

Foundation Focus



Spring 2022

www.csfil.org

Inside This Issue:

Make A Match
Campaign Success

A look at CTF
ILLINOIS

What's New:
Home & Community
Based Services

CTF Program
Spotlight: ACCESS
Behavioral Health
Substance Abuse

Congratulations
& Fond Farewells

- Lorraine Barnes
- Dennis Carpenter
- Danielle Kane
- Mark Goryl

Welcome, Susan
and Mary Ann



A Message from the Executive Director

In a world where everyone has been touched by tragedy in some way or another due to the pandemic, it's easy to focus on the gloom. But, just as the seasons start to (finally!) change, we are reminded of one thing: persistence. Just like the spring flowers push their way through the dirt, our human nature to be good continues powering through even the darkest times and iciest winters.

Here at CTF ILLINOIS (CTF), we've seen firsthand that no barrier can't be overcome if we work together, and as we start returning to normal, we want to take a moment to give some much-deserved thanks to the staff who helped us get through the thick of the pandemic. Firstly, we're proud to say CTF never closed its doors. We continued providing residential and mental health supports daily throughout the entire pandemic thanks to our wonderful staff who never quit—even when it meant putting themselves at risk. You all have earned your essential worker wings.

To the families and guardians: thank you for trusting us to care for your loved ones as well as understanding the importance of vaccinations and boosters. We're grateful you recognize it's more than just your family member who benefits from the vaccine.

To Allison Stark, Director of Developmental Disabilities: thank you for your overwhelming support to all our providers. Your never-ending cooperation and operational support eased our burdens, allowing us to focus on the individuals in our programs.

To our trade associations and their CEOs, Kathy Carmody and Josh Evans: thank you for your leadership and perseverance to make sure our voices were heard. To our community members and stakeholders: thank you for keeping us close to your hearts, even while we're distanced. Your continued contributions and donations make all our work at CTF possible.

And most of all, to all the people we support: thank you for trusting us as the world turned upside down. Here's to warm weather and new beginnings!

Mary Pat Ambrosino

Executive Director

2021 Make A Match Campaign Success



Since 2002, Community Services Foundation's (CSF) Annual Make A Match Campaign has served as an impactful and collaborative way to support our member agency, CTF ILLINOIS (CTF). Every year, we are humbled by the generosity of our community supporters. Thanks to your contributions to this annual campaign, you have helped us raise over \$450,000 to date for people with disabilities.

We are also grateful that, for the fifth year in a row, CTF was selected to participate in The Coleman Foundation's Matching Grants Program, which ran concurrently with Make A Match. Through this partnership, any donation of \$200.00 or greater received by CTF for the month of November was matched not only by CSF, but partially matched by the Coleman Foundation. Thanks to your contributions, CSF's matching dollars, and the Coleman Foundation's grant, our 2021 campaign was our biggest success yet, with \$52,980 raised to support programs of CTF.

The Make A Match Campaign allows community supporters, families, and friends of CTF to see their contributions doubled every year between November 1 and December 31. This tradition of matching contributions allows donors to see, first-hand, the impact of their gift multiplied. From all of us at CSF and CTF, we extend our deepest gratitude to every supporter who helped improve the lives of people with disabilities by donating to our 2021 campaign. We look forward to continuing this tradition with another successful campaign in 2022.

Thank you to those whose gifts were not only doubled by CSF, but also qualified for The Coleman Foundation Matching Grants Program:

Virginia Abbott
Joseph Ambrosino
Peter and Mary Pat Ambrosino
Old Plant Trail Community Bank
Michael Bugajski
Thomas Bulow
Robert & Lynn Burke
Dennis Carpenter
Kelli & Michael Cody
Friends & Family of CTF IL
Linda Czuchra
Gus & Irene DeGuilo

Dennis Dixon
Anonymous Donors
Bob Emmet
Kathleen Emmet
Bryant Evans
JoAnne Fortson
Matilda Gordon
Patrick Hall
Jason Helfert
Robert Huguelet JR.
Gregg Jarman
Rebecca Jennings

John Joyce
Danielle Kane
Marcia Kennedy
Genevieve Kottemann
Robert Kretzer
Frank Luksander
Shelley Maxwell
Melissa McDaniel
Diane McDermott
Timothy McGlennon
ARAB Termite & Pest Control
Geoff Pignatiello

Terri Pignatiello
Agnes Pisano
Michael Salvador
Ed & Doris Sweeney
Rebecca Vock
Tracy & Jason Wavering
Keller Williams

Thank you to those whose gifts were doubled by CSF:

Barbara Ambrosino
Laurie Aponte
Eileen Arnold
Teresa Barry
Kassie Bay
Jennifer Beese
Bernadette Boone
Carol Bruno
David Bulow
Sally Campbell
Chris Condon
Richard & Linda Czuchra
Robert & Denise Dassie
Anonymous Donors
Katherine Fuller
Sherri Goravica
Constance Hall
Earnestine Johnson
Donald King
Harold Kloosterman

Genevieve Kottemann
Susan, James & Christopher Lennon
Patrick & Carolyn MacKenzie
Charles & Crescence McGlennon
William & Jennifer Paetow
Mark & Susan Quilantan
Brian Rigsby
Ray & Mary Beth Roland
Philip & Barbara Salvador
Rick & Sue Schmitz
Garnet Stout
Mary Taylor
Joseph Tevenal
Doris & Carlo Tozzi
Marilyn Viskocil
Robert Wahlin
William Wilkinson
Jeffrey Withgott
Bruce Zumstein



2021 Honored Society Members

An extra special shoutout goes to our Honored Society Members! These sponsors have pledged \$1,000/year for three years to support CILA residents. This program is a great way to make a difference and open to individuals, groups, and businesses alike.

Thank you to our generous sponsors:

Cosgrove Construction
Tinley Park Sertoma Club
Proven IT
Judge John J. & Laura Mahoney
First Midwest Bank

Friends of CTF ILLINOIS
Palos Behavioral Health
Paycom
Old Plank Trail Bank



A (Brief) Look at CTF ILLINOIS

Founded in 1971 by humanitarian Charlie Smith under the name "Markham Workshop", CTF ILLINOIS (CTF) is now in its 51st year of support service—and they've come a long way! After starting with just 12 people, CTF has since grown to be a statewide organization that has provided individualized support to thousands of people from seven different counties with the help of a few hundred dedicated employees.

CTF manages nearly 40 Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA) homes in the state of Illinois, where over 200 individuals form lasting friendships with their housemates while still receiving the independence they desire. They are also taught important life skills like cooking, grocery shopping, and keeping a tidy living space. In addition to the CILA homes, CTF has a number of specialized community programs, including two art galleries, two community mental health centers, five day programs, one craft store, and a brand new substance abuse program.



For adults looking to start on their own career path, CTF also has a strong employment program. As a first step, many work hard producing and distributing Christmas tree bags (over 208,000 to date!) to practice skills like teamwork in a work environment.

Currently, CTF is working with 20 people to reach their goals of community employment. Thanks to innovation, creativity, and a lot of love, CTF has been helping adults with disabilities for over half a century...and they're just getting started! Here's to the next 51 years!



***Empowering each individual we
serve to live the life they want to live.***

The COVID-19 Pandemic has forced all of us to navigate unprecedented times. As a human services organization, we know it is our job to help flatten the curve and provide resources to both people we support and staff members alike. Together, we will persevere and come out stronger on the other side.

What's New: Home and Community Based Services

The Center for Medicaid & Medicare Services (CMS) has issued a brand new HCBS (Home & Community Based Services) "Settings Rule" to improve the lives of adults with intellectual disabilities. This federally mandated law calls for all HCBS to fit a high standard of criteria made in an effort to ensure more rights for these individuals, guaranteeing rights like money, leases, family visits, and, most importantly, choice.

We're proud to say that since CTF ILLINOIS (CTF) has always prioritized the rights of individuals, much of the new criteria has already been met. CTF's staff, however, is still hard at work compiling all the right documentation in preparation for both the virtual and in-person audits to be conducted by the Department of Human Services (DHS). The mandate is expected to fully take effect nationwide by 2023.



Program Spotlight: ACCESS Substance Abuse



Under the direction of Cassandra Howard and Derrick Arna, and with full support from the CTF ILLINOIS (CTF) Board of Directors, CTF opened its first Substance Abuse Clinic in South Holland, IL. The ACCESS expansion took place after Cassandra and Derrick saw there were needs not being met in their community or surrounding areas, so they approached Mary Pat with their idea who had their project signed off on shortly after.

By taking a closer look at South Holland and surrounding areas, they were able to construct a program tailored specifically to the needs of their community. It starts by addressing the needs of each person supported. Services include evaluation, treatment planning, individual and group counseling, and risk education classes. The Substance Abuse program also features an evaluation of risk level (High, Significant, Moderate, and Low), where patients are then assigned to the program best suiting their needs: Level 1, Level 2, and DUI Services. The DUI clients receive further evaluation of risk before joining Level 2.

Upon opening this past March, 23 clients entered the program, in April another 30 joined--and the demand isn't expected to slow down. Derrick already has expansion plans, saying that this time next year, he would love to have at least four IOP (Intense Outpatient) programs during days and evenings. He also wants to start a risk education class on weekends to better serve even more members of the community. Though the Substance Abuse Program has only been officially open for a few months, it has already proven to be a much-needed addition both to CTF and the community of South Holland.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Congratulations & Fond Farewells

Lorraine Barnes

To sit down and speak with Lorraine Barnes is to talk to someone with an undying passion for helping others. She has an uncanny ability to make people smile, and unconditionally accepts everyone as they are.

In December of 2021, CTF ILLINOIS hosted a bittersweet farewell dinner for Lorraine. The room was packed with family, friends, and staff—both past and present—gathering to pay tribute to the incredible woman who dedicated 38 years to supporting adults with disabilities. During that time, she touched the lives of not hundreds, but thousands of amazing folks involved with CTF (staff and community members alike) with her warm presence and refusal to give up, even in the toughest situations. Lorraine has a way making everyone feel loved, and, more importantly, is all about empowering others to be their best selves.

The one thing Lorraine couldn't do, though, was accept when someone told her "I can't". Those two little words were her least favorite, and thanks to her determinations to change "I can't" into "I can", hundreds of people with disabilities were able to reach goals they never thought they could, including working in their community.

For the last 8 years, Mark Goryl has worked closely by her side, and as we say goodbye to Lorraine, we welcome Mark as the new Director of Community Supports. CTF is confident Lorraine's legacy will live on through Mark.



Dennis Carpenter

After over twenty years involved with CTF ILLINOIS (CTF), Dennis Carpenter is about to trade his title of CFO to "Full Time Papa", and he couldn't be more excited. He has been a vital part to the growth of CTF, with his main focus (and biggest mark he'll leave behind) of being the brains behind our current financial department, including all our processing systems and procedures. It's what keeps things running smoothly here at CTF, and, more importantly, is what ensures all the funding we receive for our programs gets to where it needs to go in a timely manner.

Since making the switch from in-person meetings to Zoom, Dennis reminisced on how much he already misses the folks he used to see face-to-face on a regular basis, noting that his coworkers in Champaign held an extra special camaraderie pre-COVID, but now that he's retiring, he'll definitely miss them even more. That being said, he can't wait to finally have more time to spend with his family. As it turns out, they're just as excited as he is, and have already kicked off his retirement by gifting him with a mug that says "Retired, under new management, see the grandkids".

As Dennis moves on to fulfill his dreams of enjoying life with his family, he leaves behind a pair of pretty big shoes to fill. Luckily, CTF's Director of Finance, Danielle Kane, is up to the task and will now take the role of CFO.





Community Services Foundation
18230 Orland Parkway
Orland Park, IL 60467

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
South Suburban, IL.
Permit No. 776

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.

Welcome, Susan and Mary Ann

Meet our new Director of Development, Susan Barnes! Susan has an extensive background in nonprofit work and a passion for helping those in need. Currently she's working on the Jerry Meyer Golf Outing, but still makes sure to spend time getting to know some of the individuals in our programs. Susan says she can't wait to help get the word out to more people about CTF's cause and ways they can help. Welcome aboard!



We're excited to welcome Mary Ann Meussling as the new grant writer/social media guru at Community Services Foundation! She comes from a diverse writing background and got her Master's degree for Editing, Writing, and Publishing from North Central College in 2019. In her spare time, Mary Ann loves curling up with a book, and always reads with a red pen nearby (just in case she spots a missing comma!). She can't wait to start using her skills for a great cause. Welcome, Mary Ann!



COMMUNITY SERVICES FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS & CTF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael J. Salvador
Chairman/Treasurer

Jason D. Helfert
Vice President

Geoffrey A. Pignatiello
Secretary

Michelle Barnes-Beauford
Director, CSF & CTF

Glenda Corbitt
Director, CTF

Genevieve Kottemann Joy
Director, CSF & CTF

Carmen A. Rossi
Director, CSF