



LivingHealthy^{with} PWS

LathamCenters Quarterly Newsletter



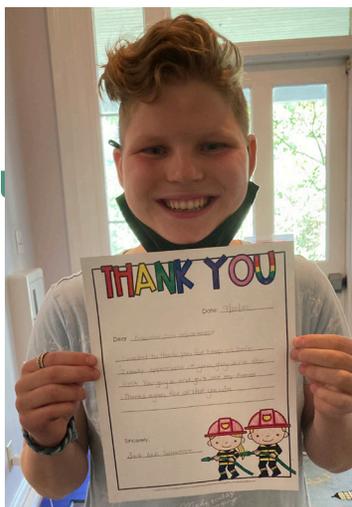
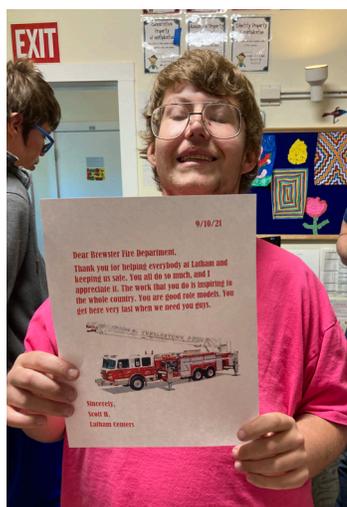
Latham Centers creates opportunities for independence, self-worth, and happiness for children and adults with complex special needs.

Campus Happenings: Memorable 9/11 and SummerTide

A campus-wide remembrance of September 11, 2001 honored the heroes of 9/11. Led by Assistant Residential Director Patti Hynes-Morris, students and staff participated in brief readings about heroism and patriotism. The American flag was prominently displayed by students, and a traditional flag ceremony was led by our students who raise the flag daily as part of their vocational job.

Some of our students also attended the Cruise to Remember car parade in Hyannis – ‘20 miles for 20 years’. Our thoughtful Latham students also advocated to go to the Brewster Fire Department Headquarters for the 6 p.m. Remembrance Ceremony, and those who remained on campus joined a patriotic craft project available in the suite.

“No day shall erase you from the memory of time. We will never forget.”



Students Participate in September 11th Remembrances

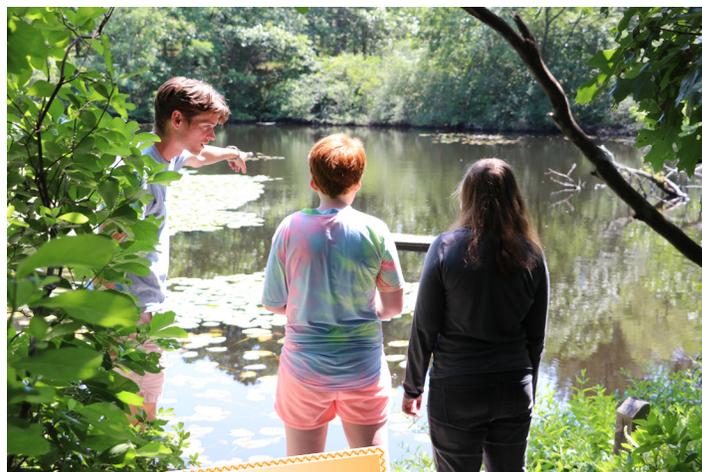
A Snapshot of SummerTide *Independence and Confidence*

When giving a tour of our Brewster campus this summer, Katrina Fryklund asked students to name their favorite thing about Latham Centers. Almost all of them said “SUMMERTIDE!” SummerTide is a field trip based extended school year program which allows our students to get out in the community, learn about Cape Cod, and focus on fun outdoor activities.

Students break up in groups and staff take them on outings to local favorites like the Pleasant Bay area in Harwich and the Audubon in Wellfleet. Students and staff also welcomed visitors to campus who brought engaging and educational experiments.

This year was an exciting time in our SummerTide history as seven students joined us for their extended school year program. Five students joined us for eight-week durations, while two joined us for four weeks. At the end of the program, each student came away with an award; *Leadership*, *Friendship*, *Growth in Flexible Thinking*, and *Most Adventurous* were awarded, among others.

At the end of the experience, one parent said that her daughter “has had an incredible opportunity to become part of such an inclusive community where PWS is just a part of life. We learn to celebrate all of the wonderful things she is capable of while recognizing and addressing her needs as well. [The SummerTide Program] allowed her to go on-site to the beautiful campus where she grew in independence and confidence. We also gained insight with identifying academic skills to help partner with the school district and provide the best learning environment that challenges her and creates more independence as well as a future for her to make an impact.”



'Latham Star' Spotlights

Recognizing Clinician Viki Phiri

Director of Social Services Viki Phiri joined Latham's Children's Program as a per diem employee, earning promotions within the residential and clinical teams. Last year, she was promoted to lead the Clinical Team. Viki and the Children's Social Services Department provide clinical supports to our students, working collaboratively with the Education, Nursing, and Residential components at our Brewster campus.



Superhero clinician, supportive colleague, and recently certified BCBA Viki Phiri

Viki has high regard for the great work of Latham Centers' direct support professionals, noting, "You all come in every day showing up for our kids – during school, residential, and overnight hours. Thank you so much for all that you do!" Viki's commitment to our mission is also to be commended! She is pursuing continued education and is a shining example of

perseverance and dedication. Viki works very closely with our students, and she's incredibly supportive of her colleagues. The clinical department is the "hub of communication" for parents, guardians, and staff on campus, and Viki skillfully leads the team.

"Viki has been transformative in her role as Director of Social Services," noted Gerry Pouliot, our Children's Program Director. "Viki started in her new role as we were in the thick of the pandemic. Her innovation and vision have been essential in ensuring that our students receive the very best clinical services. Viki leads this charge with grace and determination."



Social Services team members as "The Incredibles"

Recognizing Student Joselyn

Learning about life at Latham in the words of our students is a wonder to behold! In our 17th PWS University Podcast featuring Joselyn, she explains how she won the Healthy Lifestyle Award, and she shares highlights of Latham Centers' SummerTide program: <https://pwsuniversity.podbean.com/e/pws-university-episode-17-summertide-at-latham-centers-with-student-joselyn/>. In the seven-minute podcast, Joselyn discusses her goals, proudly explains how far she's come, and shares that having PWS has never held her back. When you listen, "it's as if you can hear her smile!" Joselyn's smile is contagious with staff and students, and her giggle can be heard across the Special Olympics training field.

One area in which Joselyn has truly blossomed is making lasting friendships. More often than not, Joselyn is seen walking with friends on the campus track.

Director of National Outreach Katrina Fryklund interviewed Joselyn in the podcast, noting that she continues to make strides, achieve her goals, and be honored by staff and peers. At our Children's Program monthly community meeting, recognitions are presented to students and staff, and Joselyn has won the following awards over the past six months:

- In April, Joselyn won the Sweatband Award, given to a student who worked tirelessly on his or her clinical goals.
- In May, she won the Cleanest Room Award for the Cottage Dormitory, and...
- In August, she won the Healthy Lifestyle Award, given to a student who continued to maintain a healthy school/social-life/fitness balance.

Congratulations to our quarterly Stars, Viki and Joselyn!



Joselyn with her hat at Field Day



Joselyn: Smiling student, caring friend, award-winning learner

Join us on Our Latham Socials!

Like us and spread the word! Check out our Instagram and Facebook Pages @LathamCenters to stay tuned in to what is happening this fall. Make sure to keep updated on our blog (lathamcenters.org/blog/) as well for our Tip of the Week by Patrice Carroll, Director of PWS Services.



Direct Care Staff Honored by Latham

This year’s Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week (September 12-18th) was the perfect end-of-summer celebration. Latham Centers honored our DSPs with brief video messages of appreciation (now available on our website: <https://www.lathamcenters.org/direct-care-staff/>.) We welcome this annual event and the opportunity to illuminate the exceptional work of our Children’s and Adult Services Program staff. Around the clock, Latham’s DSPs make a profound difference in the lives of individuals with PWS and other complex needs.

On the final day of DSP Recognition Week, Latham Centers joined the Cape Cod St. Patrick’s Parade in honor of all essential workers. It was a gorgeous September day for the 16th annual parade (postponed for 6 months), and staff and students had a fabulous time along Route 28 in Yarmouth. The float streamed with sparkly green, a rainbow and pot of gold, a leprechaun, our blue Latham Hawk mascot, and messages of appreciation. Students were delighted to be there – some rode on the float, waving and hearing the cheers and clapping along the entire route, and some watched the parade with their staff. Many people thanked Latham and our essential staff as we passed by.



Students helped create the giant “HEROES WORK HERE” float sign with colorful handprints.