Community:

a body of persons of common interests scattered through a larger society; a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests and goals.
In the 1880s, a caring community founded an orphanage to serve children in great need. That orphanage was the origin of today's Spectrum360. This community was not only committed to providing for the children's basic requirements, but to creating an environment to nurture their self-esteem, creativity, individual abilities and potential. The orphanage provided experiences and activities all children need and deserve, with the support required for them to succeed. This same sense of community and its caring values were maintained when, in 1963, the organization became a school and it has continued to this day.

Since that beginning, this constant caring community has shaped Spectrum360. We have greatly expanded the scope of our programs and services, which now include two schools, adult centers and specialty programs serving individuals on the autism spectrum and with behavioral and related disabilities. Our staff of highly trained professionals from over 16 disciplines, the best evidence-based practices and the most advanced computer technology, have made a major contribution to the success of our students and clients. Our staff is involved in after school and weekend activities, respite and fundraising. They’ve used their talents and passions to create a myriad of programs, providing opportunities for our students and adults to develop their special abilities with the support and accommodations required to succeed. Many of our students had met failure in previous school experiences before coming to Spectrum360. And many of our adults could not find an appropriate program and remained isolated at home before enrolling in Spectrum360’s programs.

What has made the difference? Why are these children and adults succeeding at Spectrum360? We believe the special ingredient that makes the difference is the entire caring community of staff, board, volunteers, parents, donors, corporations, foundations and committed friends dedicated to contributing the effort and resources necessary to foster the abilities and potential of all the individuals we serve. And we thank them all for their dedication to helping us create a spectrum of options across a lifetime.

But, communities consist of individuals, and in this report, we celebrate some of the unique and surprising individual relationships that have developed between students, adults and Spectrum360 staff. The stories of these relationships illustrate the impact of our caring community and the true legacy of our organization…one relationship at a time.
Abhi S. has music in his soul! When he arrived at Academy360 Lower School as a preschooler he didn’t have much speech, but physical education teacher Megan Durkin quickly noticed that Abhi communicated through music and dance. Now a first grader, Abhi has found his voice, but music and movement remain an important part of his life.

Abhi’s first year at A360 was also Megan’s. She was immediately drawn to this very shy, quiet little boy because she had been the same at his age. Sports and athletics helped her find her place in the world and she was determined to find that special talent that would help Abhi do the same. Their friendship developed over time, but discovering that he loved song and dance was the key that opened the door.

The music and dance in A360 PE classes has helped Abhi blossom. He eagerly responds to the verbal directions in the songs as well as to Megan’s voice. While he loves all the music Megan plays, he particularly enjoys The Freeze Dance where students must stop and hold a dance position when instructed to do so. Megan is impressed with his ability to find the beat in any song. Abhi’s love of this activity has led to him becoming Megan’s class assistant. He knows the routine of closing the door, picking the music she requests and turning it on.

Engagement in music and dance have helped Abhi to become more social. He notices the other students more and often takes on a leadership role with his peers. He has become an empathetic and inquisitive boy who wants to know everyone’s name, is eager to learn and is happy to be at school.

While dance remains an important part of their relationship, recently Megan has been working with Abhi on basic basketball skills. While dribbling is hard, he has picked it up quickly and will demonstrate the skill for other students. Since Megan is also the coach for the middle school basketball team, we suspect she has plans in mind for her tall, lanky friend!

“Music and dance let Abhi show his creative side and blow off some steam.”

Megan Durkin
A360 Lower School PE Teacher
"I’m so proud of the wonderful young man Ryan has become."

Anne Beaucamp
A360 Upper School Administrative Assistant and Transportation Coordinator

The first day Ryan J. T. got off the bus at Academy360 (then The Children’s Institute) he made a run for it -- with staff in hot pursuit. Clearly, he was going to be a challenge, but Anne Beauchamp, Administrative Assistant and Transportation Coordinator, was up for it! Anne was immediately drawn to the then 10-year-old Ryan. Remembering back, she described him as, “A little guy who you just wanted to love and hug.”

While Ryan had difficulty acclimating to school at first, Anne used his love of pizza to engage with him. Each Friday, Ryan and his grandmother would go for pizza and then to watch the trains at various train stations, one of Ryan’s keen interests. And each Monday, Anne would ask him about the type of pizza he ate. She was amazed at his adventurous palate in toppings!

These chats led to Ryan becoming Anne’s assistant in distributing the school’s Friday pizza orders. Ryan moved from being accompanied by his aide for this activity to helping Anne on his own. Eventually, he began handling the entire process by himself. Now, he accepts the delivery, counts the pizzas, socializes with the delivery man and gives him a tip, copies the receipt for Anne, delivers the pizzas to the cafeteria and gives the original receipt to the food service representative, and returns the delivery cart.

At 18, Anne still finds Ryan just as lovable. But much has changed since those first days. Their close bond has helped Ryan address other challenges as well. She has accompanied him on drives to his Community Based Work Experience internship, and has cajoled him into going swimming. Now in the A360 Young Adult Program, he helps another staff member with filing, has volunteered at the library, and in general, has become a sought after and very responsible young man.

Through his years at A360, “Miss Anne” has remained Ryan’s touchstone. He still visits with her every day in the front office and chats with her while waiting for his bus. No one worries about Ryan bolting anymore.
“Cassie, you are taking me to Indiana!” So began Matt and Cassandra’s trip to the US Figure Skating 10th Annual National Theater on Ice Competition. At first, Cassandra Wilson, Independence360’s Activities Coordinator, didn’t think Matt was serious, but when she discovered that Matt’s skating team was competing in the event and that his parents couldn’t take him, she was in. Matt’s parents were grateful that Cassandra agreed to the two-day trip. It was Matt and Cassandra’s first time traveling alone together and she took over 100 pictures to chronicle the adventure for his parents.

Cassandra was determined to make it a positive experience for Matt, so the trip took some planning. Before boarding, she spoke to the crew of each of their flights, and called ahead to restaurants where they dined to make sure the experience would go smoothly. With Matt’s big personality, everyone quickly knew who they were and they were very accommodating. Matt did great, even helping another airline passenger who was nervous about flying.

The skating competition was fierce. Matt was nervous, but Cassandra helped him calm himself and focus before the event. Matt’s team, which performed a synchronized Star Wars-themed number, included 17 members. The team did an awesome job and they won second place! Cassandra was so proud when Matt raced over to show her his silver medal.

Cassandra and Matt’s relationship has been a slow build over the past 5 years. Matt can be rambunctious, but for Cassandra, that’s what makes him great. She’s learned to look for the good in Matt and feels that they have a great relationship because she doesn’t sweat the small stuff. According to Cassandra, with Matt, you have to pick your battles and use humor to address difficult situations. She’s good at setting Matt up for success and helping to calm him when he is having a rough moment. Their relationship is based on mutual respect, and she has no trouble letting him know when he is not acting like a friend.

“Matthew is part of my heart. You have to love him on his terms… that’s why our friendship works,” offers Cassandra. And Matt replies with an impish grin, “Cassie’s a good Mamacita!”
“Zach is my buddy. I like the two different sides of him I’ve gotten to know.”
Larry Banks
FA360 Studio Assistant

Sometimes relationships just click. So it was with Larry Banks, FilmAcademy360 (FA360) studio assistant and student, Zach E. When Zach joined FA360, he was in a shell. Who knew that beneath that shy exterior was a budding stand up comic who loved Jim Carrey, Mike Myers and Will Ferrell? With Larry’s help, Zach has gotten comfortable enough to share his inner jokester with the world.

While Larry had worked with students and adults at Spectrum360, joining the FA360 staff was a natural fit. He’d worked as the business manager for his sons’ musical act and had just the right skills and personality to draw Zach out. Zach took to Larry almost immediately.

When he first started, Zach struggled with verbal communication. He had an extremely nasal tone which lacked modulation and adequate volume. Larry’s background in music and using voice effectively was a big help. He spent endless hours working with Zach to support his ability to use his voice more effectively. They developed a level of trust that allowed Larry to push Zach past his comfort zone and significantly improve his voice. He is now able to read a script with effective pacing, volume, tone and modulation of voice.

When they started working together, rehearsals were fine, but Zach would freeze when in front of the camera. With great patience and empathy, Larry has worked with Zach to help him perfect, learn and practice his scripts. Their work together has paid off. Zach is now more comfortable in front of the camera. He has also made significant progress in his overall self-confidence and willingness to socialize, and has been able to generalize these new skills to other situations.

As they’ve gotten to know each other, Zach has shared his video ideas with Larry. With his comic muses as his inspiration, Zach has blossomed, showing Larry his funny side and expressing himself with original ideas. Through the process of digital storytelling, Larry and Zach have developed a meaningful coach/student relationship, and a friendship as well.
Angie, as she is known to her friends, was not always a foodie. As a little girl, her food choices were very limited. Despite her parents’ constant attempts to broaden her palate, they described her as a very picky eater. But all that changed when she took Chef Matthew’s culinary class as an A360 Upper School elective. That class led to enrollment in the new CulinaryAcademy360 program where Angie has found her passion.

When she first began working with Chef Matthews, the Director of CulinaryAcademy360, Angie was shy and demure. Still, he could see her keen interest in the cooking techniques he was teaching and her great culinary skills. Before long she was helping other students, making sure that they were following directions and paying attention to Chef. Angie had become so skilled in the kitchen that Chef made her his assistant! He is delighted with her enthusiasm and now describes their relationship as that of mentor and mentee.

With Chef’s encouragement, Angie began experimenting with different recipes. That opened up a whole new world for her. She will now scour cookbooks for new and interesting dishes to cook, and she tastes everything! Her parents are amazed when they see her enjoying foods with sauces, spicy foods... things she would never have touched previously. Now, she regularly reminds her parents, “I really need to try new foods.” And when they create a dish in class, Angie will research alternative ways to make the same dish on her own.

At home, Angie has been measuring, chopping, cutting, cubing and mincing, much to the delight of her parents. Cooking together with her parents, they’ve made dishes like spaghetti alla carbonara, angel hair pasta with garlic, herbs and parmesan, and mozzarella mac and cheese alfredo. Angie regularly texts pictures of her various creations to Chef, who cheers her on.

Angie’s relationship with Chef Matthews has changed her life. With Chef as her role model, she now plans to attend college and culinary school. Her goal? To work with Chef Matthews teaching culinary skills to special needs students at Academy360 Upper School! Angie’s parents are behind her plan 100% and will do everything in their power to help her succeed.

“Food and cooking has changed Angie’s life. She has blossomed into a confident young lady who has a clear vision of what she wants.”

Chef Michael Matthews
Director of CA360
“Rahiem, Steve, and Kim are responsible for 90% of who I am today.”

John P.
S360 Alumnus

To John P., Spectrum360 (S360) is like home. He attended Academy360 (then The Children’s Institute) from Pre-K until his graduation in 1999. Now the assistant manager of a restaurant, he lives independently and has a girlfriend. According to John, these achievements were only possible because of the ongoing guidance and affection of staff members Rahiem Dawsey, Steve Waters and Kim Rushmore. Since graduation, they have remained his counselors and confidants. To John, they are simply his family.

As a boy, John liked to help S360’s Director of Maintenance, Rahiem Dawsey, and they developed a close relationship almost immediately. John describes him as his older brother. He knows he can always depend on Rahiem for practical advice and help making good decisions. They visit monthly when John stops by the S360 Alumni Fun and Games Night.

Steve Waters, Academy360 Upper School PE teacher and basketball coach, also remains a big influence in his life. John never knew his father but says Steve “treats him like a son.” He credits “Coach” with instilling a great work ethic in him and teaching him that he should treat others as he wishes to be treated.

John also continues to rely on Kim Rushmore, the Independence360 Program Director, for assistance with “personal life stuff.” She helps him complete paperwork when needed, and has made sure his refrigerator was full when he could not afford food. He’s learned a lot from her about taking care of himself, like making sure he pays his bills and “buying what you need and want, but buying what you need first.” He knows he can count on Kim to be there.

John, who had a troubled youth, is thankful for the ongoing support of his S360 family. In his words, “They’ve had a big impact on my life. Without their guidance, I probably would have wound up in jail.” For many years after he graduated, John helped Raheim set up for each Academy360 Upper School graduation, but working full time has made that difficult. He still gives back in other ways though, donating books and sporting equipment to the school.

Clearly our staff’s commitment to our students and clients extends way beyond their formal ties to Spectrum360.
A Year of Accomplishments

2016-17 was an exciting year for Spectrum360. While there were too many achievements to list all of them, here are some of the highlights from various programs.

September 2016
Launch of our Shiny New Website and Blog
As part of our rebranding plan, we created a dynamic new website with information about our programs and services all in one place. In addition, we launched a community blog as part of the site where staff, students, clients, parents and community partners share their experiences and expertise! Check out our new site and blog at Spectrum360.org.

September 2016
Parent Ambassadors Begin
Fostering a sense of community can be a challenge when you are serving families from 90 school districts spread across central and northern NJ. But our new Parent Ambassador program has met the challenge! Created to help parents increase their knowledge of and involvement with S360, the inaugural class of 11 parent volunteers, representing every S360 program, attended extensive training and began reaching out to their peers to make sure that every family feels connected to Spectrum360 and has someone to turn to for information or support. We are excited to build on this program in the future.

October 2016
CulinaryAcademy360 Starts Cooking
With a generous grant from the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey, we launched CulinaryAcademy360. Under the direction of Chef Matthews, after school and evening classes are offered for Academy360 students aged 14 and older, Independence360 clients, and students and adults with ASD from other schools and programs. Class levels vary and focus on cooking to increase independence or exploration of food service as a vocational opportunity. All dishes are made from scratch, and classes incorporate culinary math, science, history and culture, as well as food safety. All we can say is YUM!
March 21, 2017
**Bobby Flay in the CA360 Kitchen**

It was so exciting to host Chef Bobby Flay at our new Independence360 instructional kitchen. He graciously provided a cooking demonstration, and was part of a panel of client and student judges in a “throw down” style competition between our A360 and I360 culinary students. It was a tough call as both chicken dishes were delicious, but the A360 team won. We call a rematch!

April 5, 2017
**Independence360 Cuts the Ribbon**

With over 150 dignitaries, clients, parents and staff in attendance, we joyfully cut the ribbon on our new I360 Whippany location, made possible by generous donations to our year-long $600,000 capital campaign. The new state-of-the-art space, complete with a beautiful instructional kitchen generously funded by the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey, allows us to greatly expand the number of clients we serve and increase the services and opportunities we offer.

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**January 3 – March 19, 2017**

**Getting Fit with Fitbit360 Initiative**

Moving in the right direction starts with just one step. Thanks to a grant from The Drive for Autism Foundation, over 50 participants started on their journeys toward a healthier lifestyle. Teams of A360 Middle School students, their parents and staff members were given Fitbits to track activity levels and nutritional intake. Special A360 evening and weekend events taught families how to make fitness fun and healthy foods delicious. During the 10-week program, steps were gained, pounds were lost and relationships were developed. We tracked data to quantify our results, but immediate evidence of success was found on our wrists and plates. Months later, over 80% of our participants were still wearing their Fitbits, tracking their steps and choosing healthier food options.
May 17, 2017
FilmAcademy360 Film Festival Entertains a Crowd

For the 4th year in a row, the Bickford Theatre was filled with an appreciative audience of over 100 excited to see the most recent accomplishments of our FA360 students. Videos shown ranged from spoofs to dramatic short films, representing the work of 18 students from across northern NJ. Students filled with pride as they introduced their films. For many, this is their first time speaking publicly.

May 31 – June 1, 2017
The Little Mermaid Makes a Big Splash

With the largest Academy360 Upper School cast ever assembled, the cast and crew outdid themselves with this production. The costumes were clever, the sets were creative and the acting, singing and dancing were superb! Students, staff and our wonderful community partners from Novartis worked together to create a magical environment for the actors. Held at the beautiful Bickford Theatre at the Morris Museum, both evening performances were sold out a month before opening night.

June 13, 2017
Celebrating Spectrum360

For the first time, Spectrum360 celebrated our yearly achievements with an annual meeting attended by staff, families and community partners. The over 175 guests were treated with an inspirational talk by nationally known guest speaker, Ron Fournier, father of a son with autism and author of Love that Boy: What Two Presidents, Eight Road Trips and My Son Taught Me About a Parent’s Expectations. We shared a video touting our accomplishments and took the opportunity to thank Construction Risk Partners LLC, the Conti Group, Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey and the Blanche & Irving Laurie Foundation with Spectrum360 Inaugural Pillar Awards for their generous donations in excess of $15,000 during the year. We also honored Regina Cioffi as our Parent Volunteer of the Year, Bill Zaleski of Dax Systems, Inc., as our Employer of the Year and client Leila Ganjei with our Annual Achievement Award. What a night!
Our Programs and Services

**Academy360** includes two NJ State Board of Education Approved Private Schools for students on the autism spectrum and with behavioral and related disabilities, ages 3-21. The programs include comprehensive evidence-based academic instruction based on Differentiated Instruction, Universal Design and Discrete Trial Learning, life skills, career development and instruction in special areas including art, music, video production, culinary and horticulture.

**Academy360 Lower School** offers education for students in preschool, elementary, middle school and 9th grade.

**Academy360 Upper School** offers education for students from 10th through 12th grade and a Young Adult Program for students aged 18–21.

**Independence360** is an approved vendor for the NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), offering a Day Habilitation Program promoting life, social, vocational skills and personal development. We offer respite and more for adults with autism and related developmental disabilities. I360 is also approved by NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) to provide pre-placement and time limited supported employment.

**FilmAcademy360** offers teens and adults a unique hands-on educational environment designed to help diverse learners explore and learn through filmmaking, video editing, game creation and graphic arts. Classes are offered after school, on weekends and during the summer, and are open to students from other schools as well as adults in the community.

**CulinaryAcademy360** provides instruction by professional chefs who teach “from scratch” culinary skills to teens and adults with autism and behavioral and related disabilities. Participants learn in supportive hands-on classes in professional grade kitchens, with options to expand their cooking skills for fun, independence or vocational exploration. Classes are offered after school, on evenings and weekends, and are open to students from other schools as well as adults in the community.

Available programs and services include:

- Individual and group counseling and social skills training provided by social workers, counselors and psychologists
- Psychiatric consultation
- Parent training and support provided by trained mental health professionals
- Applied behavioral analysis provided by bcbas
- Speech and language analysis provided by bcbas
- Physical therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Medical services provided by school nurses and a school physician
- Comprehensive and assistive technology
- Visual arts
- Music
- Drama
- Yoga
- Video production
- Culinary arts
- Horticulture
- Physical education and intramural sports
- Life skills instruction
- Community-based instruction
- Community-based work experience
- Vocational assessment, training, and support
- Extracurricular activities, including:
  - Respite Program
  - After School Programs
  - Adult Enrichment Program
  - Integrated activities with neurotypical peers
  - Scouting
We Love Our Community Partners

It’s a big world out there, and our students and adults are excited to be part of it! Our community partners help make that happen. Through recreational, cultural, work and volunteer opportunities, our partners expand our reach and provide invaluable interactions with the larger community, enriching our students’ and adults’ understanding of the world around them.

**Academy360 Lower School**

**After School Program and Clubs:**
- Green Hill Nursing Home
- Livingston Heritage Middle School Program
- Caldwell Community Center
- NJ Rock Gym
- Eagle Rock Lanes
- West Orange Stables

**Student Interns/Volunteers:**
- College of St. Elizabeth
- Golda Och Academy
- Montclair State University
- Seton Hall University
- Verona High School Capstone Program
- Montclair Kimberley Academy

**Community Experience:**
- Bright and Beautiful Pet Therapy
- Caldwell Pediatric Therapy Center
- Caldwell Public Library
- CVS
- Essex County Prosecutor’s Office
- Franco’s Restaurant
- Franklin Steak House
- Godfather Pizzeria
- Goodwill Industries
- Home Goods (East Hanover)
- Joy Dew (Denville)
- Kings Supermarket (Verona)
- Kohl’s (Woodland Park)
- Marshalls (Totowa, West Caldwell, East Hanover)
- Modell’s Sporting Goods (Livingston, Woodland Park)
- Hackensack UMC/Mountainside Hospital
- Olive Garden (Livingston)
- Saint Barnabas Ambulatory Care Center
- St. Hubert’s Animal Welfare Center
- Walgreens
- [words] Bookstore
- Petco
- Regent Street Cafe
- Shop Rite
- TGIFridays
- TJ Maxx

**Volunteer/Donation Opportunities:**
- Bear Hugs for the Holidays (St. Barnabas Medical Center)
- Pajama Program for the Holidays
- Big Dog Rescue Project
- Montclair Food Pantry
- Novartis
- Operation Homefront
- St. Barnabas Medical Center Pediatrics Department
- Susan G. Komen Foundation
- Toni’s Kitchen
- Toys for Tots
- 4-H

**Academy360 Upper School**

**After School Program:**
- Livingston High School
- Montclair Kimberley Academy
- Mount Saint Dominic Academy
- Seton Hall Preparatory School

**Community-based Work Experience Prgm:**
- Advanced Cardiology
- The Bethwood
- Caldwell Pediatric Therapy Center
- Caldwell Public Library
- CVS
- Essex County Prosecutor’s Office
- Franco’s Restaurant
- Franklin Steak House
- Godfather Pizzeria
- Goodwill Industries
- Home Goods (East Hanover)
- Joy Dew (Denville)
- Kings Supermarket (Verona)
- Kohl’s (Woodland Park)
- Marshalls (Totowa, West Caldwell, East Hanover)
- Modell’s Sporting Goods (Livingston, Woodland Park)
- Hackensack UMC/Mountainside Hospital
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- Saint Barnabas Ambulatory Care Center
- St. Hubert’s Animal Welfare Center
- Walgreens
- [words] Bookstore
- Petco
- Regent Street Cafe
- Shop Rite
- TGIFridays
- TJ Maxx

**Independence360**

**Volunteers:**
- Steven Institute of Technology

**Volunteer Opportunities:**
- Bollinger/Gallagher Insurance (Whippany)
- CR Bard
- Community Food Bank of NJ
- Harmony House (Newark)
- Knights of Columbus
- Morris County Habitat for Humanity
- New Eyes for the Needy (Millburn)
- Novartis
- PSE&G
- Sunrise Assisted Living
- St. Hubert’s Animal Welfare Center

**Employment:**
- Briad Group
- Comprehensive Cardiovascular Consultants
- Delaware North Food Services
- FTC FBO
- LLC Fly Virus Free
- McGivney & Kluger
- Morris County Habitat for Humanity
- New Eyes for the Needy (Millburn)
- Novartis
- PSE&G
- Sunrise Assisted Living
- St. Hubert’s Animal Welfare Center

**Fitness:**
- Capelli of New York
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Lodi and Millburn
- Retro Fitness

**FilmAcademy360**

Montclair Film Festival
- Elm City Communications
- WGBH
- Greg Perler, Hollywood Film Editor
- New Jersey Film School
- Bergen County College
- Exceptional Minds
- VSA Rosemary Kennedy Initiative
PSO360

Our PSO works tirelessly to help provide an enhanced social experience for all Academy360 Lower School and Upper School students and their families. By raising funds for student social activities, and supporting the work of the Development Department, members of the PSO are an active and vital part of our school community.

As usual, this year our Parent-Staff Organization (PSO360) was an important part of Academy360 Lower and Upper Schools. They volunteered at our Hall of Fame, Walk for a Lifetime and Fore! the Kids Golf Outing fundraisers. They organized and funded dances at our schools, monthly family movie outings, a carnival, other family activities and purchased the Spectrum360 Spirit and Sports Day tee shirts. The PSO also organized a Welcome Tea at the beginning of the year, as well as the annual Holiday Shop. And as they do every year, they generously recognized staff by sponsoring Staff Appreciation Luncheons at Academy360 Lower School and Academy360 Upper School.

Community Education
your donations make this program possible

Our annual Spectrum of Options Seminars are free educational workshops open to Spectrum360 families, staff, students and professionals in the general community. These well-attended seminars, presented by experts in their fields and our own expert staff, cover a wide range of informative topics.

The 2016-2017 Spectrum of Options Seminars included:

- **Acting as a Communications Builder**
  Presented by David DiIanni, FilmAcademy360 Program Director, and Leslie Fanelli, Instructor, VSA-NJ.

- **21st Century Safety for Children and Adults on the Spectrum: Issues and Strategies**
  Presented by Adrienne Robertiello, Autism Educator, Children’s Specialized Hospital.

- **Loss and Grief in the Lives of People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities**
  Presented by Margaret Gilbride, JD, CT, Instructor of Pediatrics, Director of Transition, Employment, and Aging & Disability, The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities.
Our Development Department works to increase S360’s ability to provide options across a lifetime in a way that is affordable for all families. Monies raised help fund Academy360 after school activities, respite, Girl Scouts and our FilmAcademy360 and CulinaryAcademy360 programs, as well as other activities not funded through tuition. Public funding does not cover the full costs of adult services offered by Independence360, so donations also help to ensure the continued high quality of this program.

This year, through grants, special events, contributions and much more, generous individuals, foundations, corporations and community partners invested nearly $900,000 into the students, clients and staff at Spectrum360.

Our Fore the Kids Golf Tournament at Montclair Golf Club raised over $100,000, bringing the mission and message of Spectrum360 onto the golf course and into the minds and hearts of our participants. Our Hall of Fame Dinner, honoring Howard McIlvaine of UNEX Manufacturing, as well as Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Blumberg, raised $80,000 and brought together the S360 community of staff, volunteers, parents, students, clients and vendors. In the spring, our Walk for a Lifetime raised more than $120,000 from the extended S360 family and brought together close to 1,000 participants to Verona Park for a fun day of walking, fundraising and friendship.

There were many successes this year, but a few stand out as special highlights. At the turn of the fiscal year, Spectrum360 Board of Directors voted to establish an endowment, demonstrating their commitment to ensure the success of the organization well into the future, despite the increasingly restricted and unpredictable nature of public funding. We were thrilled to receive our first gift to the endowment later in the year. We celebrated the successful conclusion of the capital campaign, raising over $500,000, to expand Independence360 in our new Whippany site. We are also incredibly thankful for a grant from the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey, which established CulinaryAcademy360, including the construction of an instructional kitchen at Independence360.

Our programs are made possible by the generosity of foundations, corporations and individual donors. We thank the following organizations and individuals for their donations this year in excess of $15,000.

- Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey
- Jewish Community Foundation of Metrowest New Jersey
- Hattie Segal
- Blanche & Irving Laurie Foundation
- Construction Risk Partners, LLC.
- The Conti Group
- The Hyde & Watson Foundation

We apologize for any errors or omissions and welcome the opportunity to correct them. Please email Corinne Frankenfield at cfrankenfield@spectrum360.org.

*In an effort to reduce costs and as part of our Green Initiative, our full donor list can be found at www.spectrum360.org/donors
Financials

Here are some of the accomplishments YOUR generosity helped US achieve in 2016-17:

960 A360 after school sessions offered students a wide range of activities.

28 A360 Girl Scouts integrated with other Girl Scout troops during weekend camping experiences.

1 instructional kitchen constructed at our new I360 location helped adults develop culinary skills for independence and vocational exploration.

12 Fun and Games nights provided over 50 young adults and adults a monthly fun night out.

1 van purchased transported I360 clients to volunteer, internship and employment opportunities.

40 devices purchased for I360 helped improve client independence, communications and social skills.

27 respites across A360 LS, US and I360 allowed students and adults to enjoy community activities with their friends.

1 Film Festival held by FA360 highlighted and celebrated productions by student filmmakers.

4 sold-out performances of “The Little Mermaid” with a cast of over 35 A360 Upper School students delighted audiences at a professional theater.
2016-17
Board of Directors

**President**
Michael Reimer, Esq., Ph.D.

**Vice President**
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Cochleen Sands
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**Honorary Board Member**
Nat Conti

Spectrum360 and its programs are members of the following organizations:

National Association of Private Special Education Centers (NAPSEC)
ASAH
The Alliance of Private Special Education Schools of North Jersey
Autism New Jersey
New Jersey Educational Computing Cooperative
Center for Non-Profits — NJ
Northern New Jersey Day Treatment Program Coalition
New Jersey Business and Industry Association

Spectrum360 programs are approved by:

NJ State Board of Education
NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities
NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Administration

**Spectrum360**

**Executive Director/Superintendent**
Dr. Bruce Ettinger, Ed.D.

**Development Office**
Diane Berry — Director of Development
Kerry Guzman — Director of Development
as of 11/17

**Business Office**
Stacy Sara CPA, PSA — Business Manager

**Public Information Officer/Family Liaison**
Jennifer Lezak Miller, MSW

**Academy360 Lower School**
Gina Catania, MA, M.Ed. — Principal
Tara Ann Hayek, MA, M.Ed. — Assistant Principal

**Academy360 Upper School**
Lynn Muir, MA, M.Ed. — Principal
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