

the Pulse

at Parc Center for Disabilities
formerly PIPELINE

A Message from Michelle Detweiler, President & CEO



Each day, your dedication and compassion enhance the lives of the children and adults we serve. Whether you work in accounting, development, maintenance, transportation, human resources, or directly in one of our programs, you make a lasting difference. I am proud to be your leader.

Over the past few months, we've experienced the loss of several beloved residents. While not everyone may have known them personally, I recognize the emotional weight these moments carry. Your continued care and strength mean so much.

Enjoy this newsletter and, as always, if you have ideas for future issues, we'd love to hear them.

Michelle Detweiler



Campus Connection

A Few Words from Pam, Assistant Vice President of HR

Hello, Team!

As we reach the halfway point of 2025, I want to celebrate everything we've accomplished together. It's been a year of growth, connection, and well-deserved recognition.

We've launched new initiatives like the Monthly Mixer to build cross-department bonds and the Quarterly OPEX Awards to honor excellence. Paylocity Shout Outs, Kudos Cards, and our bi-annual newsletter continue to spotlight teamwork and keep everyone informed.

One of our proudest milestones is the Employee Emergency Assistance Program, offering real help in tough times.

Looking ahead, we have a summer celebration, more appreciation efforts, and our holiday party to look forward to. We're also opening the new Children's Services Center and moving into our renovated ADT building, exciting new chapters for Parc!

Thank you for your dedication. Here's to a fantastic second half of 2025!



MONTHLY MIXER

The Monthly Mixer at Parc is a fun way to connect with teammates from other departments and celebrate what makes us stronger together.

One rep from each department will attend, then pass the invite to another teammate for the next month, so everyone gets a chance to join in! It's a great way to relax, share stories, and build community across Parc.

Whether you're new or have been here for years, it's your chance to meet new faces and enjoy a little break from the daily routine.



If you're invited, be sure to join in, grab a treat, and make it count! If not, your turn is coming soon. Let's keep the connections growing, one department at a time!



Labor Day - Sept. 1

Thanksgiving Day - Nov. 27

Day After Thanksgiving - Nov. 28

Christmas Eve - Dec. 24

Christmas Day - Dec. 25

MILESTONES



Lori Jaquin: 35 Years

James Greenlee: 20 Years

Joseph Menard: 20 Years

Deloise Walker: 20 Years

Iris Murray-Brown: 15 Years

Latanya Franks: 15 Years

Judith San Angelo: 15 Years

Matthew Worsham: 15 Years

Patricia Black: 10 Years

Sherece Butler: 10 Years

Rae Duerr: 10 Years

Jonathan Bosco: 5 Years

Chantalle Collis-Johnson: 5 Years

Welcome Steve Lampar!

Please join us in welcoming Steve Lampar, our new Event and Volunteer Manager. Steve joined us in June 2025 and brings over a decade of experience in nonprofit leadership, event planning, and donor engagement.

At Parc, Steve will lead the planning and execution of our signature events like the Black-Tie Gala and Golf Tournament, while overseeing logistics, sponsorships, volunteer coordination, and post-event evaluation. He'll also support third-party events and strengthen volunteer engagement across the organization.

We're excited to have Steve on board—he's already hit the ground running, and we look forward to the energy and expertise he brings!



Meet Asara Suraweera!



Asara Suraweera is a dedicated technology professional currently serving as the Lead Information Technology Specialist at Parc Center for Disabilities. In this role, he plays a pivotal part in ensuring the seamless operation of IT systems that support the center's mission to provide exceptional services to individuals with disabilities.

We're excited to share that he recently tied the knot!

- Wedding Date: April 21, 2025
- Location: The Epitome- Kurunegala, Sri Lanka
- Bride's Name: Dilhara Amashani Karunarathna

Asara and Dilhara celebrated their special day with a beautiful ceremony rich in Sri Lankan culture and tradition. The couple was led into the wedding hall by a group of traditional Kandyan dancers, making a grand and unforgettable entrance.

One of Asara's favorite moments was seeing Dilhara for the first time in her gorgeous dress, her radiant smile lighting up the room.

Please help us congratulate Asara and Dilhara!

Meet Jody: New Maintenance Team Member

Three years ago, Jody traded the chilly roads of Indiana for the warm, sun-soaked streets of Florida, and he didn't come alone. He brought with him two showstopping classics: a 1975 Oldsmobile 442 he's proudly owned for 28 years, and a 1975 Oldsmobile W-30 Hurst that's been turning heads in his care for the past 13. Jody's passion for vintage cars runs deep, and you'll often find him at car shows, sharing stories, admiring restorations, and celebrating the golden age of American muscle, one polished chrome detail at a time.



BERT MULLER EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Congratulations, Masayo Nakamura



WINNER

We are proud to announce the nominees for the 2024 Bert Muller Employee of the Year Award—one of Parc's highest honors, recognizing individuals who exemplify extraordinary commitment, compassion, and character in all they do. Please join us in congratulating these outstanding team members: Tacara Brewton, Kevin Elliott, Faith Emmert, Stephanie Fox, George Haley, Nora Hernandez, Wanja Hubert, Sammy Kukulpane, Joseph Menard, Masayo Nakamura, Olumide Odejobi, Madison Paladino, Simone Richardson, Brian Rothey, Kristie Sandberg, Evan Struhar, Asara Suraweera, and Esther Trinidad.

Congratulations to Mickayla Hibbert!



Congratulations to Mickayla Hibbert, Direct Support Professional at ADT, on being named the OPEX Employee of the Quarter! Mickayla's dedication, compassion, and commitment to excellence shine through in everything she does, making a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.



Congratulations Faith!



We're excited to announce the well-deserved promotion of Faith Emmert to Maintenance Technician III! Since joining us in 2016, Faith has held multiple roles and developed a deep understanding of our campus and operations.

Please join us in congratulating her on this exciting milestone!

Congratulations Kevin!

We are excited to announce that Kevin Elliott has been promoted to Assistant Vice President of Finance! This promotion reflects his dedication and commitment to excellence.

Please join us in congratulating Kevin!



Phase I Grand Opening – Adult Services Center Renovation

We're thrilled to celebrate the grand opening of Phase I of the Adult Services Center renovation! This long-awaited transformation has been a true labor of love, and we couldn't be more proud of the results. A heartfelt shoutout goes to our incredible Operations and Programs teams, whose dedication, hard work, and countless hours made this renovation possible. Your efforts have created a brighter, more welcoming space that our participants are already enjoying—and truly deserve. Thank you for turning vision into reality and helping us continue to provide a supportive, inspiring environment for all.



TEACHER APPRECIATION

From May 6–9, the Parc Center for Disabilities celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week with a global-themed “Travel Across the World” event to honor its extraordinary teaching staff. Highlights included a DLC parent-hosted continental breakfast, international afternoon tea, a creative “Tour of Asia” with origami art, and crowd-pleasers like a nacho bar and pizza party. Throughout the week, teachers were recognized not just as educators, but as guides and lifelines shaping lives every day. At Parc, appreciation for teachers isn’t limited to a single week—it’s a year-round celebration of their heart, dedication, and impact.



TEAMWORK THAT HITS THE MARK: MAINTENANCE CREW SHARPENS BONDS WITH AXE THROWING

The Maintenance Team at Parc Center for Disabilities recently swapped their tool belts for tomahawks during a fun team-building trip to a local axe-throwing range. The outing offered more than just friendly competition—it boosted morale, strengthened communication, and brought the team closer together.

Whether it was someone’s first throw or their tenth, everyone cheered each other on and shared plenty of laughs. That spirit of support and encouragement is now back at work with them.



At Parc, we know every department plays a vital role, and we’re proud of how our maintenance team keeps things running smoothly on campus and off the clock.

Nurses Week 2025 *Comfort, Cheers & Cozy Vibes for Our Everyday Heroes*

We celebrated National Nurses Week (May 5–9) with heart, gratitude, and some well-deserved pampering for the incredible nurses who power our mission every day.

This year’s theme was “**The Power of Nurses.**” Our nurses are the healing hands and calming voices behind the scenes, so we made sure they felt the love, from personalized street signs lining the entrance to cozy gift bags filled with blankets and socks for some well-earned TLC.

Our nurses do more than care for others—they lift spirits, ease fears, and give their all.

To our nurses: You are the heart of Parc, and we’re your biggest fans!



Department Spotlight



This month, we're celebrating our incredible Transportation Team, who safely transport 88 participants daily across 9 routes. They also jump in for Adult Day Training and Discovery Learning Center field trips when needed. In one month alone, they completed 2,767 trips! That's a whole lot of miles!

But this team is more than drivers; they're full of heart, humor, and some great stories:

- **Fabio** born and raised in Italy and speaks Italian as his first language
- **Bernard** been with us for 19 years & also works at a funeral home (his nickname, "The Undertaker").
- **Carmelia** is a pastor who brings spirit to every ride.
- **Valerie** served as a military police officer, steady and strong.
- **James** is a Frankie Beverly impersonator (concert pending!)
- **Jean** keeps the laughs coming with top-tier impersonations.
- **Mark** is a pro at floor detailing.
- **Ryan** just earned his CDL—congrats!
- **Belinda** makes the best baked beans in the county.
- **Robin**, nearly 8 years in, says, "These are more than coworkers. They're my family."
- **Dave**, our fearless leader, listens, supports, and makes sure everyone feels valued.



Celebrating the World at Work: Embracing the Cultures of Parc

Take a walk across our campus and you'll quickly see—we're more than just a team. We are a global village, united by purpose and enriched by the cultures, traditions, and stories we each bring with us.

At Parc Center for Disabilities, our diversity isn't just something we're proud of, it's something we lean into to become better together. Our employees represent many corners of the world, and every culture adds color, depth, and dimension to how we care, communicate, and collaborate.

Why Cultural Diversity Matters

A diverse team brings more than variety, it brings strength. Different perspectives allow us to better understand the clients we serve and help us design solutions that reflect real-world needs. When we recognize and value each other's backgrounds, we build deeper trust, better communication, and more creative problem-solving.

Let's learn from each other! We don't need a passport to explore new traditions, just curiosity and kindness.

Ask coworkers about holidays they celebrate, Learn greetings in new languages

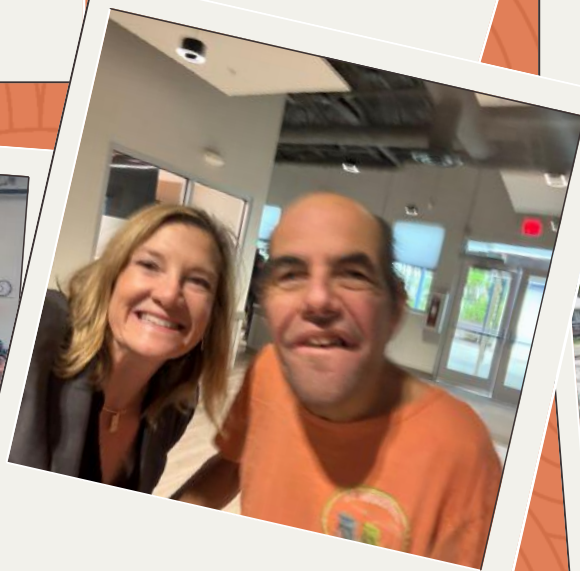
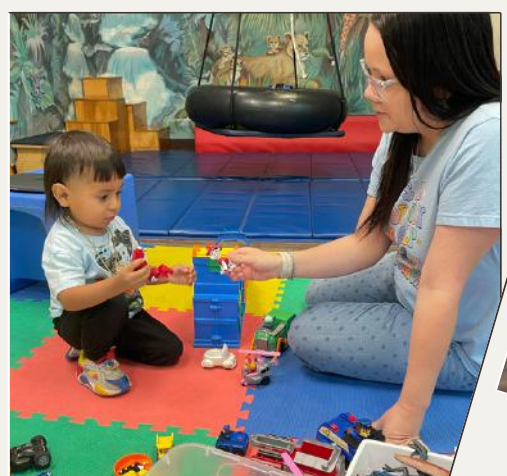
Share meals, music, and stories that reflect our heritage. Invite one another to share their traditions

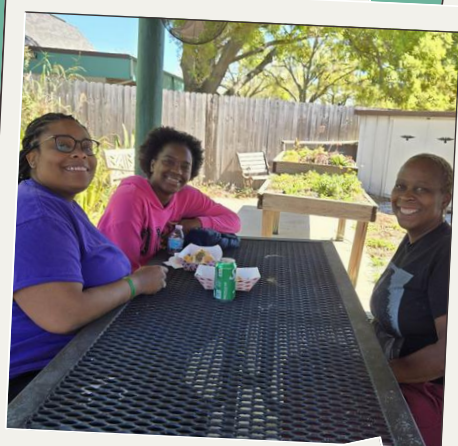
We Want to Hear From YOU!

Do you have a cultural tradition, recipe, saying, or family celebration that you'd like to share? We're collecting employee stories and traditions for the next issue of the newsletter! Send yours to hr@parc-fl.org
Include a photo if you'd like, it could be featured!

Together, we're not just coworkers, we're a living, breathing representation of the world, right here on our campus. Let's continue learning, sharing, and growing side by side, culture by culture.

We're Family







HARD HAT CHRONICLES

Your source for all things under construction! Here's the latest scoop on our building projects.

 Children's Services Center : This project is bursting with color and progress! The building is now proudly painted with our brand colors, wrapped in bold stripes all around. Our signature orange roof is being installed, giving the center a vibrant finish. Construction remains right on schedule for completion by the end of October 2025. It's looking more like our Children's Services Center's new home every day!

 Adult Community Center Renovations: We did it! Renovations are officially complete, and programs have moved in as of June 30th. Fresh walls, ceilings, and flooring now welcome staff and visitors alike. Up next: a brand-new canopy around the building to top it all off—stay tuned!!

 Generator & Bathroom Bonanza: Progress continues across multiple grant projects:

- Curry and Burkett are still scheduled for brand-new generators, though installation is slightly delayed due to equipment lead times.
- At Bert Muller Home, Phase IV of the four-year bathroom renovation project kicked off in June and is on track for completion in October 2025.

 Cottage Kitchen Updates: Both the North and South Cottages recently received kitchen refreshes, featuring new flooring, countertops, and cabinetry—a big win for daily living comfort and functionality!

 A Huge Thank You! We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all team members, residents, Adult Day Participants, and all program teams for your patience, flexibility, and understanding throughout these construction efforts.



Hurricane Season is Here



Be Prepared

*The 2025 Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30, and forecasters are predicting an above-average season with **17 named storms, 9 hurricanes, and 4 major hurricanes.***

Here's how you can stay safe and ready:

- Know Your Evacuation Zone: Visit kyz.pinellas.gov to find out if you're in a flood or evacuation zone.
- Build an Emergency Kit: Include water, non-perishable food, medications, flashlight, batteries, important documents, and pet supplies.
- Fuel Up: Keep your gas tank at least half full, fuel shortages are common during emergencies.
- Plan Ahead: Set a family communication plan and choose a meeting place.

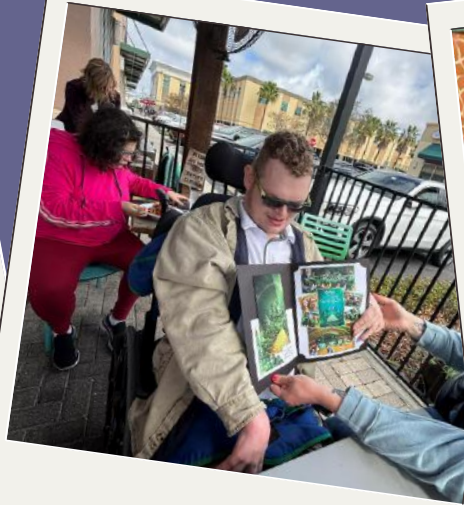
Local Shelter Info & Special Needs Assistance:

Find nearby shelters and register for special needs accommodations at pinellas.gov.

Get Real-Time Alerts:

Sign up for Alert Pinellas to receive emergency notifications at pinellas.gov/alert-pinellas.

Our Why



What Is Philanthropy?

Philanthropy means giving to help others. At Parc Center for Disabilities, we believe that everyone can be a philanthropist. You don't have to be rich or famous—you just have to care.



There are three powerful ways you can give:

Time – Volunteering or helping when and where you can

Talents – Using your special skills to make things better

Treasures – Giving what you can, when you can

Every time you give in one of these ways, you're helping people live fuller, more meaningful lives. That's what philanthropy is all about.

If you work at Parc, you already have a powerful story. You make a difference every day. When you talk about your work, whether to friends, family, or someone in the community, you're sharing that story.

And when someone listens and asks questions, pay attention.

Maybe they want to get involved. Maybe they want to give. Listen closely and don't be afraid to say,

"I'd love to connect you with someone who can tell you more."

This is how we grow a culture of giving, by sharing, listening, and inviting others in.

Parc has been here for **73** years because people have given of themselves in one way or another.

We wouldn't be here today without those who shared their time, talents, or treasures.

And we won't continue to grow without each of you.

Every act of kindness, Every hour worked, Every dollar given. It all adds up.

Together, we are philanthropy in action.

