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Welcome, Ryann



A Message from the Executive Director

As Executive Director of Community Services Foundation, I remain amazed with the strides our member agency, CTF ILLINOIS (CTF), has made since the April 2016 merger between CTF and our former member agency, Southwest Community Services. As the state of Illinois continues down the path of ignoring concerns regarding the underfunding of support services, CTF continues to move forward, making notable improvements to all program and residential supports.

There is no doubt that the decision to merge was, indeed, the right decision. By uniting CSF's member agencies, we were able to take the best of two organizations and make an even better agency with a wider variety of support options. Since 2016, CTF has seen physical improvements to each of their thirty-four homes. They have moved out of their three largest, outdated facilities into four smaller facilities that, in some cases, were completely renovated to meet the needs of the people supported. They have also enhanced their training departments by having full-time trainers in each of the main geographical support areas and have begun their own behavioral support systems by hiring three full-time BCBAs.

And CTF is not stopping here. Next year, there will be new sites in both northern and central areas. CTF will also be moving into a new production facility in Crestwood, a location easily accessible via all transportation options. Why all these changes? Because we are listening to you. We are changing the models of support because we hear your concerns for your family members and strive to offer options that allow the people supported at CTF to truly "live the life they want to live". Just this past winter, CTF sent out a satisfaction survey to over 600 stakeholders and received a 17% response rate. We would like to share these results.

Of those that responded:

- 100% were satisfied with our Home-based supports.
- 81% were happy with CILA lifestyles while 14% were somewhat satisfied. Most people stated they were happy with private bedrooms and felt safe in their homes. Some would like to see an improvement with staffing numbers.
- 95% were satisfied with day program supports. Most people stated they were happy with the choices and opportunities to work or learn new skill sets. Others were happy with the new buildings and smaller enrollment sizes.

At both CSF and CTF, we know we have a long way to go to satisfy everyone at 100%, but I strongly believe we are on the right path. We would not be on this path without our staff members, particularly the 315 direct support professionals who work at CTF. Thank you for all you do. I encourage those reading to take a moment to read the enclosed article on the "They Deserve More" Campaign to see how you can help make a difference for the direct support staff who care for your family members each day. As always, I thank you for your continued support. I look forward to the future of CSF and CTF.

Sincerely,

Mary Pat Ambrosino

2018 Make A Match Campaign Success

Community Services Foundation's (CSF) Annual Make A Match Campaign is our most collaborative, impactful way to support our member agency, CTF ILLINOIS. Since 2002, we have been humbled by the generosity of donors who contribute to this campaign. For our 2018 campaign, CTF ILLINOIS was, again, selected to participate in The Coleman Foundation's #ILGIVE Matching Grants Program, which ran concurrently with Make A Match. Through this partnership, any donation received by CTF ILLINOIS on this date 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 2018 campaign was, once again, a resounding success: CTF ILLINOIS received \$48,305.00 to support individuals with diverse disabilities. These contributions have allowed CTF ILLINOIS to enhance program options available to people with disabilities.

All donations received from November 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018, were matched by CSF. Through this tradition of matching contributions, supporters like you have the opportunity to see the impact of their gift multiplied. From everyone at CSF and CTF ILLINOIS, we want to thank every supporter who helped improve the lives of people with disabilities by donating to our 2018 campaign. We look forward to continuing this tradition with another successful campaign for 2019! Again, our deepest gratitude to our 2018 donors:

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Spotlight On Special Events

Community Services Foundation (CSF) is proud to host several fundraising events on behalf of CTF ILLINOIS (CTF), all of which benefit individuals with diverse disabilities. Take a look at some of our recent events.

Cinco de Mile 5K

On May 4, 2019, CSF hosted our second annual Cinco de Mile 5K Walk/Run. The event allows the local community to lace up and make their way through the tree-lined Old Plank Trail, all to benefit people with diverse disabilities. After racers crossed the finish line, they celebrated with a post-race party and awards ceremony in Breidert Green Park. The top three male and female racers received prizes and all were treated to breakfast sandwiches, fruit, water, a dri-fit t-shirt, and tote. All proceeds benefit CTF ILLINOIS and the people they support. We can't wait until next year's race! We would like to thank the sponsors and runners for this year's Cinco de Mile.



Jerry Meyer Golf Classic

CSF was proud to host the 9th Annual Jerry Meyer Golf Classic on June 28, 2019. Named for one of CSF's first donors and lifelong supporters, each year, the golf classic raises funds for CSF's member agency, CTF ILLINOIS, while continuing the Meyer family's legacy of service. This year's outing raised more than \$50,000, 100% of which goes to needed program supports and services for people with diverse disabilities. On Midlothian Country Club's beautiful, challenging course, golfers tested their skills in games like the Chip-In Challenge and Longest Drive as well as the chance to win a car on the Hole-In-One Challenge. After lunch on the course and finishing their round, golfers enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and an open bar while competing for silent auction and raffle items. Thank you to our sponsors and golfers for making this year's event another resounding success!



None of our events would be possible without the support of our amazing sponsors. Please see the insert to take a look at the wonderful supporters of the events we've held thus far in 2019.

For more information about upcoming events, sponsorships, or other ways to help, please contact Kathi at (708)429-1260, ext. 3342 or kpeteroccelli@csfil.org.

SAVE the dates	BAND TOGETHER September 21, 2019	<i>Make A Match Campaign</i> November 1, 2019	<i>friendsgiving</i> dinner November 9, 2019	ACT BOWL March 2020
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CTF ILLINOIS Opens Arts-Based Community Day Program



In November 2018, CSF member agency CTF ILLINOIS (CTF) opened a new community day program in Orland Park. The R.I.T.A. Center, which stands for “Realizing Integration Through the Arts”, is an arts-based, educational training center for people with disabilities. Situated on a former college campus, the R.I.T.A. Center provides an educational setting more conducive to the needs and goals of the people supported at CTF, allowing for smaller groups and a wider variety of choices in program options. Support options at the R.I.T.A. Center include: fine arts, music, drama, dance, health and wellness, self-discovery, hobby exploration, daily life skills, social skills, technology, and current events. Additionally, the program has a focus on community integration, with day trips into the community available for those who attend and by seeking partnerships with local businesses. One of the Core Values of CTF is to enjoy what you do and share that passion with others. Through programming like the R.I.T.A. Center, people with disabilities are not only learning about their passions, but being offered the opportunity to explore and share them with others. CSF is looking forward to the future of this program and the impact it will have on both the people supported at CTF and the community at large.

Honored Society Spotlight: CTO Enterprise

In October 2018, CTO Enterprise became one of the first Honored Society Members, sponsoring Travers, one of CTF ILLINOIS’ (CTF) thirty-four CILA homes. Thanks to their sponsorship, the gentlemen at Travers have been able to purchase a brand new swing for their deck and are planning a vacation for later this summer. Not only has CTO Enterprise’s sponsorship helped Travers financially, they have already begun to form lasting friendships. In May, employees from CTO Enterprise visited Travers, having dinner with the men and getting to know them. Says Trevor Olsen, President of CTO Enterprise, “we were looking to give back to our local community in a tangible way and with people we could actually meet and begin a relationship with. When the opportunity came up with CSF, it was exactly what we were looking for!” Thank you, CTO Enterprise, for your support through this program and for making such an impactful difference for the gentlemen at Travers! If you are interested in becoming an Honored Society Home Sponsor, please contact Kathi at kpeteroccelli@csfil.org or (708)429-1260, ext. 3342.



They Deserve More

CSF and CTF ILLINOIS (CTF) could not make any of our growth and program enhancement possible without our direct support professionals (DSPs). DSPs work hands-on every day with people with disabilities through our day program and residential services. Simply put, our programs and our organization would be nothing without DSPs. Unfortunately, the State of Illinois provides funding reimbursement at a rate that dictates that earnings for DSPs are below a living wage. This causes great workers to leave their jobs, and the people supported at CTF, simply so they are able to make ends meet. Our DSPs deserve more, and people with disabilities deserve consistency in the care and support they receive on a daily basis. To find out how you can help, please visit www.theydeservemore.com. Help us fight for higher wages for DSPs!

MISSION STATEMENT

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



2019 A Year In Review

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

MISSION STATEMENT



to **develop**...

In fiscal year 2019, the Community Services Foundation (CSF) property management department renovated a number of facilities and homes. The **development** of Reynolds and Centennial properties are well under way and will help ensure each person we support attends programs in safe and functional facilities. Further, the team has worked hard to rehabilitate many of our CILAs so each individual in residential programming has a place they are proud to call home.

and **create** opportunities...

This past year brought a brand new sponsorship opportunity to supporters: CSF **created** Honored Society, a friendship-based sponsorship program where local businesses support CTF ILLINOIS CILA homes. While the homes do receive financial support, the goal of the program is to **create** an opportunity for people to get to know our residents. We look forward to the future of this program!

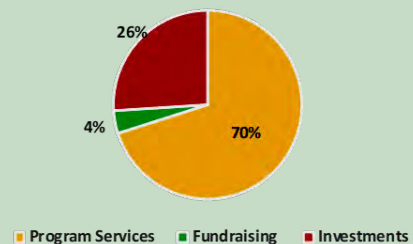
that will **support**...

Over the past year, CSF hosted a variety of special events in order to **support** our member agency, CTF ILLINOIS. CSF hosted events like the 3rd Annual ACT Bowl, Cinco de Mile, and Band Together Talent Show and Concert. CSF staff members plan and execute all aspects of the events. These outings not only enable us to raise vital funds, they help us gain new **supporters**. Most importantly, CSF's fundraisers allow our member agencies to rely on CSF for its primary fundraising so they are able to devote limited staffing resources to direct services.

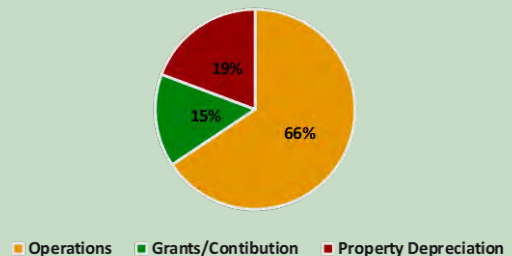
and **inspire independence**.

Thanks to a grant from CSF, CTF ILLINOIS was able to hire a full-time Art Director, who works out of the RITA building in Orland Park. The curriculum at RITA is meant to **inspire independence** for those who choose to be in the program, which serves as an arts-based educational facility. Classes offered include fine arts, drama, music, dance, hobby exploration, daily life skills, and more, all aimed at creating greater **independence** for people supported at CTF ILLINOIS.

Revenue



Expenses



A special THANK YOU to our 2018 Make A Match supporters! It was a resounding success, raising \$48,305! We're looking forward to your continued support in November for our 2019 Campaign.



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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, Ryann

Community Services Foundation (CSF) is thrilled to welcome Ryann Overstreet to our team. Ryann, who joined us in June 2019 as a Research and Development Associate, will be charged with researching a variety of funding opportunities for people with disabilities and creating and submitting new grant proposals on behalf of CTF ILLINOIS. A recent graduate of North Central College, Ryann received a Master of Liberal Arts in Writing, Editing, and Publishing. Ryann's passion for writing led her to become a writing tutor at North Central College and to serve as the Vice President of Luctus, a Creative Writing Club. Ryann is excited to start her career in the nonprofit world and is looking forward to being able to use her writing expertise to make an impact on the people we support. Welcome to the team, Ryann!



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