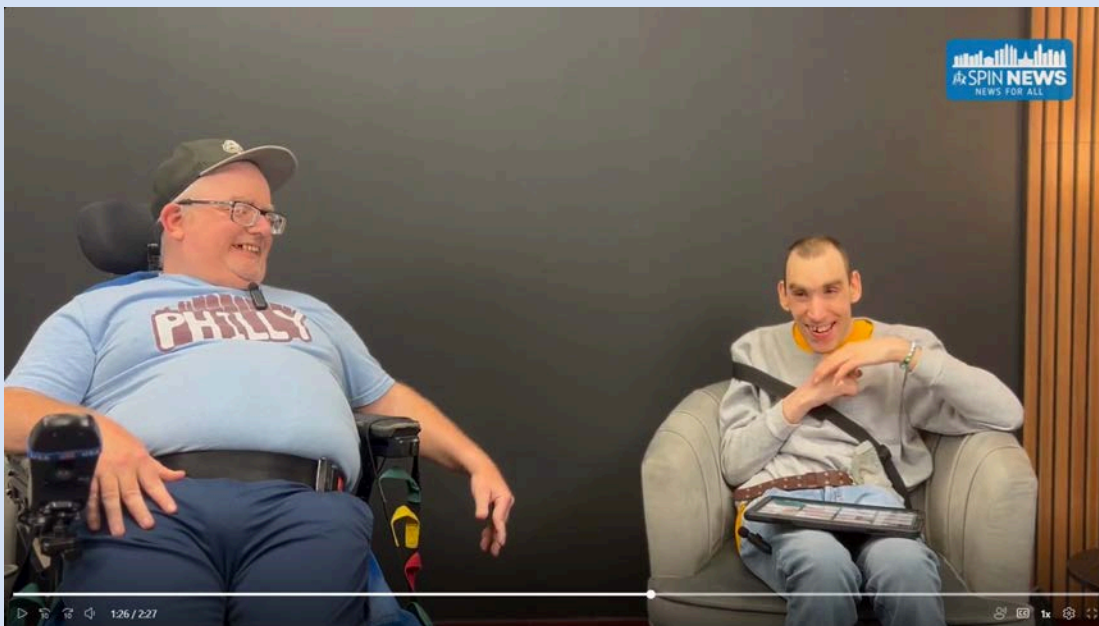
- <https://spokenaac.com>
- Free version available
  - Paid monthly/yearly plans or lifetime purchase for additional features
- Cross platform
  - iOS
  - Android



Meet Bobby! Bobby uses GoTalk, an app he has downloaded on his iPad, to help him communicate. Enjoy this episode of SPIN News' Assistive Tech Series where Bobby shows how he uses GoTalk to communicate with his friend Joe.

Check out more from the SPIN News & SPIN FM Team: [www.youtube.com/@SPINNewsFM](http://www.youtube.com/@SPINNewsFM)

**[Click here to watch Bobby and Joe!](#)**





# HIGHLIGHTS



Colleen D had a delightful day trip to a castle in Doylestown.



Alexander B., William J., and David T. had a fantastic day at Hershey Park!



Harriet L, Pam H and Kim E enjoyed an afternoon at the Elmwood Park Zoo.



A group from Lehigh enjoyed the day at a Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs Game!



Kenny W, Fred Q and Michael L celebrated Memorial Day in style!



# GETTING TO KNOW YOU



## MEET KELSEY!



Kelsey has been apart of our Community Participation Program, dating back to 2008, before Lehigh University merged with SPIN in 2013. In March of 2025, Kelsey moved into our Residential program after living at home with her family for more than 30 years. While this has been a very significant transition for Kelsey, she has persevered. She very quickly became close with her two housemates, who love to help whenever possible.

Kelsey enjoys spending time outside on her swing, doing crafts, listening to music, puzzles and visiting with her family. She also is a huge fan of Halloween. You can find Kelsey with one of her Halloween shirts every day of October, while dancing in a conga line to Halloween music around our office. She continues to attend CPS Monday-Friday, and is an active member of her community. Kelsey is such a joy to be around; she will brighten any day.

## MEET WILLIE!

Willie is one of the sweetest and kindest men you will every meet. His smile is golden and his heart is full of joy. Willie loves to attend every celebration and dresses impeccably for each occasion. Willie can often be found on the dance floor, having the time of his life! Willie enjoys all genres of music and never hesitates to show off his skills. Willie enjoys soul food and good friends, especially his best friend, Joel.

Willie and Joel genuinely care for one another and enjoy being in each other's lives. Willie may be one of oldest seniors at SPIN, but he has the heart of a teenage and is ready to engage with anyone. If you want to get to know Willie and have some of the same interest he does, please reach out and introduce yourself to him! Willie is always ready to meet new people and of course, to rock 'n roll!







# Summer Bash



Residential Services hosted their Annual Summer Bash in Philadelphia and Lehigh during the month of June to kick off the Summer Season!





# Community Participation Supports

## *Wrapped in Purpose: Volunteering with Heart and Hope*

Carole volunteers each month at Cradles to Crayons, a nonprofit organization that provides children with the essentials they need—completely free of charge. Carole is supported in her volunteer work by her Direct Support Professional, Stephanie.

What Carole loves most about volunteering is being part of something bigger—knowing that her efforts contribute to making a real difference in children's lives. She also enjoys meeting others who share her passion for giving back.

One of Carole's favorite tasks is sorting and preparing books for donation. She understands that many of these books go to children who may have very few—or none at all. That's why she handles each one with love and care, ensuring it's clean, special, and ready for a new home.



# Team SPIN joins the Love Run

Team SPIN came together to participate in the Love Run to help raise awareness about SPIN and help raise funds for the renovations of the Hailey Temple Memorial Theater at SPIN Community & Fitness. SPIN Employees, family members and individuals came together to run, walk or jog in both the 7K and ½ marathon. Together they helped raise over \$7,000!



## Celebrating 55 Years of Possibilities!

SPIN Partners for Possibilities celebrated 55 Years of Possibilities telling the story of how a small group of parents came together to create the first Camp SPIN. The SPIN Choir kicked off the presentation by sharing their voices with all in attendance. The evening honored all who helped start the camp and heard from SPIN's first President & CEO, David Losinno. Guests enjoyed a night of great food, music and a chance to take home amazing prizes from the Silent Auction. Thank you to everyone who celebrated SPIN's anniversary with us.





# Advocacy in Action!



SPIN joined Vision For Equality in Harrisburg for A Day at The Capitol to speak out against Medicaid cuts and to call for full funding of Home and Community-Based Services.

They joined other self-advocates, family and friends to show lawmakers why Medicaid matters and to make sure their voices were heard. Contact your legislators to advocate for SPIN Services!





# Spotlight on Staff



**Ignatius Arthur** is a DSP at Convent who supported Mike B. to go to the shore this summer. They enjoyed visiting Mike's family, going out to eat and spending time at the Naval Museum. Ignatius was so helpful that Mike's brother shared that,

"Ignatius cares for the people he works with."  
Ignatius shows great passion for those he supports. Thank you, Ignatius!

## Employment Spotlight

### Two Jobs, One Dream: Stephanie's Story of Independence



Stephanie has been working successfully for several years at Longhorn Steakhouse, and recently decided she was interested in working more throughout the week. After working with her employment specialist, she was able to land a new position working at Giant! Steph appreciates getting to grow new skills in her new role and has made it her mission to be the best cart collector they have! Steph shared that she intends to continue to work very hard at her new job, and is hoping to one day make it onto their employee of the month board! When Steph was asked about having 2 jobs she shared,

"It's incredible! I have more money for my phone bill, and I like being out more!"





# SPIN UNITED COALITION

SPIN's United Coalition celebrated Juneteenth with an amazing celebration of culture and awareness!







# SPIN FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL

**Join us for autumn fun and  
community connection!**



**Games • Pumpkin Decorating  
Activities • SPIN Highlights  
and more!**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH  
11AM -2PM**

**SPIN Community & Fitness  
10980 Norcom Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19154**



# Celebrate DSP Week!

National Direct Support Professionals Week

September 7-13



Help SPIN Celebrate the Direct Support Professionals who support your loved ones. DSPs work hard every day to provide the care which is so critically important. During DSP week we take extra time to thank SPIN DSPs for all they do. You can join in the celebration by thanking the people who directly support your loved one.

Show your appreciation!

- Send a card or
- call/stop by the home.
- Be included in the DSP Week appreciation video! Film a short video under a minute and a half long and send it to Caitlyn Diviny at [cdiviny@spininc.org](mailto:cdiviny@spininc.org). All thank you messages will be edited together in a video that will be shared at DSP Week Celebrations. Please submit your video by Monday, September 1.



Pictures from some of the 2024 DSP Week Celebrations

# Join SPIN's Annual Giving Campaign to help Honor our Past and Grow our Future!



55 years ago, the founding families donated a few dollars each to create a camp for children with disability. Because of Members like you, SPIN has expanded to provide life-span high quality services and supports for children and adults with autism and intellectual disability.

**Become a member today!**

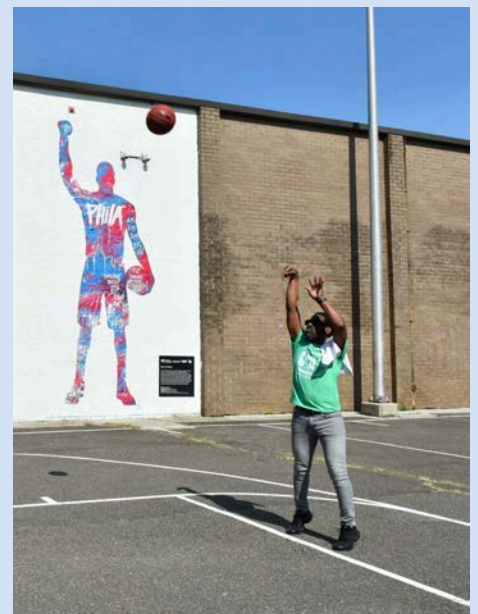
## Fall Ball 2025

Help raise funds for Residential Holiday Celebrations!

Join the SPIN Residential Team as they participate in Fall Ball! A fun community based tournament where people create videos of their best shots to be included in the Annual Fall Ball Video.

We gather at different local basketball courts where we shoot videos of everyone having fun and making as many shots on a basket as they can in a minute, People also get creative by making their own videos of shots they make at home! Everything is then put together in one Fall Ball Video and winners are crowned for Most Shots, best trick show, most creative and more!

Create your own video and send it to Cait Diviny at [cdiviny@spininc.org](mailto:cdiviny@spininc.org) by September 15 to be included in the 2025 Fall Ball Video!



You can also show your support by making a donation to the Fall Ball Fundraiser!

Leave a note to cheer on your loved one!

<https://secure.ggiv.com/event/fallball2025/>



# THE REZ GAZETTE

## SPIN Events:

Learn more at [spininc.org/events](http://spininc.org/events)  
or by contacting Caitlyn Diviny at  
[cdiviny@spininc.org](mailto:cdiviny@spininc.org)

### RESIDENTIAL CONTACTS

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Jen Schaadt - Division Director Lehigh  
Services [jschaadt@spininc.org](mailto:jschaadt@spininc.org)



Judy Dotzman,  
President & CEO

Check out SPIN's updated website  
[spininc.org](http://spininc.org)

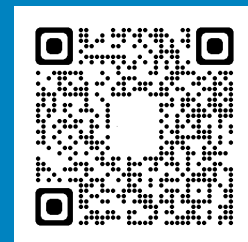
General inquiries or  
suggestions?  
Contact Jamie Garrity  
[jgarrity@spininc.org](mailto:jgarrity@spininc.org)

[Become a SPIN member](#)



### SPIN'S MISSION

SPIN provides the highest quality  
people-first services and  
supports for children and adults  
with intellectual developmental,  
and autism spectrum disabilities  
so that each may achieve and  
enjoy a life of possibilities.



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