



The Misericordia community visits Brookfield Zoo.

MISERICORDIA HEART OF MERCY
Our Community, Our Story
2016 ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Friends,

As 2016 comes to a close, it is a blessing to look back over the year and reflect on the goodness of God and the goodness of all of you who believe in the mission of Misericordia. While this year has been filled with many uncertainties, especially within the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities, Misericordia continues to be blessed with the gift of believers in our community. It is because of these believers that we are able to provide a quality of life for more than 600 children and adults.

Today is a different time; it is a time when we need to defend the importance of Misericordia being a valid option to serve individuals with intellectual and development disabilities. In a time when ideological thinking is influencing our lawmakers and reducing options in services, Misericordia continues to feel strongly that there is never only one way to share life with those who have a disability. This ideology reduces the importance of family input and often places judgment on those who choose a Misericordia. Who knows the child better than his or her own parents? Each family is unique, and parents and their children deserve the right to choose a living and work environment that best meets their needs.

For those bureaucrats who talk about the importance of community, I, too, talk about the importance of our community. The most basic definition of community is a group of men and women leading a common life, united through a common purpose and often with similar stories. However, when the bureaucrats describe Misericordia, they use words like institution, isolating, segregating and antiquated. Ask our residents, our families, our staff and our numerous volunteers, and they will tell you that we are a community. Our community offers the opportunity for belonging in an environment in which residents know they are loved and accepted just as they are. There is a sharing of values and goals that binds our community.

This year, Misericordia opened our Quinlan Terrace, four homes designed to specifically meet the aging needs of our residents. Misericordia is committed to offering a continuum of care across the full span of life and for a full spectrum of need. We worked very hard over the last year establishing the first Continuum of Care License in the state of Illinois. This license recognizes the uniqueness of care that Misericordia provides - from a skilled nursing facility to homes in the community to 30 residential and program buildings on campus.

One of the greatest gifts that God has given me is the gift of our community. It is in this community that lives have been brought together by the mystery of God's love. What a blessing it is that you have been a part of this journey, and we ask God's love for you and yours during this holiday season.

Blessed Christmas, and may your New Year be filled with God's good gifts.

Lovingly,

Sister Rosemary

Sister Rosemary Connelly, RSM
Executive Director



Misericordia Heart of Mercy Mission Statement

The mission of Misericordia/Heart of Mercy is to support children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities who choose our community by providing the highest quality residential, training, and employment services. We provide the full continuum of care designed to meet each person's changing needs and maximize his or her independence, self-determination, interpersonal relationships, and engagement in the community. Through our dedicated families, employees, volunteers, supporters and community networks, we offer an environment that fosters each person's spirituality, dignity, respect, and quality of life.





Strategic Plan 2017

Each year, Misericordia's leadership team, along with input from its many stakeholders, identifies strategic imperatives that are essential to the future of Misericordia. By looking at our past performance and taking the time to set benchmarks for future initiatives, we are able to establish a road map for ensuring that quality remains at the forefront. Central to this strategic planning process is identifying ways to meet the changing needs of our residents, ensuring a qualified, purpose-driven workforce, and decreasing the financial gap between government funding and Misericordia's actual program costs.

Strategic Imperatives

- ❖ Exploring the Current and Future Needs of a Changing Population
- ❖ Reducing the Growing Financial Gap
- ❖ Addressing the National Threats Related to Housing and Employment Services
- ❖ Growing and Sustaining the Employee Workforce Through Retention and Leadership Development
- ❖ Enhancing Technology to Improve Efficiencies and Effectiveness of Services

Certifications, Licensure, Affiliations

- ❖ Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
- ❖ Illinois Department of Public Health
- ❖ Illinois State Board of Education
- ❖ Illinois Healthcare Association
- ❖ IARF (Illinois Association for Rehabilitation Services)
- ❖ Intersect For Ability Network
- ❖ ACCSES (American Congress of Community Supports and Employment Services)

Executive Team

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Sister Rosemary Connelly, RSM | Executive Director |
| Lois Catinella Gates | Assistant Executive Director and Chief Development Officer |
| Kevin Connelly | Assistant Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer |
| Father Jack Clair | Assistant Executive Director and Administrator of Auxiliary Services |
| Mary Pat O'Brien | Assistant Executive Director of Residences and Programs |

Administrators

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Joe Ferrara | Village Homes and CILAs |
| Chris Hegg Krackenberger | Marian Center, Mercy Glen, Holbrook Residence, Pool & Fitness Services |
| Denise Tigges | McAuley Residence, Nursing and Therapy Services, Non-Ambulatory Services |
| Geana Connelly | Clinical Services, Quality Assurance and Strategic Development |
| Kay Golden | Human Resources and Staff Development |
| Michael Diaz | Developmental Training and Resident Employment Services |

Board of Directors

- ❖ President: **Monsignor Michael Boland**, Catholic Charities, *Appointed 1996*
- ❖ Treasurer and General Manager: **Sister Rosemary Connelly, RSM**, Misericordia, *Appointed 1970*
- ❖ Secretary: **Kevin Connelly**, Misericordia, *Appointed 2016*

Directors:

- ❖ **Father Jack Clair**, Misericordia, *Appointed 2014*
- ❖ **John L. Dyer**, Peter Shannon & Co., *Appointed 2005*
- ❖ **Rob Figliulo**, SPR, Inc., *Appointed 2005*
- ❖ **Margaret Houlihan Smith**, United Airlines, *Appointed 2014*
- ❖ **Philip O'Connor**, PROactive Strategies, Inc., *Appointed 2015*
- ❖ **Robert Soudan**, Lock Up Development, *Appointed 2007*
- ❖ **Dan Walsh**, Walsh Group, Ltd., *Appointed 2015*



Sharing Life in Community



Specialized Care

**119 Residents Require
Skilled Nursing Care**

**25 Diagnosed With
Dementia/Alzheimer's**

38 Monitored for Functional Decline

162 Non-Ambulatory

28 Diagnosed With Autism

Resident Age Range

2 children: 0 to 3 yrs

58 school age: 4 to 22 yrs

126 young adults: 23 to 30 yrs

30 day program adults: 22 to 50 yrs

290 working adults: 31 to 50 yrs

107 aging population: 51+ yrs





RESIDENTS WHO ARE PART OF THE MISERICORDIA COMMUNITY SHARE LIFE IN A MULTITUDE OF WAYS. This experience among the residents contributes to an overall sense of well-being and connectedness. Common sense tells us that relationships provide the basis for happy and productive lives. And, when you walk the campus of Misericordia, that is what you see. Misericordia's campus provides a community atmosphere where residents have a sense of membership, an opportunity to influence the direction of their lives, and numerous experiences for both individual and social fulfillment.



Some of the many choices residents have to enrich their lives include fitness, art, music, dance, bowling, cooking, swimming and, most importantly, socializing with their friends. In addition to campus life, residents are frequently out and about in the larger community with their friends through a variety of recreational opportunities. These include attending sporting and theatre events; dining at their favorite restaurants; shopping; and volunteering at local nursing homes, food pantries and animal shelters. By balancing both on-campus and off-campus life, residents experience a variety of social networks that enhance their overall quality of life.



Community Within Community



Josh and Phil, altar servers
at Queen of All Saints Parish



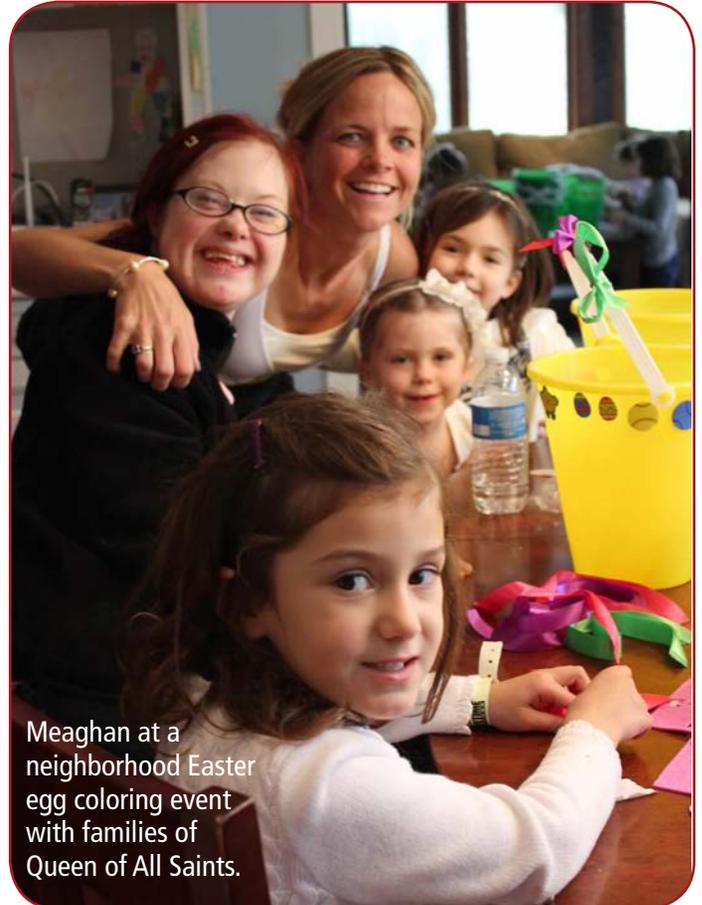
Andrew and Billy at the Lincolnwood YMCA.



YMCA has provided reduced cost or free memberships for many of our CILA homes. Their staff has been very welcoming and friendly.

COMMUNITY IS ABOUT GENERATING A FEELING OF BELONGING AND A SENSE OF CONTRIBUTION. People who identify themselves with a certain community often do so because of a desire to contribute to a common interest. Without having a community that embraces you, or a community in which you are able to contribute as a member, living in a home in the community could be quite lonely.

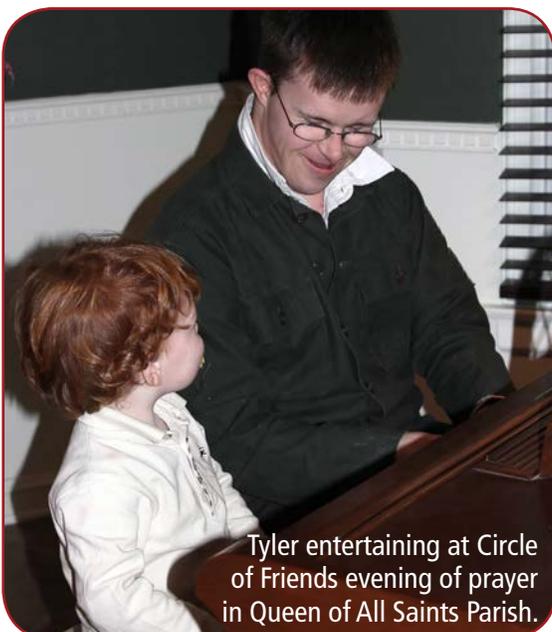
62 men and women with intellectual and developmental disabilities live in Misericordia's 10 beautiful CILA homes, all within a five-mile radius of our campus.



Meaghan at a neighborhood Easter egg coloring event with families of Queen of All Saints.

For the men and women of Misericordia who live in the surrounding community, they are far from isolated and far from feeling lonely. These residents have been embraced by parishes that include Queen of All Saints and St. Mary of the Woods. The parishioners have welcomed our residents into their communities, and in turn, our residents have joined in as contributing members of these parishes by becoming altar servers and participating in community prayer groups. As these parish members have become more acquainted with their Misericordia neighbors, they have also become actively involved in the lives of residents on campus, volunteering and regularly supporting Misericordia's numerous fundraising events and programs.

St. Mary of the Woods has hosted BBQs and raised money for fitness equipment and technology for the Moore CILA.



Tyler entertaining at Circle of Friends evening of prayer in Queen of All Saints Parish.





The residents have changed my outlook on life. They have taught me patience, and I am grateful that they have accepted me into their home and lives. They have impacted my life, more than I have impacted theirs.

~ Angie Bass

*Our Staff Embodies
the Values of Our Community*

Angie and Paige winding down after a busy day.





2016 Staff Recognition Dinner
Employees celebrating 10 year anniversary

STAFF YEARS OF SERVICE

0-4 YRS: 513 5-9 YRS: 148 10-15 YRS: 152 16-20 YRS: 95 21-25 YRS: 69 26-30 YRS: 33 31-47 YRS: 37

QUALITY OF LIFE WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE COMMITTED AND DEDICATED STAFF who believes in the mission of Misericordia. It is these employees who have given of themselves so lovingly to ensure that each and every resident who calls Misericordia "home" feels a sense of belonging to our community. These individuals provide physical, emotional and spiritual support, while encouraging independence and creating a feeling of self-worth.

Angie Bass is one of these employees and has worked as a Direct Care Professional for 18 years. Angie came to Misericordia after struggling to find a job that was a good fit for her young family of three, one of whom had special needs.

Angie describes Misericordia as something she had never seen before. "It was a community of co-workers, residents and their families that made me feel welcome and connected immediately." Her compassion and empathy have resulted in several accomplishments: she became a shift leader, received the Misericordia Employee Service Award (a peer-nominated award) and was chosen to participate in the Misericordia Professionalism Program by her supervisors. But she does not talk much about these honors. Instead, Angie is constantly aware of how the residents she works with have helped her grow as a person.

93 staff completed the Professionalism Class.
66% have received promotions or additional opportunities for development since completing the program.

40% of Misericordia employees have shared in our mission for more than 10 years.

Angie also understands firsthand the worries and concerns of the families at Misericordia because she has a 29-year-old son with a developmental disability who lives at home. "This is personal for me. I have two jobs: one is to make sure my son has a good life, but second is to make sure the residents of Misericordia have good lives, too." She cherishes the relationships she has developed with the families of those she cares for and beams when she talks about being able to fulfill a special request that they may make for their son or daughter. Misericordia, the residents and the families are blessed that Angie has chosen Misericordia.



Kimmi and Dana enjoying the day with their instructor, Lynne.

Community Collaboration



Sandbox co-workers Amy and Maika

Misericordia is part of the Chicago culture. It is woven so deeply into the community, and because of this, Misericordia has been woven into my heart. This has been a life-changing experience for me.

~Amy Sheridan

At a time when employment for a typical person is difficult enough to find, imagine the challenge that exists for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It is not often that employers take a chance by opening their doors and their hearts to believe in a person's potential, while putting his or her disability aside.

Misericordia has found a champion in Amy Sheridan. While Amy has no family member with an intellectual or developmental disability, she holds a special place in her heart for these individuals, and has a passion to find opportunities that encourage them to be engaged and active members of the community.

When Amy joined the Chicago's White Sox and was charged with improving the fan experience, she turned to Misericordia to help develop what today is called the Chicago White Sox Fan Force. This employment opportunity provides community exposure, connection and contribution for 24 individuals who live at Misericordia. Fan Force members greet baseball game guests, provide directions to fans, and take highly requested selfies with baseball fans who are also fans of Misericordia. Through Amy's perseverance, the White Sox have renewed this commitment for a fifth season, with 60 games scheduled.

Earlier this year, Amy moved on to a new employer, Sandbox, a public relations and advertising firm. One of the agreements she made with the company was to find new opportunities to connect with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Amy was able to develop a position with her new employer so that Maika, a Misericordia resident, with whom Amy had previously worked with at the White Sox, was hired to assist office staff three days a week. Maika had to learn how to take public transportation to the office, which is located in the heart of Chicago. At her job, she has to navigate three separate floors and different job responsibilities on each floor. Maika glows when she talks about her job and her relationship with Amy.

Misericordia is blessed to have many companies like Sandbox and the Chicago White Sox that embrace the potential of our residents and give them an opportunity to be a part their community. As a result, these businesses have become part of the Misericordia community by encouraging their employees to volunteer for a day of service either on campus or at major fundraising events.

Thank You to Our Community Employment Champions

Air Ducts	Red Rooster
Ann Sathers	Sacred Heart
Army/Navy Surplus Store	Saint Francis
Broadway Animal Hospital	Sandbox
Cinemark Theater	S&C Electric
eWorks	Target
Gemini Associates	Trader Joe's
Go Bananas	Walmart
Grand Foods	White Sox
Hu-Friedy	Jennings Auto Group
Lowe's	YMCA
Loyola University	Uncommon Ground
Mariano's	Panera
McDonald's	Old Navy
McDonald's	Lou Malnatis
Olive Garden	Costco
Panera	

**79 Misericordia
residents hold
102 community
employment
positions.**



Jake and Joan grind and package coffee for Columbia Street Roastery.



Phil works at Happy Foods

Campus Employment Opportunities

While Misericordia supports individuals who are interested in community employment, it is also fortunate to have a variety of campus employment opportunities that have become the foundation for future off-campus employment.

Nursing & Development Office: 2 residents	Housekeeping: 1 resident
Mail Delivery: 1 resident	Reception: 2 residents
Greenhouse Inn Restaurant: 19 residents	Recycling: 21 residents
Coffee Packaging: 30 residents	Bakery: 117 residents
Laundry: 28 residents	Purchasing: 3 residents
Conway Center Fulfillment: 55 residents	Greco Gardens: 40
Art Production: 74 residents	



White Sox Fan Force



Expanding Our Community

Mackenzie and Amy collaborate on an art project.



A little over four years ago, Mackenzie “joined” Misericordia attending the Work Experience Program, or “Camp” as she liked to say. Every Spring and Summer she would spend a week at Misericordia becoming familiar with daily routines, getting to know staff and residents, and enjoying new experiences.

This past September, Mackenzie has joined the Adult Enrichment Program. Attending 4 days a week throughout the year, Mackenzie is building friendships, learning new skills, and enjoying a great sense of independence. She comes home enthusiastic about her accomplishments and happy to return the next day. She truly feels part of the Misericordia community.

~ Hal Moore



Misericordia's Outreach Community serves 25 families with children ages 0-7 and 90 families with children ages 8-22.



Expanding the Misericordia Community

The Adult Enrichment Day Program serves 30 young adults ages 22-30, with a goal of growing the program to 100 participants.

For many families that have children with special needs, services are often difficult to access due to lack of availability, quality in program options and cost. Misericordia has expanded its services to families whose children live at home to address this unmet need through our Misericordia Outreach Program. The program offers age-appropriate activities for two distinct age groups: newborns to 7 year olds and 8 to 22 year olds. Through this program, children develop friendships and enjoy a variety of recreational activities held on our campus, including playgroups, special holiday events, Sacramental Preparation and yoga classes.

Most recently, the Misericordia Young Professional Group and the Misericordia Junior Board partnered with this program to offer sports days and DJ dances to the older group. Parents of these children become part of an all-inclusive community that provides a network of support where they feel welcomed and accepted by one another.

In Fall 2016, Misericordia further expanded its Outreach Program to include the Adult Enrichment Day Program for young adults ages 22-35 who have "aged out" of their high school transition programs and are living at home. The on-campus program offers meaningful, productive activities and learning experiences through vocational training and work opportunities, health and wellness program, and continuing education and technology classes.

David and Francesca team up in coffee.



Highlights of 2016



Barbara helps Mary Jeanne celebrate her birthday.

Opening the Quinlan Terrace Homes

In Spring 2016, 60 of our aging residents moved into the four new on-campus Quinlan Terrace Homes. Specially designed to address the evolving nursing, therapy and healthcare needs of residents with dementia and other age-related conditions, these homes meet a growing need to care for an aging population with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and serve as a model for other organizations.



Receiving the First Continuum of Care License

With tremendous support from families and friends, Misericordia received the first Continuum of Care License from the state of Illinois, which is crucial to ensure our future as a choice for families. The license recognizes Misericordia as a legitimate way of serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and some physically challenged as well – since we are the only agency in Illinois that has the full continuum of care.



Expanding the Misericordia Recycling Center

In June 2016, Misericordia's Developmental Training Program opened the new on-campus Recycling Center as a way to offer learning opportunities and compensable work for residents. The Center provides a central location to process all of Misericordia's recyclable material, including steel, aluminum, paper, cardboard and plastic. It also disassembles electronic waste and corporate furniture into recyclable materials, and sells them as commodities.

Introducing the Hearts & Flour Bakery Food Truck

Bringing Misericordia 'on the road' and offering residents even more employment opportunities out in the community, the new Food Truck is Misericordia's latest enterprise offering our bakery and coffee products across the Chicago metropolitan area. It will also serve as a mobile billboard to promote Candy Days, Family Fest and other Misericordia fundraising events.



Renovating the James and Mary Kay McAllister Home

One of Misericordia's 10 Community Integrated Living Arrangements (CILAs), the 70-year-old McAllister Home recently underwent significant updates that included new heating and air conditioning systems, and remodeled bathrooms. The newly renovated home, opened in Fall 2016, now offers a first-of-its-kind smaller residential option for four men, which is crucial to their success in gaining valuable life skills in independence, community living and social relationships.



Stewardship of Our Community

Throughout their history, Misericordia's supporting groups have remained committed to the values and ideals that define this extraordinary place. These diverse and talented groups support Misericordia by fundraising, volunteering and spreading the mission through their good work on behalf of the residents.

I became involved with Misericordia through the service of others. When you're born to Felice and Carl Madda, and have Brian Shannon and Eileen Healy as godparents, you're destined to serve. For the past decade, I have been coordinating teams of lawyers and their staff to shake their cans in the Loop for Candy Days. In 2012, I joined the Misericordia Women's Board to deepen my commitment and serve alongside my mother.

While I was the youngest person on the Board at the time, I was emboldened with the commitment to drive fundraising to new levels. After serving in several roles, I was honored to Chair the Heart of Mercy Ball on November 12, 2016. While I was steadfast in my commitment of raising \$1,000,000, the more critical element to my campaign was to raise awareness that Misericordia serves children and adults with a spectrum of needs, some of which were developed after birth.

As a mother of three, I am profoundly humbled by the gift of children. As a lawyer, I am aware of the devastation a tragedy may cause. In addition to its service of children and adults with Down syndrome, Misericordia also serves children and adults who sustained a traumatic event or injury that forever changed the course of their lives. Without a doubt, the most impactful part of my involvement was the "Day in the Life" video that we developed to tell the stories of three residents with different needs. Misericordia provided a second home to those who could never imagine.

~ Eileen Madda Sethna
2016 Women's Board Ball Chair



Misericordia Women's Board

- ❖ 160 Members
- ❖ 2016 Calendar Year: \$900,000+
- ❖ Signature Event: Heart of Mercy Ball

Beth Donovan, Co-Chair and
Anne Marie McGee, President
of the Women's Board





Misericordia Women's Auxiliary

- ❖ 130 Members
- ❖ 2016 Fiscal Year: \$537,533
- ❖ Signature Events: First Look for Charity, Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show



Junior Board

- ❖ 100 Members
- ❖ 2016 Fiscal Year: \$13,000
- ❖ Signature Event: Springtime Shuffle



Misericordia Women's League

- ❖ 120 Members
- ❖ 2016 Fiscal Year: \$395,000
- ❖ Signature Event: March Madness



Misericordia Young Professionals Council

- ❖ 75 Members
- ❖ 2016 Calendar Year: \$77,596
- ❖ Signature Event: Red Heart Bash



Heartlinks Golf Outing

- ❖ 125 attendees
- ❖ \$225,024
- ❖ Signature Event: July



Misericordia BUMS

- ❖ 525 attendees
- ❖ \$443,989
- ❖ Signature Event: BUMS Golf Outing



Women's Golf Outing

- ❖ 100 attendees
- ❖ \$27,829
- ❖ Event: September

MANY COMMITTED VOLUNTEERS HOST ANNUAL FUNDRAISERS on behalf of Misericordia, both on and off campus. Events such as these provide the opportunity to share the mission of Misericordia with the greater community.

- ❖ **Candy Days:** April 2016 • \$1,899,159
- ❖ **Family Fest:** September 2016 • \$1,443,937

Misericordia Continues to Share its Mission

- ❖ Twice Blessed Thrift Shop
- ❖ Hearts & Flour Bakery
- ❖ Coffee from the Heart
- ❖ Greenhouse Inn Restaurant
- ❖ Heartstrings Gift Shop at Misericordia
- ❖ Heartstring Gift Shop at Saint Francis Hospital
- ❖ Heartracers (Chicago Marathon)
- ❖ Heartsquad (Ragnar Relay)





As time advances, I've stepped up my role as co-guardian of John. Through Misericordia, our family enjoys peace of mind knowing that John is lovingly cared for and given a life of relevance and joy. And, the happiness and contentment that John exhibits truly is a wonder. Misericordia is undeniably an incredible gift, and Sr. Rosemary and her staff and volunteers are simply extraordinary human beings.

~ Bill Meyer



The Misericordia Family Association and the Siblings Association



MFA Benefit Leadership with Sr. Rosemary

The parents and guardians of the children and adults of Misericordia comprise the Misericordia Family Association (MFA). These dedicated family members work diligently to support their resident, forming an invaluable community that educates and informs others about Misericordia.

Misericordia Family Association

- ❖ 600 Members
- ❖ 2016 Fiscal Year: \$1,226,836
- ❖ Signature Event: MFA Dinner Dance

Misericordia Siblings Association

- ❖ 1100 Members
- ❖ 2016 Fiscal Year: \$983,915
- ❖ Signature Event: The Artist in All Art Exhibit and Silent Auction

The Siblings Association seeks to actively contribute to their siblings' lives at Misericordia, as well as support one another. Many siblings have grown into the role of guardian, caring for their loved one when responsibility within the family shifts. Through fundraising and spreading the mission, siblings help ensure the future of their brothers and sisters.

146 Siblings have stepped up to become guardians for their family member.



The Artist in All Sibling Leadership Committee

The Meyer Family Story

Our brother John had lived in state facilities for many years, and eventually our mother, Joan, sought an improved life for him — one with less of a threat of impending closures or isolated CILA placement. With John's level of ability, she knew a large facility with a campus of resources was best for him. We learned of the mission of Misericordia and sought his admittance. When that day of deliverance arrived more than 18 years ago, little did we know just how incredible Misericordia would be.



Our mom began integrating herself in MFA and 'Mis' activities through mentors John and Mary Beth Nilson. Soon mom retired and regularly volunteered in the Greenhouse Inn. My sister Connie and I, co-guardians of John with mom, followed her lead by participating in fundraising and joining the Siblings Association Board early on. We edited and produced the Sibs newsletter and rolled up our sleeves to help grow and stage The Artist in All. We lost our beloved Connie to cancer in 2003, but her dedication to Mis was inspiring. My wife Gina, our kids, Grant and Grace, relatives, and many friends have embraced volunteering, fundraising and financial support for Mis over the years. In fact, once Gina started volunteering weekly in Administration, her sister Jennifer joined her, broadening the ripple effect and deeper purpose that John's life and Misericordia have given to our extended family and friends.

Pauline Greco and her raffle assistants in the Greenhouse Inn Restaurant



Volunteers and Interns: Growing Together



Eleanor with Wenqi, a Master's of Social Work Intern from The University of Chicago



Misericordia Volunteers

10,000 Candy Days
3,000 Holiday Season
3,000 Fest
300 Weekly
500 Annually for Sunday
200 per Major Event
50-100 per Special Project



Jonathan and Andria work side by side in the bakery.



Springtime Shuffle Volunteers

MISERICORDIA'S COMMUNITY CONTINUES TO GROW as a result of the numerous volunteers who give so generously of their time. On any given day, hundreds of volunteers arrive on our campus and in our community homes to share their talents and to make connections with our residents and staff. The residents cherish their time with these individuals, and in return, give purpose and meaning to volunteers' lives.

In addition, Misericordia partners with universities and colleges by offering meaningful internship experiences to students interested in learning more about professions within the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities. Volunteer internships at Misericordia provide practical insight into the many professions available within the field of human services and give students actual experiences in their potential career choice. While students benefit from this learning experience, the relationships and connections they make within the Misericordia community provide invaluable life lessons on compassion, empathy and acceptance - lessons that cannot be taught from a book.

INTERNS complete experience for study in:
social work · social justice · art therapy ·
· counseling · speech/communications ·
recreation · ministry · student teaching

40 Interns through 2016 have come from:
University of Illinois – Chicago
Lake Forest College
Loyola University Chicago
School of Art Institute of Chicago
University of Notre Dame
Boston University
Lewis University
Illinois State University

6 Golden Apple Scholars come from Illinois Universities.



Michael enjoying the Junior Board Christmas party





Get real. Get Jelly Belly.™

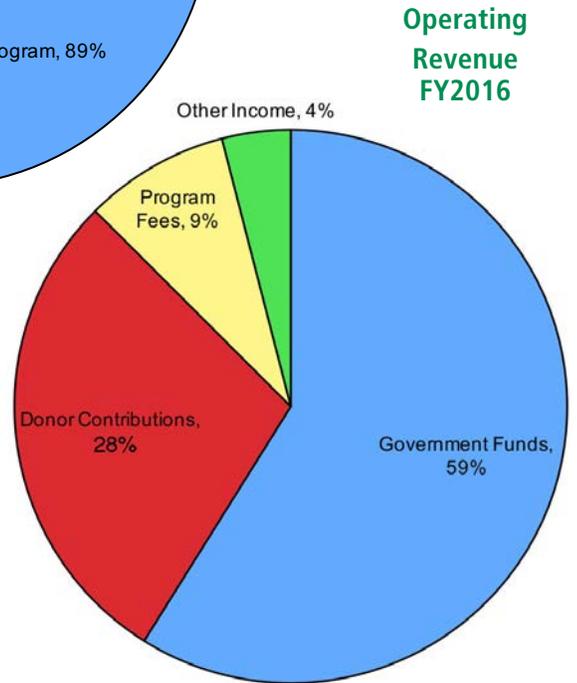
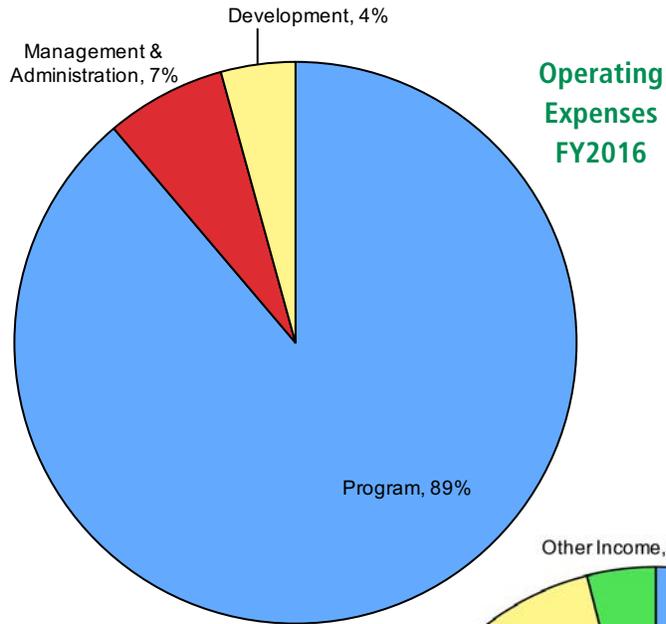


Financials

Misericordia receives grants from government agencies, as well as support from individuals, independent foundations, companies, and corporate foundations. This funding supports our comprehensive network of services and programs and full continuum of residential options tailored to each resident's unique needs. In doing so, every resident is able to live as independent and meaningful a life as possible. We keep our administrative costs at less than nine percent and fundraising costs at less than four percent of overall operating expenses.



Misericordia has a four-star rating from Charity Navigator, exceeding industry standards. Charity Navigator helps charities by focusing on truly effective organizations – and helps donors support a charity with confidence. The program evaluates and rates charitable organizations based on a variety of criteria, including overall financial health, accountability and transparency.



GOVERNMENT REVENUE VS. OPERATING COSTS



For FY 2017 Misericordia, will need to raise more than \$18 million to close the gap between our costs and government funding.



