



ABILITIES FIRST
ENRICHING THE LIVES OF CHILDREN
& ADULTS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASE

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ABILITIES FIRST ANNOUNCES DIRECTOR OF PHILANTHROPY

Wappingers Falls, N.Y. (November 1, 2019) – Abilities First, a premier provider of programs and services for individuals with disabilities in the Hudson Valley, has named JoAnn Parker as their Director of Philanthropy.

Parker has had a successful career in development, resulting in significant relationships and impact to the organizations she has worked with. Most recently, Parker was the Regional Director of the American Heart Association, serving Orange, Rockland and Sullivan Counties.

“We are pleased to have JoAnn joining our leadership team as the Foundation continues to develop and Abilities First experiences significant growth in the Hudson Valley,” said Melissa McCoy, CFRE, CFRM, Chief Advancement Officer of Abilities First.

“JoAnn will work with the leadership of Abilities First, Inc., as well as the Abilities First Board of Directors and the Foundation for Abilities First NY Board, to further develop and implement the organization’s philanthropic strategies with a focus on garnering the financial resources to preserve, strengthen and support the ever-changing climate and needs of the organization,” added McCoy.

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About Abilities First

Founded in 1962, Abilities First is a nonprofit organization serving the needs of those with developmental disabilities from early intervention through adulthood. With more than 650 dedicated employees committed to providing educational, vocational, residential, habilitation and family support services, Abilities First gives individuals with disabilities and their families the support to attain independence, self-determination, integration and acceptance by others. In serving over 1,400 children and adults throughout the Hudson Valley region of New York State, Abilities First holds a long-term commitment to creating a cohesive culture of compassion, empowerment and respect for these individuals through education, exploration and experience.

Abilities First is accredited for person-centered care by the Council on Quality and Leadership.

For more information, visit www.AbilitiesFirstNY.org or on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/AbilitiesFirstInc.