

Sharing The Center for Family Support Stories



At the **Center for Family Support**, we have the privilege of working with **over 1,000 amazing individuals** and employing even more **compassionate support staff**.

We want to tell your stories, one article or social post at a time!

Here are the kinds of stories we want to bring to life with your help:

- Examples of our person-centered mission in action.
- When an individual is participating in an integrated program or engaging with their community.
- How you and/or your team came up with a solution to a problem.
- Celebrations of our participants' lives – growth, milestones, etc.
- Showcases of the power of the CFS community and special staff accomplishments.
- Our participants doing things that are spontaneous and fun!



Not sure what we're looking to share?

Check out www.cfsny.org/stories for some recent examples.



There are lots of ways to share your story!

We share your stories with the CFS community on our website, through email, and across our social media platforms. Our participants love seeing themselves and their support staff in our posts and on the website – and the rest of the CFS community does, too.

- You can use the back of this form to share story ideas with us so we can work with you, your CFS teammates, and the participants involved to tell the whole story. We'll interview the people involved, and for events, we'll come out, take pictures, and talk with those there.
- You can send us shorter ideas or tips directly to development@cfsny.org.
- You can also document and write your own stories!

If you are taking photos for a story, here are some tips:

- If you know of an event coming up that you think would be great for us to feature, let us know and we'll send someone to the event to take pictures, and interview people there to make it easier for you.
- If you are taking a video or photograph, have everyone fill out a release form right when you take it! It's easy to fill out the consent form online from your phone: <https://cfsny.org/consent-form/>.
- Here are some tips for taking good photos and videos:
 - **Clean your camera lens.** Everyone's cell phones get dirty. A simple wipe with any cloth or a shirt can go a long way!
 - **Check the lighting.** Natural light is best, with the light in front of the subject. For example, don't take a picture with their back to a window.
 - **Take photos horizontally (landscape).** Vertical photos (portrait) are difficult to post on most platforms.
 - **If you can avoid it, don't zoom in** because then the image can get blurry.
 - In the image screen you can **tap on your subject** to get better focus on them.
 - **Take multiple pictures from multiple angles.** Remember to keep everyone in the photo as you move around.
 - It's always nice to have **close up shots** to choose from, when that's possible.
 - Don't ask people to pose. **Take natural, candid action shots.** People love seeing others having fun!



CFS Story Idea Form



We want to share with the world a variety of **stories that showcase what makes CFS special: our participants and our staff.**

You can use this form to share your ideas with the communications team so we can work with you to tell your story.

Scan the QR Code to fill out this form online
cfsny.org/cfs-story-idea-form



Your Information

Name _____ Your title _____

What program do you work in (if residence, note which one) _____

Your email _____ Your phone number _____

Story Information

What will this story showcase? Please check all that apply:

- Examples of our person-centered mission in action.
- Participants in integrated programs or engaging with their community.
- A celebration of our participants' lives – growth, milestones, ect.
- Spontaneous and fun experiences.
- Staff coming up with a unique solution to a problem.
- The power of the CFS community and/or special staff accomplishments.

Please share a brief description of your story idea

Who will be able to tell this story? _____

Will there be photo opportunities? Yes No

If it's an event, what's the event date? _____

Send completed form to development@cfsny.org. Communications and development staff will reach out to help tell this story, including setting up interviews, as needed.



And remember to follow us on social media and share the posts you see of yourselves, your colleagues, and the wonderful people we work with!