



Becoming One



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A Message from the Executive Director

For over fifteen years, Community Services Foundation has been a proud member of Southwest Community Services (SCS) and CTF Illinois (CTF), serving both organizations with program and capital grants and contributions.

About a year ago, and after several months of discussions, the Board of Directors of all three organizations unanimously decided that SCS and CTF would be able to better fulfill their missions as one unified agency. With the full support from each Board, staff members began taking the necessary steps to unite these two organizations, and, for the past nine months, have worked diligently to bring SCS and CTF together as one.

On April 1, 2016, after much anticipation, SCS officially merged into CTF Illinois by way of a statutory merger. Although the unification is official, this action is by no means the end result. Rather, we view it as the beginning of a new journey, one that will allow us to better serve individuals with disabilities. By combining resources, we will be able to enhance our service delivery, improve upon our current programming, and focus on the future of service provision for the individuals we serve.

It is with great pleasure and honor that I take this moment to announce my acceptance of the role of CEO within the merged agency. I am further pleased to share that Dennis Carpenter will remain with us as our CFO.

There is no question that both SCS and CTF have established their own strengths throughout their unique histories, but I know they will be even stronger together as one, unified organization. I would like to thank the Board of Directors, the leadership team, and all staff members for their hard work, patience, and most of all, their dedication to the individuals we serve. We're looking forward to the future!

Sincerely,

Mary Pat Ambrosino

2015 Make A Match Success

Since 2002, Community Services Foundation (CSF) has been host to the annual Make A Match Campaign and, each and every year, we are in awe of the kindness and generosity displayed from supporters like you. Thanks to the contributions you made, our 2015 campaign was, once again, an extreme success for our three member agencies, Southwest Community Services (SCS), CTF Illinois (CTF), and LifeStyles Academy (LSA). Together with your donations and CSF's matching dollars, SCS, CTF, and LSA received \$39,490.00 to be used to advance the programs and services available to individuals with disabilities.



Each year through the Make A Match Campaign, friends, family members, and community members are given the opportunity to give to three worthy organizations that are very dear to both our supporters and the individuals we serve. This annual campaign not only gives our community members the chance to personally help raise funds for individuals with disabilities, but, since its implementation, has been driven by the honored tradition of matching donations. To demonstrate our commitment to both the individuals served by the agencies, as well as our supporters, every donation received is then matched by CSF, allowing our supporters to see their contributions doubled.

This year, the fundraiser was promoted through CSF's fall edition of Foundation Focus, which included Make A Match donation envelopes. SCS, CTF, and LSA also worked hard to promote the campaign through individualized mailings, posting on social media and websites, and by sending out emails inviting community supporters to contribute. Through the contributions received, SCS was able to make necessary improvements to their vehicles to improve transportation as well as purchase various supplies for multiple agency programs. CTF allocated their funds to be used for consumer trips, and their first took place in Nashville the week of April 18, 2016. LSA used their donations to enhance their new Advocacy Center by hiring a part-time job coach for members.

From all of us at CSF and our member agencies, thank you to everyone who helped make a difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities by donating to our 2015 campaign. We look forward to continuing this tradition later in the year with another successful campaign for 2016! Again, a warm thank you to all of the donors from our 2015 campaign:

Robert C. Aikens
Mary Pat & Peter Ambrosino
Jean Anderson
Daiva & Chester Baksys
Ingrid Baksys
Kassie Bay
Rolland Beaudry
Brandon & Tammy Bell
Donald & Patricia Bennett
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David & Debra Weeks
Barbara Weiner
Anonymous Donors

CTF Illinois to Open Brand New Art Studio and Advocacy Center

Community Services Foundation (CSF) is thrilled to announce that CTF Illinois (CTF) was awarded a two-year grant from the Coleman Foundation, a Chicago-based, independent grantmaker. As part of the national and statewide initiative to shift the focus of service provision from large, congregated settings to community-based facilities, the Coleman Foundation has approved the proposal for CTF to open two new programs in the Tinley Park area: an Art Studio and an Advocacy Center. Both the Art Studio and the Advocacy Center will be incorporated into current programming over the next two years.

The goal of both programs will not only be to create more options for individuals to choose from, but to have facilities based in the community to allow for better integration and enhanced opportunities for participation in local events and activities. The building for the Art Studio has already been purchased by CSF, and we have been making small renovations in order to prepare it for CTF's occupancy by June 2016. CTF has also hired a new Art Director, Abbey Maloney, who gained her art degree from the University of Iowa. At the Art Studio, called "The Painted Turtle," individuals will be able to learn the techniques and skills needed to create various types of artwork, engage in art therapy, and have the chance to earn income and interact with community members by selling their work at the studio's storefront. In addition, "The Painted Turtle" will host after-hours events for both individuals with disabilities as well as members of the community.



Individuals will have the chance to learn new art skills and techniques as well as sell their work to the community

Once "The Painted Turtle" is in full operation, CTF will turn their efforts toward implementing the Advocacy Center, where individuals will not only learn how to self-advocate for the rights of people with disabilities, but gain the confidence needed to find and voice their unique passions, from volunteering at a local animal shelter to working for a local restaurant. With the addition of both programs, individuals with disabilities will have more expansive program options and will be given a greater opportunity to uncover their talents, abilities, and passions.

Advocates Coming Together (ACT)

Advocates Coming Together (ACT) is a recently formed group of volunteer young professionals who have one goal: to promote true community inclusion for individuals with disabilities. ACT volunteers on behalf of CSF and their member agencies in order to host events for the individuals they serve and to encourage all members of the community to join in. Their first event, a bowling fundraiser held in February, raised over \$8,500.00 to go towards future events, outings, and programming for individuals with disabilities. ACT would like to thank the sponsors for their first annual Bowling Fundraiser.

Be sure to save the date for their next event on June 5, 2016: A Day at the Ballpark, where everyone is invited to watch the Joliet Slammers take on the Gateway Grizzlies. Tickets are \$25.00 and include your game ticket, a gameday t-shirt, lunch, a tour of the field, and much more! For more information, email actforcsf@gmail.com or call Shelley at (708)429-1260, ext. 2202.



7th Annual Jerry Meyer Golf Classic

This summer, Community Services Foundation (CSF) is proud to host the 7th Annual Jerry Meyer Golf Classic on July 15, 2016. CSF is honored to continue a tradition that began in 2010 and was named for a man who believed in and supported our mission to provide services to individuals with diverse disabilities. Jerry Meyer helped us obtain the funding to open our doors in 1983 and remained a dedicated supporter until his passing in 2012. The annual golf classic is our honor to Jerry, his family, and his legacy. The classic will take place at Cog Hill Golf and Country Club in Palos Park, IL. Cog Hill is famous for hosting several PGA and LPGA tournaments on their Dubsdread course. Participants will have the option to golf on one of two courses and there are still plenty of sponsorship opportunities available. All proceeds will benefit CTF Illinois, a member agency of CSF that provides services and programs to individuals with disabilities. For more information, please feel free to contact Robin Curtner at (708)429-1260, ext. 1263 or rcurtner@csfil.org or visit our website at www.jerrymeyergolfclassic.myevent.com.



Golfers at last year's Classic get ready to hit the course

2nd Annual MuseFest

Community Services Foundation (CSF), in partner with CTF Illinois (CTF), is proud to bring you the 2nd annual MuseFest on June 4, 2016! This summer, join us for a community street festival celebrating local crafters, businesses, and musicians. The 2nd annual MuseFest is a collaborative effort between CTF's 9 Muses and CTF's Creative Crafters as well as other local businesses. Held in the square of Charleston, IL, MuseFest showcases a variety of vendors, from artisans and crafters to musicians and restaurants. MuseFest does not charge admission to attendees, and all are welcome to come out and shop to help support our local businesses, including artists from 9 Muses and Creative Crafters. All proceeds will benefit CTF programming. For more information, please contact Joshua Benton at (217) 972-3519 or Robin Curtner at (708)429-1260, ext. 1263.



Jim stands proudly in front of the CTF booth at last year's MuseFest

Welcome Robin

Please join us in welcoming Robin Curtner, Director of Development, to our Community Services Foundation (CSF) family! Robin joined CSF in February 2016, bringing over ten years of fundraising and development experience. Through her professional career, Robin has been instrumental in securing speakers, donors, and corporate sponsorships for various nonprofit organizations and fundraising events. Robin holds a B.A. in Psychology with a minor in business from Governors State University. When she isn't working, Robin likes to party plan, assist in the community, and spend time with her family. Robin is also the author of a fashion coffee table book, in which all proceeds went to cancer nonprofit organizations. Robin is excited to bring her deep understanding of nonprofit management, philanthropy, marketing and communications in order to network and partner with various local and corporate businesses.



MISSION STATEMENT

To develop and create opportunities for individuals with disabilities that will support and inspire independence.



2015 A Year in Review

to **develop** and **create** opportunities for
individuals with disabilities that will **support**
and **inspire independence**.

MISSION STATEMENT



to **develop**...

In 2014, Community Services Foundation partnered with Waypoint Homes to completely remodel the kitchen at Southwest Community Services (SCS) to use in their Food Service Training Program. Through this renovation, which brought 19 local vendors and foundations together in a collaborative, community project, individuals with disabilities have been able to further **develop** the skills necessary to obtain community employment in the food service industry.

and **create** opportunities...

CSF supported LifeStyles Academy in their vision to **create** new, innovative opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities. The Academy offers a unique curriculum catered to each individual's personal wants, needs, and goals. With this vision in mind, CSF helped to **create** the Academy's brand new Advocacy Center, where participants are given the tools necessary to pursue their passions and are encouraged to broaden their experiences in the community to expand their options for vocational and lifestyle goals.

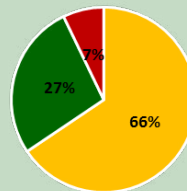
that will **support**...

CSF hired a grant writer to work on behalf of all each member agency in order to provide an additional means of generating financial **support** for programming and services. As a result, more than \$118,000 from various grantmakers was received which **supported** the missions and advanced programs of CSF member agencies.

and **inspire independence**.

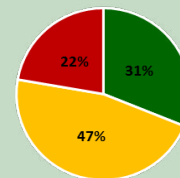
CSF helped to fund 39 renovation projects across 20 CILA homes for CTF Illinois. Projects included improving ADA accommodations, kitchen renovations, and bathroom and shower renovations. The improvements have expanded possibilities and **inspired** individuals to try new things by taking on more challenging tasks. As a result, the individuals have become more **independent** in their daily lives.

Revenue



■ Program Services ■ Fundraising ■ Investments

Expenses



■ Operations ■ Grants/Contribution ■ Property Depreciation

A special THANK YOU to our 2015
Make A Match supporters! Another
successful year, raising \$39,490.00
Looking forward to your continued
support in November for our 2016
campaign.



COMMUNITY
SERVICES
FOUNDATION

Community Services Foundation

6775 Prosperi Drive
Tinley Park, IL 60477

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CSF has designed our website to provide our readers with up-to-date regulatory, educational, and advocacy information. CSF will also be host to multiple events that will provide our communities with opportunities to learn, share, and contribute. Please make sure you add us to your favorite list and visit often at www.csfil.org.

Foundation Focus
is a publication of

Community Services Foundation,
a nonprofit corporation.

Its mission is to develop and create
opportunities for individuals with
disabilities that will support and
inspire independence.

2016 SAVE THE DATES

June 4th



June 5th



July 15th



September 16th

please visit www.csfil.org for more information

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