

Possibilities

COMMUNITY LINK

September 2014 • Volume 20 / Number 3

The pursuit of happiness...



Jennifer Foushee is ready to head to her class at Kaskaskia College Trenton Education Center.



Jennifer (l) with her program manager, Courtney Kuhl (r), who was instrumental in helping Jennifer start her classes.

Everyone deserves a chance to achieve their dreams. To figure out what it is they want out of life, and to do everything in their power to make it happen. Jennifer Foushee's dream is to become a special education teacher. As a person with disabilities, there are many barriers to achieving this dream that require hard work and determination to overcome. Many people would simply give up, perhaps choosing instead to travel a road less bumpy, but Jennifer is determined to achieve her dream.

Jennifer attends Community Link, and has worked in the Production department for over two years. With help from her Program Manager, Courtney Kuhl, she developed a plan to work toward her goal of becoming a special education teacher. She applied to Kaskaskia College and took her placement tests. She scored so high on the reading comprehension test that she does not have to take any reading classes. Jennifer placed into English 101, which she took at the Kaskaskia College Trenton Education Center during the spring semester. With the support of her family, friends, and staff members at Kaskaskia College, Clinton Manor, and Community Link, she was able to overcome the odds. Since Jennifer learns best by hearing, KC set her up with an audio textbook which she could download to her computer and provided her with a tape recorder so she could record her classes and listen to them again on her own time. Her parents purchased speech recognition software, Dragon Naturally Speaking, for her, which she used to dictate her assignments. Jennifer's program manager, Courtney, went above and beyond to make sure Jennifer had the opportunity

to succeed. She helped her complete her application, taught her how to use her student email account, helped her to arrange transportation to her class, helped her to set up her computer and tape recorder, and met with her regularly throughout the semester to review study skills and help with assignments. Jennifer commented that she was "the brains" and Courtney was "the hands". Jennifer's determination and discipline paid off when she received an A in her first college class. Courtney stated, "It was amazing to type her papers with her and see how they developed from simple outlines into fully formed compositions. She did a great job on her papers, and in the class in general."

Some people come into your life and make a lasting impression. For Jennifer, one of these people is her high school teacher, Pamela Unger, who motivated her to become a special education teacher. Jennifer stated, "People like her make me want to strive to do more." Jennifer plans to complete her associate degree in liberal arts at Kaskaskia College and then transfer to a four-year college where she can earn a degree in education with a focus on special education. ❖

Don't Miss the Next Possibilities

The next edition of the Possibilities newsletter will be sent by email in an effort to reduce the increasing costs of direct mail in our commitment to the responsible stewardship of your donor dollars.

We urge you to take a moment to join this effort and share your email address with us. Visit www.commlink.org and click "Subscribe to eNewsletter" on the home page, email JamieF@commlink.org, or call 618-526-3938.

You can trust our firm commitment to your privacy and the protection of the address you provide. And we promise to not wear out our welcome.

Making a difference...

Turn to page 20 of this publication to read more about Michael Mayberry's volunteer work.



Possibilities is the newsletter of Community Link, a not-for-profit community agency providing opportunities to adults and children in the Southern Illinois portion of the St. Louis metropolitan area. Headquarters are located at:

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News Editor: Monica Mensing

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to the following contributors to this edition of the *Possibilities*:

Margie Abert, Jeanette Evans,
Jamie Fields, Lorie Frein, Wesley Gozia,
Laurie Hemker, John Huelskamp,
Karen Huelskamp, Courtney Kuhl,
Barb Nelson, Tina Siegler,
Kathy Steinmann, Fran Taylor,
Chris Toennies

*We welcome any questions
or comments you may have
about our newsletter.*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

John Huelskamp

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FY 2014-2015

Jerry Albers	Ricky G. Johnson
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Wesley Gozia	John L. Lengerman
Sandra Harris	Leslie A. Pedtke
Joseph L. Heimann	Charles V. Poettker
Steve R. Huelsmann	



MISSION STATEMENT

To challenge, teach, and inspire both participants and community, linking them in ways that enhance their lives.

Hemker Named First Step Director



Community Link is pleased to announce the appointment of Laurie Hemker as the new Director of Children's Programs for Community Link's First Step Early Learning and Family Support Program. In addition to overseeing the First Step program, Laurie is also the Infant Mental Health Specialist for Prevention and Early Head Start. Community Link's First Step Early Learning and Family Support Program consists of Early Intervention, which is a state funded program of services for children with developmental delays or disabilities; Early Head Start, which is a federally funded program of prenatal services and children's home-based services; Infant Mental Health Services, which identify children at risk for developmental delays and/or for social-emotional and mental health problems; Child Waiver, which assists families in keeping their loved ones in their own home rather than seeking a more restrictive environment; Community Services, which include free parenting classes on a variety of topics; and Developmental Screenings, which are conducted annually through local school districts and child care centers, as well as by parent or guardian request.

Laurie is a graduate of Mater Dei High School, received her Master's degree in Social Work from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, and is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. Laurie lives in Germantown with her husband, Jeremy, and their three children. ❖

New Board Member Seated for FY 2015



Community Link is excited to announce the appointment of Sandy Harris to its board of directors.

Sandy Harris comes to Community Link with 34 years of corporate accounting and management experience. Sandy retired in August 2013 from Ralcorp Holdings, Inc. where she held the position of Vice President – Tax Administration.

Sandy welcomes the opportunity to help Community Link continue promoting its mission and to provide personalized support services to individuals who have a developmental disability. Her brother, Kenny Loepker, was a participant at Community Link and lived in one of its CILA homes until his passing in 2007.

Sandy and her husband, Glenn, currently reside in Freeburg. Originally from Clinton County, she maintains close ties to the region. Her son, John Becker, works and resides in Breese, providing ample opportunity for frequent visits. ❖



FY 2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Message from the Board President



As we embark on our journey through a new year here at Community Link, I am honored and privileged to have the opportunity to serve as Board President, because we have a Board of Directors with the commitment to make sure Community Link continually meets

and exceeds the expectations our community has for us. Our immediate Past Board President, John Lengerman, has set a wonderful example for me to follow and has provided leadership to keep Community Link on the correct heading to continue to provide success for our participants. I look forward to having more interaction with our dedicated staff members who are continually striving to achieve our mission on a daily basis.

I also wish to welcome and introduce our newest board members who have joined the board in calendar year 2014, Rick Johnson and Sandra Harris. Mr. Johnson is retired from the U.S. Air Force and has a son who was a participant in our Early Head Start program. Mrs. Harris is a retired CPA with extensive corporate tax experience and who also had a brother who was a participant with Community Link in the past. Both of our new board members are highly qualified and personally invested in helping Community Link achieve success.

Community Link is currently working to implement the new strategic plan that the board and staff finalized

towards the end of last year. Our new strategic plan's central component is taking Community Link from an organization that does things for our participants to an organization that does things with our participants, allowing them to have a more active role in life planning; therefore, resulting in a more enjoyable experience for all of our participants.

While these are challenging times for many organizations in Illinois and across the country, Community Link continually evaluates the present and the future so we maintain the ability to retain our legacy from the past and expand on our legacy going forward. Executive Director John Huelskamp and our administrative team do a great job of keeping sight of our dynamic environment and responding appropriately and efficiently.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Community Link, thanks to all of our stakeholders for your continued support of our organization and our mission, because without your support the legacy of Community Link would not be able to continue for our future generations.

Finally, thank you to the staff at Community Link, because the things that you do on a daily basis enhance the lives of our participants, the families of our participants and many others who you might not even realize are touched by your efforts. The Board of Directors notices and appreciates your daily efforts to effectuate the mission and touch lives. ❖

Wesley A. Gozia

Welcome New Board Member



Community Link welcomed a new member to their Board of Directors in November 2013.

Ricky Johnson retired from the Air Force in 2007. Upon returning to the United States, he pursued a degree in Business Administration from McKendree University. With an adopted

son who was enrolled in Community Link's First Step Early Head Start program, Ricky is an active First Step Early Head Start committee member and chairperson. Ricky brings 21 years of culminated leadership and management experience from the Air Force and looks forward to progressing the vision and future of Community Link's commitments. Currently residing in New Baden, Ricky and his wife, Tracey, are proud parents of two sons, Ricky III and Shawn, and two daughters, Erin and Elise. ❖

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FY 2014

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Executive Director, Greater Belleville Chamber of Commerce

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KEY STAFF FY 2014

John Huelskamp

Executive Director

Fran Taylor

Director of Finance and Administration

Barb Nelson

Director Adult Programs

Laurie Hemker

Director of Children's Programs

Jamie Fields

Director of Development

Participant Service Awards...

Community Link's Executive Director, John Huelskamp, presented service awards at the quarterly participant meeting in February 2014.



Ten years of service awards went to (l to r): Sarah Totone, and Erin Powers. Not pictured is Chris Tucker.

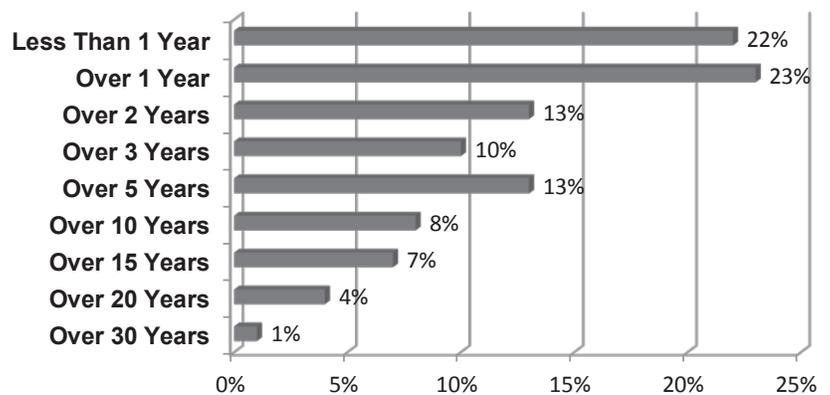


Twenty years of service award went to: Guy Hellmann (l). Not pictured is Mallory Wessling.



Ten years of service awards went to (l to r): Chris Enboden, Mike Varel, Shannon Campbell, and Jennifer Eide. Not pictured are Sharon Fisher, and Erik Schwalenberg.

Staff Years of Service FY 2013-2014



Total number of employees at end of fiscal year: 215

Total turnover rate for fiscal year: 21%

Number of employees who ended employment: 46

FINANCIAL REPORT

Community Link is pleased to present the following audited summary of revenues, expenses, and changes in net assets for the Agency's Fiscal Year 2013-2014, ending this past June 30. For a copy of the completed audit, please e-mail info@commlink.org or call (618) 526-8800.

Revenue

Contributions/Fundraisers	\$474,359	6%
Fees for Service/Gov't Grants	\$6,648,693	87%
Sales from Worksites	\$415,967	6%
Investment and Other Income	\$82,896	1%
Total Operating Revenue	\$7,621,915	100%

Operating Expenses

Salaries & Benefits	\$5,842,724	
Other Operating Expenses	\$1,693,956	
Total Operating Expenses	\$7,536,680	

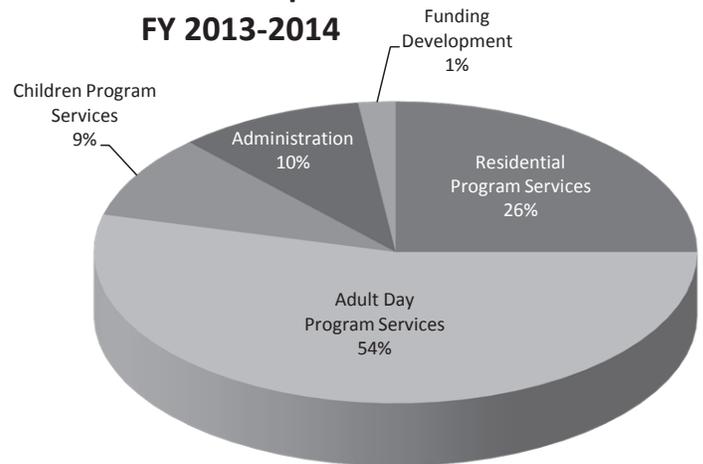
Net Operating Gain \$85,235

Depreciation Expense \$144,992

Net Loss after Depreciation Expense -\$59,757

Functional Expenses

FY 2013-2014



Community Link's \$7.6 million budget flows back into the surrounding communities, through salaries paid to employees and the purchases from local vendors.



Colton is receiving speech therapy from Maribeth Detmer, a speech therapist contracted with Community Link First Step's Early Intervention program.



Ants on a Log is one tool used in the Parents as Teachers curriculum during a one and a half hour home visit provided by the Early Head Start Program of Community Link's First Step program.



Parent involvement is promoted through family playgroups provided twice a month for an hour and a half in the Early Head Start program

First Step connects with children and their families through quality services...

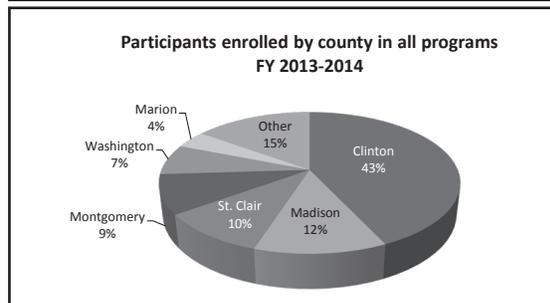
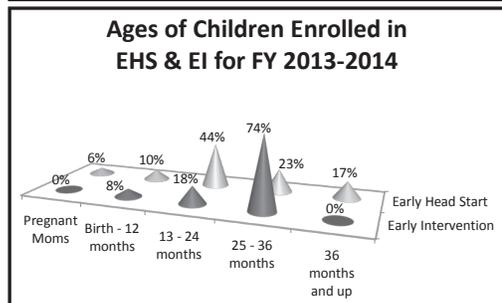
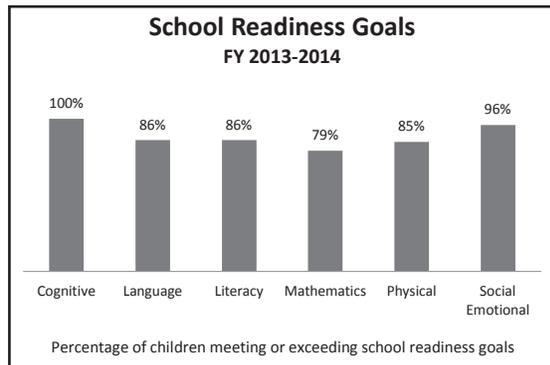
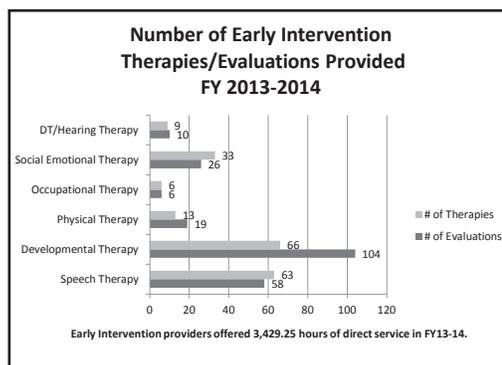
Community Link's First Step Early Learning and Family Support Program consists of Early Intervention, which is a state funded program of services for children, ages 0-3, with developmental delays or disabilities; Early Head Start, which is a federally funded program of home based prenatal services and services for children, ages 0-3; Infant Mental Health Services, which identify children at risk for developmental delays and/or for social-emotional and mental health problems; Child Waiver, which assists families in keeping their loved ones in their own home rather than seeking a more restrictive environment; Community Services, which include free parenting classes on a variety of topics; and Developmental Screenings, which are conducted annually through local school districts and child care centers, as well as by parent or guardian request. ❖

Sequestration funds restored...

The Sequestration budget cuts that affected First Step's Early Head Start Program has been restored. On May 1st, 2014, the program received the restoration of funds, totaling \$18,101, along with a 1.3% COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment). First Step was able to increase the number of enrolled children and pregnant women from 49 back to 54. First Step was also able to restore one Parent Educator from part time back to full time. ❖

Family support and advocacy trainings offered...

The First Step Early Learning and Family Support Program offered many valuable training opportunities throughout the year including those related to health and nutrition, diabetes prevention, and methods to advocate for children with special needs. Two trainings were offered in partnership with Family Matters, a parent training and information program; "Student Progress: What Support Does Your Child Need Over the Summer?" and "Effective Participation in the Development of Individualized Education Programs." Dr. Harvey Karp's Happiest Baby on the Block and Happiest Toddler on the Block classes are offered throughout the month at two local hospitals. ❖



Community Living Program, Endless Opportunities...

Branson, Missouri was the setting for the annual vacation for participants in the Community Living Program (CLP). Twenty individuals, along with three staff stayed at the Grand Oaks Hotel in Branson for a 2 night stay. The Branson Tourism Center set up an action-packed adventure with dinner, shows, bumper boats, and swimming. Participants in the CLP program are given an opportunity to save their money and go on vacation every year. Everyone enjoyed a fun-filled trip! ❖



Front row: Don Ripperda, Brenda Shelton, and Steve Timmermann, all program participants, along with the rest of the group waiting for the Hughes Brothers show to start.



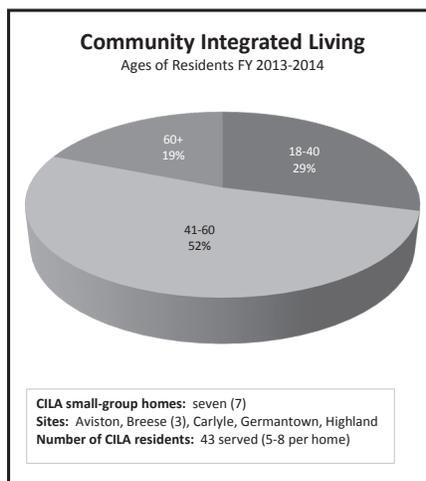
Leroy Taylor (l), program participant, and Ashley Stoffel, Team Leader, are having fun on the bumper boats.



Sean Herzing, who works in Production at the Breese East site, is being serenaded by an aspiring artist at Mel's Hard Luck Diner.



Mike Schrage, participant and resident in one of Community Link's CILA homes, waits for the winner at the go cart racing finish line.



Air show invitation extended to CLP Participants

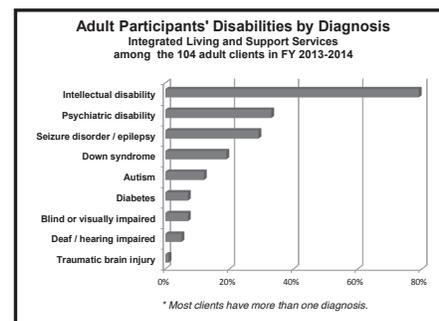
A group of Community Living Program participants were invited to attend the first ever air show at the St. Louis Downtown Airport in Cahokia, IL. Zach Owens, Leroy Taylor, Don Ripperda, Don Dumstorff, Sandy Porter, Jennifer Eide, Jim Bauer, and Sandra Plocher enjoyed an amazing air show from pilots that performed at Fair St. Louis. Participants were able to meet and talk with some pilots as well as a group of young Air Force personnel that were there volunteering. Participants had their picture taken with Colonel Bill Shepard, a pilot of the Tuskegee P-51 Mustang. ❖



Enriching Opportunities ... FUSION Participants viable in the community

The purpose of the Finding Unique Services by Individualizing Opportunities and Needs (FUSION) Program is to enhance and encourage community involvement thus allowing individuals to become more active members of their communities through social and skill development and support. The program is designed to take a unique look at ways each individual can utilize community resources based upon their own personal interests. This past year, host organizations included the following:

- American Cancer Society, Highland
- Breese Junior Women's Club
- Chakota Therapeutic Horse Ranch
- Clinton County Humane Society
- Retirement, Nursing Rehabilitation Centers:
 - Aviston Countryside Nursing Home
 - Hitz Memorial, Alhambra
- South Central IL Medical Reserve Corps
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



Developing dynamic person-centered planning...

Community Link is striving for community integration, acceptance, and opportunities for independence for our participants. In implementing our new strategic plan that was finalized at the end of 2013, we are concentrating on being a partner with our participants and providing participants with more choices, greater independence and chances for advocating for themselves. The Adult Day Program has created a small group of participants that take daily trips in the community to provide more opportunities for independence, inclusion and acceptance. The group named themselves the Link Enlighteners. The daily trips include educational lessons, volunteer work, and interaction with people in the community. Community Link has also encouraged advocacy within our participants and there have been some positive and life changing effects from participants advocating for themselves this year. We look forward to continuing our goal in our strategic plan and layout the future of Community Link. ❖



Mallory Wessling and the Link Enlighteners tour Bobby Eversgerd's Fort in Germantown and experience the Civil War era. Mallory experiments with the instruments.



Link Enlighteners l to r: Chris Tucker, Julie Franey, Jason Siddell, Lowell Isom, and Gary Lawson check in at the Coal Miner Monument in Beckemeyer, and learned about the Centralia Coal Company mine #5 disaster.



Julie Franey and the Link Enlighteners volunteer at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville.



Link Enlighteners l to r: Julie Franey, Chris Tucker, Karen Potts, and Gary Lawson visit the Breese Public Library to read and explore the library's resources.

Participants advocate for themselves...



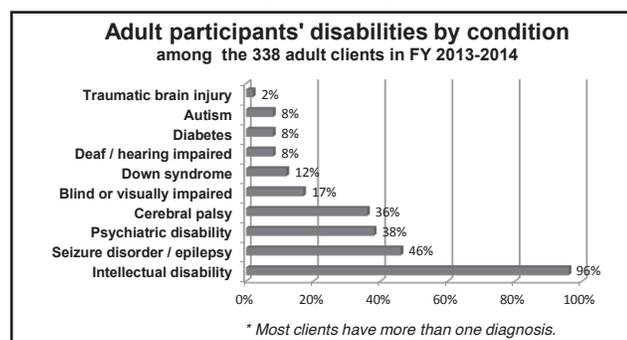
Ed using the Shure-Step to get off the bus

Ed with bus monitor, Tammy McCord (l), and production assistant, Tina Reinneck (r)

Ed Dunlap, a program participant at the Breese East site, voiced his safety concerns about using the lift to get off the bus in a standing position. Ed suggested a box be built so he could first step on the box and then onto or off the step of the bus. Chris Toennies, Associate Director, contacted Chris Garner with South Central Transport, and with a collaborated effort from Community Link and South Central Transit, a Shure-Step was purchased for the bus that Ed rides to and from work. Ed has been using this step, and it's been a benefit for him and staff. ❖



Total Adult Day participants, past year: 338
Total days of service provided, past year: 244
Total hours of day services provided, past year: 351,974



New community-based job opportunity for participants...

Participants from the Fairview Heights Metro and Breese East sites recently completed a newly contracted community-based job at The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows. The work consists of wrapping the lights, checking for burnt out bulbs, replacing burnt out bulbs, and packing into bins for later use. Some of the participants that joined in on this new opportunity include: Nicole Feigl, Dolores Fomby, AnnaMarie Wiese, Heather Holthaus, Marcia Taylor, and Deb Delano. This collaboration with The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows is just the start of creating new job opportunities for the participants at Community Link. ❖



Marcia is step one with wrapping bulbs.

Nicole checks for burnt out bulbs.

Recycling Fiscal Year Recap

Community Link continues to encourage Clinton County households and businesses to “Go Green.” This past year Community Link processed over 600 ton of material. Community Link offers curbside services for Breese residents and business services throughout Clinton County. A full-service drop off center is located at the main facility in Breese, and drop off centers are located in Beckemeyer, Damiansville, and Germantown for residents of those towns. ❖



In appreciation for our current employers and welcome new



Basler Electric
Highland



Eaton's Cooper B-Line
Highland & Troy



Highland Recycling & Shredding
Highland



Jim's Formal Wear
Trenton



National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows
Belleville

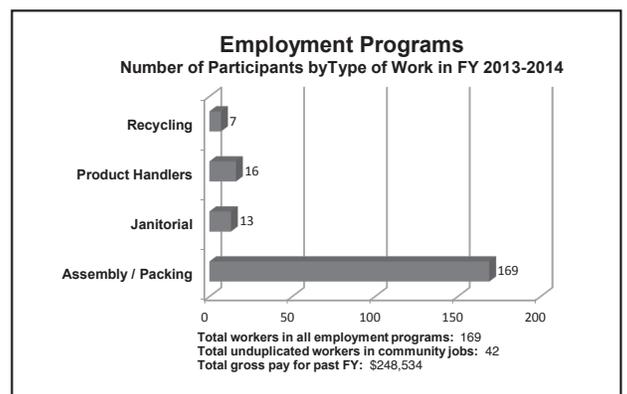
With gratitude to our supported employment sponsors

Casey's General Stores, Breese
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We're pleased to provide janitorial services for

Community Link, East Building, West Building & First Step

Germantown Public Library
Clinton "Marc" Smith, D.C., Breese
Special Olympics Illinois, Highland
Schuette's SuperValu Market, Breese & Carlyle



The recycling program provided the following:

- 550 households with curbside services
- 40 businesses with pickup services
- 9 part-time employment opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities
- 5 part-time drivers



FY 2013-2014 DONOR ROLL

With Gratitude

This Donor Roll honors the funders, businesses, organizations and individuals who have made it possible for the Agency to serve nearly 550 individuals and their families on an ongoing basis (and hundreds more with occasional services) during the 12 months ended June 30, 2014. In an era of diminished government funding, our not-for-profit charitable organization increasingly relies on community support. To each of you, we are grateful for your generous support. To those who have asked to be listed as anonymous, please know that your giving is much appreciated. To those we may have inadvertently omitted, we offer our sincerest apologies, ask your understanding, and invite you to let us know about the omission, so we may adjust our records and recognize your contribution. Thank you again for transforming disabilities into possibilities! ❖

IN APPRECIATION OF OUR DONORS

July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014

FEDERAL/STATE GRANTS

Early Head Start Continuation Grant
Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
Title XX Early Intervention / Regular Work
Health Matters CAP IL Community Associate Grant

CONSOLIDATED CAMPAIGN FUNDING

Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)
United Way of Greater St. Louis (allocation)
United Way of Greater St. Louis (one time basic needs grant)

FOUNDATION GRANTS

Employees Community Fund of Boeing St. Louis
Highland Area Community Foundation
Junior Service Club of St. Clair County
Illinois Clean Energy Foundation
Illinois Department of Transportation
Payless Gives
Special Needs Foundation for Community Link

LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS

St. Clair County 708 Mental Health Board
(art therapy program)
Clinton County 708 Mental Health Board

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with family and friends ...*

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Transitions In Leadership

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(excluding Golf Scramble Sponsors,
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United Way of Greater Kansas City
from
• Wayne & Amy Kruse

United Way of
Greenville County from
• Deborah Kleiboeker

Wells Fargo from
• Michael & Phyllis Carter
• Teresa L. Haar



Thanks to the sponsors of our 18th Annual Golf Scramble

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Thanks to all the golfers and team sponsors!

Community Link is a proud member of
United Way of Greater St. Louis





First Step Early Learning & Family Support was chosen by Payless ShoeSource to receive 100 merchandise certificates through their Payless Gives Shoes 4 Kids program.



Chris Tucker at the Breese Day Training West site learned about planting and growing flowers.



During National Fire Prevention month, the Breese Fire and Police departments gave a safety presentation to program participants.

- Lawrence & Rose Jansen
- Theresa Jansen
- Gary Kloeckner
- Ken Powless
- Brad & Jill Voss

THIRD-PARTY FUNDRAISERS

Clinton County Licensed Beverage Association – Christmas For Kids
Clinton County Parrot Head Club – Spring Phling

ORGANIZATIONAL GIFTS

All Saints Academy
Catholic Holy Family Society
• Council #1
• Council #28
• Council #82
Germantown Spassfest, Inc.
Girl Scouts of Southern IL #15

Knights of Columbus
• Albers Council #9768
• Aviston Council #11110
• Breese Council #2869
• Carlyle Council #1382
• Highland Council #1580
• New Baden Council #10311
Lions Club
• Breese
• Carlyle

Network For Good
St. Monica's CCW - St. Augustine Church-Breese
VFW Auxiliary Post #3523

IN MEMORY OF ...

Eugene Albers *from*
Pat Albers

Van Causey *from*
Kathy Malone & The Van Causey Family

Paul Duncan *from*
Marilyn Duncan

Joann "Pete" Harper *from*
Jan & Dale G. Deiters
Jerome & Corinne Eversgerd
Linda & James Heuer
Florence Jeffreys
Kathryn Peters
Steve & Deb Schomaker
The Family of Joann "Pete" Harper

Linda Johnson *from*
James Patterson
The Family of Linda Johnson

Audrey Loretta Kolar *from*
Dave & Diane Grapperhaus

Selma Koch *from*
Kathryn Peters

Linette R. Korte *from*
Amir & Karen Afshar
Mary Auer & Family & Crip Knebel
Jay & Cathy Boulanger
Bob & Susan Bowman
Ethel Bowman
David & Suzanne Butler
Employees of Foresight Services
Don & Barb Johannes
Ken & Kathy Klostermann
Larry & Ethel Korte
Todd & Julie Korte
Leo & Barb Lammers
Roy & Leona Marti
Jerry & Marylin McDewitt
George Korte Family
Roger & Deb Munie
Robert & Mitzi Plocher
Jerry Prusa
Gene & Paula Redman
Gerald & Paula Rehkemper
Virgil & Carolyn Rehkemper
Terry & Joan Riffel
Keith & Wendy Rohling
Donald & Joyce Schmidt
Paul & Rae Lynn Voss
Frank & Barb Zaloga
The Family of Linette R. Korte

Les Laux & Kenny Loepker *from*
Sandy Harris

Tom Marti *from*
Chris & Susan Johnson
Roy & Leona Marti

Florence Peters *from*
Ron & Barbara Becker
Catholic Holy Family Society Council #1
David & Tammy Ellison
Ted & Mary Haar
Norman & Joy Hayward
Marc & Elaine Hoffmann
James & Mary Lampe
Brad & Michele Maue
John & Janice Niemeyer

Donna & Richard Ottensmeier
Nancy Rehkemper
Dale & Mary Jo Richter
Kelly & Joyce Sheridan
Marvin & Karen Tebbe
James & Joan Young
The Florence Peters Family

Joe Rinella, Jr. *from*
David & Jeannine Mueller
Mike & Donna Nettekmeier

Roger "Dodge" Rolfingsmeier *from*
John & Barb Von Alst

Elizabeth "Betty" Shimer *from*
Anthony & Donna Budde

Jerry Schmiedeke *from*
Carl & Paula Beichel

Margaret Schomaker *from*
Community Unit School District No. 1

Dale Engelmann
Greg & Tina Haas
James & Mary Lampe
Joseph Lengermann
Jon & Geralyn Minton
Bridgid Riebold
Joan Theising
William & Jo Ann Varel
Village of Damiansville
Bernard & Rita Winkeler
The Family of Margaret Schomaker

Sean D. Stookey *from*
David Coffey
Marc Whitney
The Family of Sean D. Stookey

Ralph Timmermann *from*
Cindy Timmermann

Nancy Weber *from*
John & Barb Von Alst
Gary Weber

Elizabeth "Betty" Wilke *from*
Felix Wilke Family

TRIBUTES TO ...

Bev Brandkamp *from*
Schwab Charitable Fund

Thomas Burke *from*
Mary Sereno

Mary Jo Krebs from
Julius & Kathy Holthaus

Brad Ratermann from
Dave & Connie Tebbe

FAMILY FOUNDATION & INDIVIDUAL GIFTS

A

Anonymous
Dick & Jane Adams
Raymond & Melodie
Ainslie
Sandy Albers
Donald & Claudia Albers
Jerry & Marian Albers
Mick & GERALYN Albers
Shelly Albers
Diane Ambuehl
William Anderson
Jason & Katie Anselment
Anthony & Deb
Antonacci
Robert Astroth
Eugene & Sharlene Austin
Kathy Austin

B

Patricia Baeske
Cheryl & Tim Bair
Hazel Baker
Debra Baldwin
Mary Baldwin
Richard & Lillian Baldwin
Shawn Balint
Joseph & Jane Bango
Fred & Carol
Bartelmeyer
Dale & Carol Baumartner
Tina Beard
Brad & Krescene Beck
Darron & Bobbi Beck
Doug Becker
Jeff & Aggie Becker
Ryan & Karena Beckmann
Susan Bell
Bruce & Cindy Benhoff
Jeanette Benhoff
Christine Bening
Daniel & Darlene
Billhartz
Francis & Helen Billhartz
Mark & Lynn Billhartz
Gregory Bizzaro

Jim & Eileen Boeckmann
Robert Boeckmann
Patricia Boien
Paula Brandkamp
Jerome & Joyce Brefeld
Bill & Pat Brink
Blanche Brueggemann
Annette Budde
Anthony & Donna Budde
Harry & Cathie Buller
James & Mary Burns
Michael & Marilyn
Buscher

C

Debra Cates
Richard & Dorcas Cecil
John Cederlund
Antoinette Certa
Lori Chesna
Jim & Arlene Clark
Michael Colaizzi
Carl & Stephanie Cook
Richard & Carolyn
Crocker

D

Connie Dalzotto
Amy Darnell
Deanna Dashley
Richard & Carolyn
Davenport
Larry & Linda Davis
David & Jane Deiters
Andreea de la Torre
Philip & Joyce Detmer
Alison Dierkes
Anna Belle Dixon
Alvina Donnewald
Rena Donohoo
Deborah Donovan
Chris & Chris Dorries
Brad Doyle
Jane Doyle
Agnes Dumstroff

E

Wilbur & Mary Edds
Rich & Lynette Eilermann
Nancy Elsmore
Carolyn Enboden
Dale Engelmann
Paula Essenpreis
Stan & Mary Essenpreis
Skip & Shirley Etter
Jeanette Evans
Terry & Mary Eversgerd

F

Lynda Fahrner
Elaine Fehrmann &
Dennis Winkeler
Norb Feltrop
Adam & Jamie Fields
Gwen Fischer
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas
Fisher
Jim & Theresa Flood
Edward & Joan Foppe
Roger & Margaret Foppe
Charity Freeze
Jennifer Frerker
Richard & Pat Frerker
Leona Fuehne
Paul & Julie Fuehne
Roger & Lu Fuehne
Sue & Ron Fuehne
Portia Fullgrabe

G

Carl & Laura Gall
Lori Garcia
Curt Gentry
Harold & Christina Gentz
Bob & Lisa Gerner
Ruth Gerstner & Family
Stanley & Ruth Gezella
Daniel & Dixie Glaub
Robert & Agnes Glaub
Pauline Glenn
Patrick & Kimberly
Goebel
Mattie Graham
Dave & Diane
Grapperhaus
David & Bonnie
Grapperhaus
Mary Grapperhaus
Raymond & Cynthia
Grapperhaus
Deb Gray
Stacy Green
Debra Guest
Paul & Margo Gunsser

H

Teresa L. Haar
Richard & Marcie Hacker
Janet Hackle
Jeff & Jennifer Haidu
Michelle Haluch
Diana Hamilton
Joann Harper
Becky Harris
Gerald Harris
Sandy Harris



During downtime at the Breese East Production site, Tim Varel, Production Specialist, took a group of participants to the Breese Public Library. The participants were given a tour of each section of the library.



As the Buddy Walk was gearing up, the participants at the Day Training Breese West site made tie-dye coasters for the craft sale. Pictured l to r: Mallory Wessling, program participant, Stephanie Cook, Program Manager, Chris Tucker, and Michelle Peters, program participants.



The Clinton County Parrot Head Club presents Bill Kopsic (middle), program participant, and Jamie Fields, Development Director, of Community Link with a check for \$6,000 from proceeds from their annual Spring Phling. Not only do they donate proceeds from their Spring Phling, the members volunteer at the Buddy Walk, and other events throughout the year.



Jill Husted, program participant, singing the National Anthem at the 8th Annual Buddy Walk held May 3, 2014, which was the biggest and most successful Buddy Walk for Community Link. Karrie Brown and her mother Sue were our special guests. This event registered over 750 walkers and brought in over \$29,000 in gross proceeds. The money raised at this event goes to Community Link to fund local programs and supports for individuals, and a portion goes to the National Down Syndrome Society to fund national advocacy initiatives.



A "block party" is the theme of this playgroup, which is offered through the Early Head Start program of First Step. These 90 minute playgroups are held twice a month, and provide an opportunity for socialization and education for parents to be the best teachers for their child.



Chris (back left) and Samantha (front left) have a passion for technology; Mike Turner (r), IT Coordinator demonstrates capabilities of a tablet.

Terry & Mary Harris
Rosemary Hatton
Diane Heagney
Bernard & Marilyn
Heimann

Johanna Heimann
Glen & Judy Hemker
Joe & Carol Hemker
Ruth Hemker
Jessie Hemen
Mike & Denise Hemen
Dennis & Barbara
Henken

Bernadette Henrichs
Norm Herzing
Paul Herzing
Scott & Sheri Herzing
Larry & Marla Hilmes
Mary Hilmes

Jan Hincapie
Bob & Kathy Hitpas
Daniel E. Hitpas
Patrick & Carol Hitpas
Denver & Sharon

Hoelscher
Marvin & Jane
Hollenkamp
Ron & Diane

Hollenkamp
Shelley Holmes
Jean Holtgrave
Marsha D. Holzhauser,
Attorney-at-Law
Vernette & Jerry
Homann

Alan Howard
Diane Hoyt
Steven & Ellen Huegen
Carl & Geri Huels
John & Diane

Huelskamp, Sr.
Christa Huelskamp
Mark & Karen
Huelskamp
Donna Huelsmann
Trudy Husmann
Robert & Bev Husted
Herb & Carol Hustedde
Tom & Jan Hustedde

I
Linda Iaun
Douglas & Julie Isaak

J
Dale Jakel
Alfred Jansen
Amber Jansen
Barb Jansen
Jason & Sara Jansen
Jerome & Martha Jansen
Lawrence & Rose Jansen
Linda Johnson
Lisa & Ken Johnson
Mark & Donna Johnson
Marty & Kristi Johnson
Whitney Juenger

K
Jane Kaiser
Sarah Kalmer
Stanley Kalmer
John & Mary Kampwerth
Thomas & Celia Kannall
James Kaulig
Heather Keene
Deb & Ken Keilbach
Carrie Keleman
Sabrina Keleman
Dan Ketterer
Diana Keys
Wayne & Margie Kiefer
Ed & Jean Kleber, Jr.
Del Kloeckner
Roman Kloeckner
Karl & Kelly
Klostermann
Norb & Jane
Klostermann

Ruth Koblenz
Theresa & Gary Knoth
Donald Koch
Melissa Kohnen
Randy & Bonnie
Kohrmann
Ryan & Shelly Kohrmann
Richard & Barbara
Koopmann
Mark Korte
Ralph & Donna Korte
Rose Kraft
Richard & Sharon
Krajcovic
John & Barb Krebs
Don & Norma Krohn
Norman Kropp

Glen & GERALYN Kruep
Wayne & Amy Kruse
James & Kim Kueper
Wilfred & Edna Kueper
Allen Kynion

L
Mr. & Mrs. Michael
LaBelle
Rachel Laier
Roger & Florence
Lakenburgs
Karen Lampe
Kevin Landmann
Julie Langenhorst
Michelle & Joshua

Leckrone
Phillip Leftwich
John & Carol Lengerman
Chris Lewis
Debra Linder
Andrea Linders
Carol Linser
Robert & Lucille Lippert
Allan & Carla Litteken
Donna Litteken
Michael & Diana Loehr
Amanda Loepker
Severin Loepker
Wayne & Sandy Lohman
Steve & Margaret Loomis
Claudia Lowry
Tim & Lori Lucia
Keith & Andrea Lueking
Amy Lynn

M
Jerry Mahlandt Trust
Anthony & Debra
Maniscalli & Family
Maureen Manton
Linda Marti
Roy & Leona Marti
Tim Marti
Sharon Mattatall
Bob & Lynn Maue
Donald & Teresa McCall
Kevin & Michele
McDaniel
Mark McKinnon
Joe & Barb McNamara
Ken Meyer
Mary Ann Meyer

Ray & Joyce Miller
 Marina Morgan
 Theresa Morrison
 Bertha Murphy
 Joseph & Deb Murphy
 Lyric Murphy
 Peter & Deb Murphy
 Terri Murphy

N
 James & Terri Neighbors
 Harry & Darleen Nelson
 Rick & Barbara Nelson
 Mike & Donna
 Nettekmeier
 David & Brenda
 Niedzwiecki
 Edward & Pat Niemann
 Angi Niemeyer
 Cindy Niemeyer
 Elsie Niemeyer
 Greg & Marie Niemeyer

O
 Bobby & Carolyn Odum
 Raymond Ochromowicz
 Denise Ollerton
 Elaina Osterbur
 Don & Kay Ostrom
 Judy Ottensmeier
 Norbert & Dolores
 Ottensmeier

P
 Randy & Kim Peek
 Betty Pendleton
 Herb & Jodi Pingsterhaus
 Michael & Barb Plocher
 Ben & Melissa Poletti
 Kelly & Dennis Pollmann
 Dan & Susan Potthast
 Clarence Price
 John Proffitt

R
 Howard & Marilou
 Rakers
 Bob & Pat Range
 James Ranz
 Gina Ratermann
 Rick & Rita Ratermann
 Rodney & Katie
 Ratermann
 Debra Reckmann

Sandra Redman
 William & Dee Reeves
 Francis & Rose Marie
 Rehkemper
 Rodney & Barbara
 Reinier
 Dan & Nancy Renschen
 Margaret Resnick
 Betty Richter
 Joan Richter
 John & Bernadine Richter
 Kurt & Lynn Ripperda
 Ronald & Mary Ripperda
 Jan & David Rittenhouse
 Mike & Jenny Rivera
 Robin Roach
 Betty Robben
 Gene & Martha Robke
 Nancy Robke
 Dan & Jane Rosen

S
 Marilyn Sammarco
 Michelle Santarossa
 Thomas Schilling
 Kristin Schmidt
 Maureen Schmitz
 Allan & Marilyn
 Schorfheide
 Dorothy Schrage
 Edward Schrage
 Judy Schrage
 Raymond & Romy
 Schrage
 Sr. Angela Schrage
 Elizabeth Schroeder
 Mary Jo Schwarz
 Ronald & Mary Scifres
 Karen Seelhofer
 Mark & Karen Senger
 Virginia Sexton
 Kristine Siegler
 John & Linda Smith
 Larry & Marie Smothers
 Dale Snyder
 Brian Steiner
 Ben Steinmann
 Kathy & Kerry Steinmann
 Larry & Kathryn Stout
 Joe & Trudy Stricker
 Allen & Rita Strubhart
 Dale Strubhart
 Sandy Strubhart

Dennis & Gloria Stuckey
T
 Richard & Michelle
 Taphorn
 James & Fran Taylor
 Dave & Connie Tebbe
 Dennis & Deb
 Tegenkamp
 Julie Thayer
 Joan Theising
 Ralph Thole & Family
 Ron & Jeanne Thole
 Ronald & Mary Thomas
 Brian Tibbs
 Patrick & Amy Tighe
 Brent & Cheryl
 Timmermann
 Charles Timmermann
 Cindy Timmermann
 Madelyn Timmermann
 Maurice Timmermann
 Patrick & Linda
 Timmermann
 Timothy Timermann
 William Timmermann
 Susie Tipton
 David & Shelley Toennies
 Dennis & Pat Toennies
 Leroy & Mary Toennies
 Wayne & Angela Toennies
 Wayne & Jean Trampe
 Susan Triphahn
 Cecelia Tschannen
 Mike & Carolyn Turner
 Genea Tyrone

U
 Steve & Mary Usselmann
V
 Dave & Micki Vandeloo
 Erick & Michelle
 VanDorn
 Al & Geri Varel
 Stan & Mary Varel
 Brenda Vitale
 Jean Vogt
 Betty Von Bokel
 Diane Von Bokel
 Dolores Von Bokel
 Denise Vonder Haar
 Elaine Vosholler
 Julie Vosholler



Bruce Benhoff (r) presents a check to John Huelskamp (l), CL Executive Director which was used to pay for the Thanksgiving meal for program participants of Community Link.



Bev Brandkamp (l), program participant and Faith Wilkinson, Habilitation Specialist introduce one of their four new tablets to explore educational material and games. The tablets were possible as a result of a donation from Bev's mother, Paula Brandkamp.



James Bauer (r), program participant, receives a lesson from Alex Koopmann (l) and Joe Huelsmann (middle) of Boy Scout Pack #225 of Breese. The scouts generously volunteered their time on a school holiday to demonstrate the process of tearing down a computer tower for recycling.



Movement time is part of a daily Health & Wellness activity throughout the agency. Every day at a certain time the entire agency stops to perform movement time.



The Boulder United Methodist Women's Mission donated 6 special blankets to be used for any participant in the agency. Karen Potts (l), a program participant, belongs to the women's group and helped create these during monthly meetings. Erin Powers (r), program participant, was a recipient of one of these special blankets.



Clinton County Licensed Beverage Association collected toys during a third-party fundraiser and made a financial contribution to Community Link's First Step program. Pictured l to r: Chrissy Brown, Rachel Poettker, Jamie Fields, Nancy Huelsmann, Laurie Hemker, Kim Lohman, and Danayka Berrocal.

James & Donna Voss
 Jerry & Pat Voss
 Tony & Linda Voss

W

Terry Wainscott
 Lisa Wait
 Meredith Watt
 Cathy Weber
 Dorothy Weber
 Curt & Diane Weh
 Louis & Marianne Weisenfeld
 Larry & Mary Wellen
 Duane Welsh
 Janice Welsh
 Shirley Wessel
 Jason & Laura Wesselmann
 Brian & Kristen Wheeler
 Rodd & Lisa Whelpley
 Dennis & Genie White
 Marvin & Tina Wiegman
 Heather Wiesemeyer
 Junilla Wieter
 Herbert & Darlene Wilhelm
 Hugo Wilke
 Julie Wilkinson
 Donna M. Willett
 Paula Williams
 John Wilson
 Andrew Winkeler
 Dennis Winkeler
 Don & Jodi Winkeler
 Joshua & Ashlie Winkeler
 Lisa Winkeler
 Marietta Winkeler
 Stacy & Ann Winkeler
 Wayne & Janice Winkeler
 Marsha & Gary Wobbe
 Brian & Amy Wuebbels
 Netsy Wuebbels

Z

Angie Zahn
 Frank & Barb Zaloga
 John & Elizabeth Zeller
 Dorothy Zinn

INDIVIDUAL GIFTS – CURBSIDE RECYCLING

Anonymous
 Alison Dierkes
 Germantown Spassfest, Inc.
 Daniel & Dixie Glaub
 Kevin & Tiffany Hollenkamp
 Margaret Jakel
 Richard & Sharon Krajcovic
 Rehkemper & Son, Inc.
 Marilyn Sammarco
 Chad & Kris Taylor
 Dave & Connie Tebbe

IN-KIND GIFTS OF GOODS

(excluding Golf Scramble sponsors, recognized in ad)

from Businesses

54th Street Bar & Grill
 Aviston Countryside Manor
 Barefootin' Saloon
 Barnyard Cycles
 Belleville News Democrat
 Bent Oak Golf Course
 Beyond the Garden Gate
 Blaine Rehabilitation Management, Inc.
 Boulder Yacht Club
 Brandmeyer Law Office
 Breese Dental Care
 Breese Journal & Publishing
 Breese Motor Sales, Inc.
 Caesars Entertainment
 Cambridge Dental Care
 Camp Bow Wow Swansea
 Carlyle IGA
 Casino Queen
 CC Food Marts
 Dairy King
 Deien Chevrolet, Inc.
 Diana's Draperies
 Excel Bottling Co.

Eye On Design Drapery,
 Shutters & Blinds, Inc.
 Family Video
 First National Bank in
 Carlyle & Aviston
 Foppe Ace Hardware
 Foppe Amoco
 Foppe Insurance Agency
 Gil Klein's Brand Source
 TV & Appliances
 Hardee's Breese & Carlyle
 Henken Storage & Henken
 Pecan Cracking
 Hidden Lake Winery
 Hillary Frost
 Photography
 Hilton Garden Inn
 O'Fallon
 Jerry's Landscape
 Nursery, Inc.
 Joiner Sheet Metal &
 Roofing, Inc.
 K & D Countertops, Inc.
 K & J Chevrolet, Inc.
 Kalmer Landscape Supply
 Kraft Foods North
 America
 Light Brite Distributing,
 Inc.
 Lillians
 Lynfred Winery
 Meyer's Greenhouse &
 Nursery
 Mid-County Auto Supply
 Missouri Botanical
 Garden
 Mueller Furniture
 Nine Seventy Furniture
 & Flooring
 Oak Brook Golf Club
 Poettker Construction
 Co.
 Prairie Farms Dairy
 Raging Rivers
 Rehkemper & Son, Inc.
 Rickhoff & Associates,
 LTD
 Roland Barkau
 Memorial Golf Course
 Sabatino & Associates
 Schuette's Market
 Siever Bros., Inc.

Silver Dollar City
Sips n Splatters
Six Flags Friends
Southern Bus & Mobility
Starlight Dance
Stone Hill Winery
Strano & Associates Real Estate
Subway - Breese
Sunshine Drapery & Interior Design
Supplement Superstores
Taylor Made Signs
TechKnow Solutions, Inc.
The Design Studio
The Great Cover Up
The Lubar & Bistro
The Magic House
Ticketmaster
Tom's Cleaners, Lynn Ripperda
Trenton Sun
Tribout's Carnival, Bingo, Party
Unforgettable
Photography by Anna
Wal-Mart - Carlyle
Wal-Mart - Highland
WCXO 96.7 Super Hits Radio
Wilke Window & Door, Inc.

**from Organizations/
Gov't.**

Breese Junior Women's Club
Carlyle High School
Clinton County Licensed Beverage Association
Girl Scouts of Southern IL
Mater Dei Catholic High School
St. Anthony Church, Beckemeyer - Parishioners
St. Augustine Church, Breese
St. Bernard Church, Albers Giving Tree
St. Felicitas Church Altar Sodality

St. Joseph Hospital
St. Joseph Hospital - John Jeffries, CFO
St. Joseph Hospital - Carl Kuhl
St. Louis Cardinals
St. Louis Rams
Community Outreach
St. Paul Church, Highland
• Peggy Bodinet
• Deanna Harlan
• Judy Hesson
• Connie Kloss
• Connie Knebel
• Mary Joe Neuman & Family
• Joane Riffel
• Mrs. Weise
• Giving Tree
St. Paul United Church of Christ
Trenton Tumbleweeds Garden Club
United Methodist Church Women's Mission Projects

from Individuals

Anonymous
Janice Aarns
Jean Andre
Kathy Austin
Nikki Beer
Sheena Bowen
Eileen Cummings
Steve & Carol Deien
Geri Detmer
Jamie Detmer
Rena Donohoo
Donna Dworak
Danielle Elliot
Carolyn Enboden
Adam & Jamie Fields
Meghan Foster
Sue Frey
Joan Gaffner
Dave Gall
Carolyn Gardner
Perry & Missy Gaskill
Mike Gatton
Rick & Barbara Gerstner
Debra Gray

Rick & Donna Gruenenfelder
Paul & Margo Gunsser
Richard & Marcie Hacker
Beth Hake
Terry & Mary Harris
Stacy Hart
The Heimann Family
Johanna Heimann
Madonna Heldenbrand
Nicole Hemker
Dennis & Barbara Henken
Eric & Jamie Henken
The Ron & Helen Henken Family
Larry & Marla Hilmes
Maya Hobbs
Marvin & Jane Hollenkamp
Jean Holtgrave
Mark & Karen Huelskamp
Leigh Janes
Kendra Jansen
Marty & Kristi Johnson
Brent Kalmer
Carolyn Karasek
Ken & Kim Karbach
Heather Keene
Jeanne Kueper-Krueger
Mark & Lora Kuhn & Family
Michael & Jamie Labelle
Tim & Vicky Langenhorst
Cindy Lockhart
Steve & Margaret Loomis
The Marti Family
Senator Kyle McCarter
Kayla Mensen
Rick & Barbara Nelson
Duane & Denise Nordike
Keith Nordike
Randy & Kim Peek
Dan & Susan Potthast
Frances Ratermann
Lisa & Dan Rehkemper
Terry & Joan Riffel
Deborah Rigdon
Brittany Robbins
Eric & Brianne Robke
James & Lynn Schmidt
Mike Schomaker



Courtney Kuhl, Program Manager at the Day Training Breese West site, has brought her love of music to Community Link. She holds music therapy sessions twice a month for the participants.



Breese Police Department Officers Curt Weh and Rick Fitzgerald spoke to participants concerning legal and illegal drugs, and performed a demonstration with the Fatal Vision Glasses for participants to experience what it would be like to be under the influence of alcohol.



In honor of Brad Ratermann (r), program participant, Community Link received a donation of a cardboard baler from Dave & Connie Tebbe. Curtis Leonard (l), an employee in the recycling department is very excited about the new equipment to make the recycling run smoother.

Remembering Our Friends...

Suzanne L. Sturm

68 of New Baden, IL, passed away on January 2, 2014. Suzanne participated in the Adult Day Training program at the Breese West site. She was a resident of Clinton Manor Living Center in New Baden, IL.

Joseph B. Schmersahl

81 of Swansea, IL, passed away on January 10, 2014. Joe participated in the Adult Day Training program at the Fairview Heights Metro site. He was a resident of Specialized Living Center in Swansea, IL.

Joe Boide

66 of Swansea, IL, passed away on February 25, 2014. Joe participated in the Adult Day Training program at the Fairview Heights Metro site. He was a resident of Specialized Living Center in Swansea, IL.

Deborah Cowart

49 of Belleville, IL, passed away on February 2014. Deb participated in the Adult Day Training program at the Fairview Heights Metro site. She was a resident of Belle Manor in Belleville, IL.

Chester A. Anderson

60 of Trenton, IL, passed away on March 12, 2014. Chester participated in the Adult Day Training program at the Breese East site. He was a resident of Oak View in Trenton, IL.

Sean Stookey

46 of Mascoutah, IL, passed away on June 19, 2014. Sean participated in the Adult Day Training program at the Breese East site. He was a resident of Lake House in Mascoutah, IL.

Adam Nettles

27 of Germantown, IL, passed away on June 29, 2014. Adam participated in the Adult Day Training program at the Breese West site, and in the Community Living Program. He lived at home with his parents in Germantown, IL.

Debra Samson

44 of New Baden, IL, passed away on July 2, 2014. Deb participated in the Adult Day Training program at the Breese West site. She was a resident of Clinton Manor Living Center in New Baden, IL.

Steve & Deb Schomaker
The Mike Schrage Family
Duane & Jo Scott
Kristine Siegler
Kerry & Kathy Steinmann
Ashley Stoffel
Keith & Patricia Stumpf
Linda Szczeblewski
William & Doris Tadlock
James & Frances Taylor
Dave & Connie Tebbe
Anisah Thole
Patrick & Linda
Timmermann
Aaron & Chris Toennies
Jodi Toennies - First
United Methodist
Church, Trenton
The Trampe Family
Wayne & Jean Trampe
Mike & Carolyn Turner
Catherine Wilson
Bernard & Rita Winkeler
Wayne & Janice Winkeler
Brad & Angela Zurliene

IN-KIND GIFTS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE

from Businesses

First Bank – Breese
• Amy Kampwerth
• Marilou Rakers
• Mary Varel
• Connie Wiegmann
• Geri Wobbe
First Bank – O’Fallon
• Mary Dix
Kues Bros Auction Service
• Jerry Kues
• Jim Kues

from Organizations

Albers Legion Auxiliary
Cheryl Heimann
Jennifer Heimann
Marilyn Heimann
Shirley Huegen
Florence Kassen
Deb Kehrer
Linda Netemeyer
Barb Schroeder

Althoff Catholic High
School
• Michael Barnes
CC Parrot Head Club
• Jolene Kohnen
• Matt Kohnen
• Gina Lupachini
• Todd Peppenhorst
• Rhonda Pulver
• Chad Taylor
• Jim Taylor
• Kris Taylor
• Carl Wessling
• Jen Wienker
• Dave Wilton
• Ken Wooden
Delta Theta Tau Sorority
• Kerrie Chappell
• Sara Wright
Faith Baptist Church
• Neil Detmer
• Jeff Jahnke
Mater Dei Catholic
High School
• Cordell Beckmann
• Conner Black
• Luke Boeckman
• Jacob Deien
• Kelsey Deien
• Morgan Dermody
• Lauren Donnewald
• Katie Faust
• Sarah Faust
• Adam Gall
• Elle Gebke
• Noah Gerdes
• Lindsey Goestenkors
• Rachelle Haake
• Will Harad
• Rachel Harper
• Abby Hellmann
• Joe Hemann
• Emily Hemker
• John Hilmes
• Erica Hitpas
• Nick Hollenkamp
• Collin Holthaus
• Zach Horner
• Hazel Huels
• Zach Huelskamp
• Laney Huelsmann
• Will Kasson

• Sam Krebs
• Sophie Kuhl
• Amber Litteken
• Taylor Luebbers
• Ben Maue
• Alexandra Norris
• Nicole Peek
• Nathan Peltes
• Nick Pollmann
• Quintin Potthast
• Kara Ratermann
• TJ Rensing
• Kylee Rongey
• Sarah Schriewer
• Hannah Schulte
• Matt Spears
• Keegan Spirek
• Otto Stark
• Cole Strotheide
• Cole Trost
• Jacob Trost
• MacKenzie Trost
• Lukas Whitten
• Samantha Whitten
• Mitchell Wiegmann
Mater Dei Catholic High
School Track Team

from Individuals

Larry Acord
Jaclyn Albers
Mike Bango
Alyssa Bassler
Phyllis Berndsen
Eileen Boeckmann
Karrie Brown “Karried
Away”
Tony Budde
Denise Caldwell
Stephanie Cook
Lynne Cote
DeLaine Crossley
Alan Hagen
John Feldman
Thomas Feldman
Adam Fields
Jamie Fields
Lorie Frein
Brandy Gallagher
Chris Gebke
Deb Guest
Marcie Hacker
Jessica Hart

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Stacy Hart | Kevin Krebs | Kelsey Stewart |
| Kevin Heckenkemper | Glen Kruep | Coleen Taylor |
| Johanna Heimann | Geralyn Kruep | Fran Taylor |
| Jeremy Hemker | Courtney Kuhl | Jim Taylor |
| Laurie Hemker | Jamie LaBelle | Kayla Taylor |
| Nikki Hemker | Brennan Lampert | Chris Toennies |
| Dennis Henken | Ken Laux | Pat Toennies |
| Eric Henken | Curtis Leonard | Mike Turner |
| Carla Hilmes | Kim Lohman | Kathy Wempe |
| Cierra Hilmes | Rodney Lohman | Ann Winkeler |
| Tara Hilmes | Maggie Mensing | Joe Winkeler |
| Marla Hilmes | Michael Mensing | Helen Wuebbles |
| Nick Hollenkamp | Monica Mensing | Angela Zurliene |
| Heather Holthaus | Theresa Morrison | |
| Emma Huelskamp | Bridget Nelson | |
| Karen Huelskamp | Barb Nelson | |
| Mark Huelskamp | Zach Owens | |
| Joe Huelsmann | Maggie Peters | |
| Steve Huelsmann | Sandy Plocher | |
| Emma Johnson | Lisa Rehkemper | |
| Kristi Johnson | Barbara Reinier | |
| Kyler Johnson | Bob Ricker | |
| Brent Kalmer | Rachel Rivera | |
| Heather Keene | Eric Robke | |
| Kaylon Keene | James Rouse | |
| The Keene Family | Sterling Schoen | |
| Gerry Kloeckner | Tina Siegler | |
| Alex Koopmann | Ben Steinmann | |
| Jennifer Kozan | Kathy Steinmann | |

The Direct Service Provider (DSP) of the Year Awards are for those staff members that provide direct support for participants in some capacity. These individuals are nominated by the program participants, and the Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) tallies the nominations to announce the awards at the annual Holiday Party.



Kathy Wempe (l), CAC member, presents Jean Deiters (r) DSP of the Year Award for the Breese West site.



Pictured l to r: Heather Holthaus and Samantha Haar, CAC members, present awards to Sabrina Keleman, for CILA DSP of the Year, and Jenny McQuade, Breese East DSP of the Year.

Selections From Our Wish List

First Step

- \$10 Walmart gift cards for families
- \$10 gas gift cards for families doctor appointments
- \$10 gift cards to local establishments
- Portable folding child picnic table
- New infant & toddler car seats to replace expired
- Non-stick pots & pans
- Large water cooler/thermos (hot & cold)

Breese 555 CILA

- New refrigerator
- New deep freezer

Carlisle CILA

- New refrigerator

CILA Intermittent

- Vacation time condo/cabin use
- Gym memberships for participants
- Cardinal/concert tickets
- New lawn chairs
- Gas gift cards
- Gift cards to local establishments

Production Breese East

- Adult/Child Manikin 5 Pack
- Bench processing fee from gathering plastic caps \$200
- Pallet jack (2)
- Remodel restroom(s)
- Paint Production area
- iPod
- iPad or other tablets

Fairview Heights Metro

- New recliners
- Wrought iron patio set
- Outdoor bench
- iPads or other tablets
- Fence for recreation area

To see our entire wish list, request a copy from Jamie at (618) 526-3938.



Donna Fitzgerald, Day Training Program Manager and Registered Nurse, held a women's health class to discuss overall health and taking steps to better health. These classes have been ongoing throughout the year.

Volunteers... those who bring sunshine to the lives of others...



Joanne Lange, program participant and resident of a Community Link CILA home, has been a volunteer at St. Joseph's Hospital for 8 years. She attends the Auxiliary meetings and gives a report on Community Link's recycling program.



Teach a person how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime... this is what Bob Ricker, father of John Ricker, program participant, did for individuals who wanted to learn to fish. Bob volunteers monthly to teach individuals about fishing poles, bobbers, hooks, and bait.

Community Link welcomes the valuable contributions that are provided through Mater Dei Catholic High School and Althoff Catholic High School senior service projects. These seniors used their talent to volunteer in different locations to help the individuals we support in our programs.



Althoff Catholic High School senior Michael Barnes (l) with Michele McDaniel, Adult Day Program Associate Director at the Fairview Heights Metro location.



Maggie Peters (r), mother of Michelle Peters, program participant, volunteered in the recycling department to help Roger Myers (l) get through all of the material for the day.



Brandy Gallagher, program participant, uses the skills she learned in a child care class to volunteer for the First Step program's playgroup.



Mater Dei Catholic High School seniors, pictured l to r: Hannah Schulte, Kelsey Deien, Rachelle Haake, Kylie Rongey, and Rachel Harper

Thank you for your treasure, time, and talent...

July 1, 2014 – August 31, 2014

This Donor Roll honors the funders, businesses, organizations and individuals who have made it possible for the Agency to serve nearly 550 individuals and their families on an ongoing basis (and hundreds more with occasional services.) To those who have asked to be listed as anonymous, please know that your giving is much appreciated. To those we may have inadvertently omitted, we offer our sincerest apologies, ask your understanding, and invite you to let us know about the omission, so we may adjust our records and recognize your contribution.

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 Meyer's Greenhouse & Nursery

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 Sandy's Hair Design
 Schmidt Organs & Custom Woodworking
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 Nick Timmermann
 Virgil Van Dover
 Brad & Becca Varel
 Dolores Von Bokel
 Aaron & Valerie Watson
 Carol Wieter
 Donna M. Willett

IN-KIND GIFTS OF GOODS
from Business/Organizations/Religious
 Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois
 Mascoutah First Baptist Church
 St. Paul Church
 Durbin Family
 Carolyn Giger & Family
 Deanna Harlan
 Scott Family
 The Muny

from Individuals
 Anonymous
 Renae Donohoo
 Dave Gall
 Helen Heimann
 Jean Holtgrave
 Ken & Marlene Holtgrave
 Opal Jones
 Mark & Lora Kuhn & Family
 Steve & Margaret Loomis
 Jane Owens
 Lisa & Dan Rehkemper
 Deborah Rigdon

IN-KIND GIFTS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES
from Organizations/ Religious/School
 Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Highland Recycling & Shredding, Luke Harris
from Individuals
 Cindy Brown
 Rob, Alex & Julia Neumann
 Kelsey Stewart
 Corynn Wheelan

IN HONOR OF...
James Bauer *from*
 Faith Baptist Church, Breese – Vacation Bible School

IN MEMORY OF...
Adam Nettles *from*
 Anonymous
Jerry Schmiedeke *from*
 Carl & Paula Beichel

Roger Schwierjohn *from*
 Gerald & Paula Kampwerth
Sean D. Stookey *from*
 David & Peggy Berger
 Jerry & Susan Bolen
 Aimee-Michelle Gower
 Scott & Beth Jacob
 Robert & Carrie Naylor
 Guillermo & Ramona Rodriguez
 The Family of Sean D. Stookey

EMPLOYEE GIVING CAMPAIGN
AT&T United Way Employee Giving *from*
 Anonymous
 Ronald & Leigh Ann Arentsen
 Debra Dumstorff
 Rob Haag
 Mark & Becky Hitpas
 Jeff & Renee Kehrer
 James & Colleen Kuhl
 Jason & Reagan Lampe

Bank of America Employee Giving *from*
 Anonymous
Citigroup Employee Giving *from*
 Cindy Holtgrewe
Macy's Employee Giving Campaign *from*
 Anonymous

Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign *from*
 Teresa L. Haar
 Gary Kloeckner
 Ken Powless



Thanks to the sponsors of our 2nd Annual Metro Golf Scramble

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Thanks to all the golfers and team sponsors!

Community Link is a proud member of  United Way of Greater St. Louis

Community Link participant volunteers to help make a difference in children's lives

As Michael Mayberry makes his way through the halls of Siblings and Company Early Childhood Center in Breese, IL to report to the classroom where he volunteers his time two days a week, he greets anyone that crosses his path with a smile and a "How you doing today?". The children know when it is "Michael Mayberry day" and as he comes through the door they eagerly rush to welcome him. Michael greets them and then proceeds to calm them down and guide them to where they are supposed to be. He is very familiar with the classroom schedules, as he has been volunteering here two days a week for over 15 years. Michael enjoys spending time in the classrooms and interacting with the children while they participate in their daily activities and lessons and provides valuable assistance to the teachers. He knows each child by name, and is ready to offer help and guidance when they need it. He also loves to make the kids laugh, and is always quick with a joke. One of the younger children is frightened by his wheelchair and begins to cry, but Michael understands and simply says, "They just have to get used to me". Anne Rutz, owner of Siblings and Company, states "Michael has made such an impression on not only the children, but the teachers and staff as well. He gives us the opportunity to teach the children about diversity and individuality with real life experiences, which is something that not every child experiences growing up."

When he finishes at Siblings and Company, he heads over to his job at Community Link, where he has been doing assembly and packing work in the Production department for over 23 years. As a resident of Breese, he enjoys the opportunity to give back to the community where he lives and works. When he isn't working or volunteering at Siblings and Company or his church, he enjoys spending time outside on sunny days, doing

crossword puzzles, playing on the computer, or watching movies. The vision of Community Link is to see people with developmental disabilities, and other difficulties, live and participate in a community that values their presence and contributions, and Michael is a shining example of this. Michael has watched many children grow up over the years, and has helped to foster an attitude of compassion and acceptance of each person's differences.

Siblings and Company Early Childhood Centers focus their program on providing each child with the kindness, stability, and consistency needed to grow into a confident adolescent. They serve the community with locations in Breese, Germantown, and New Baden. For more information, please visit their website at www.siblingsandcompany.com.

Community Link is dedicated to enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities through a person-centered approach that promotes self-directed living choices and community integration opportunities. The mission of Community Link is to challenge, teach and inspire both participants and community, linking them in ways that enhance their lives. For more information, please visit our website at www.commlink.org. ❖



Turning Dreams into Reality

When thinking about our dreams, we tend to focus on those “colossal dreams” such as winning the lottery, playing in the major leagues or becoming an astronaut. While there is nothing wrong with the “go big or go home” concept of dreaming, the truth for most of us is that these are more fantasies than dreams. The kind of dreams that can come true are based a bit more in reality. With the right combination of hard work, community support and even a little bit of luck, these dreams can become a reality.

At Community Link, our new strategic direction has a focus on turning the dreams of our participants into reality. Whether it is the dreams of our Early Head Start parents that their 0-3 aged children have the skills necessary for success when it comes time for school; or the dreams of some of our developmentally disabled adults wanting to move into a home with their own room and control over much of their daily life; or for others who want to move into that apartment they have always dreamed of; or for others, it may be finding a job in the community that provides the income, opportunity, inclusion and respect they have always sought; or for others who simply want to contribute to something bigger than themselves and make some good friends along the way. The people we support at Community Link have real dreams that we attempt to convert into reality on a daily basis.

I want to congratulate our new Community Link Board President, Wes Gozia, who was recently elected by his fellow board members into his new role. Wes had been a very involved and engaging board member during his first two years on the board before accepting his new position. I look forward to working with him and all our board members over the next year in pursuing many of the components of our new strategic direction and in achieving the dreams of many of our participants.

I also want to thank John Lengerman for all of his efforts, hard work and dedication during his four years of service as the President of Community Link’s Board of Directors. He carried the water during some very difficult transitions at Community Link and was very instrumental in ensuring the board remained true to the concepts of “strategy, oversight and policy” as the core components of their duties. As he transitions into his final year on the board from President to Treasurer, he leaves behind a legacy of a stronger and more knowl-

edgeable board of directors capable of tackling the difficult challenges the organization faces in a very fluid and rapidly changing environment.

I also share the same sentiments as our new Board President, Wes Gozia, in thanking the staff of Community Link for all the things they do on a daily basis that enhance the lives of our participants and all the work they do in trying to turn their dreams into reality. I also appreciate the staff’s willingness and efforts during a time when our funding system expects them to produce more with less. Their daily efforts are noticed and sincerely appreciated by all Community Link stakeholders!

As we continue our path towards finding a balance between what is important for our participants and what is important to our participants, we ask all of our stakeholders for continued support. There are many ways you can help us turn the dreams of our participants into reality. Using social media to tell our stories is an effective and efficient way to move Community Link from being the area’s “best-kept secret” to simply “being the best.” This could be achieved by clicking “Like” on Community Link’s Facebook page, inviting your Facebooks friends to like our Facebook page or by adding our website, www.commlink.org as a favorite on your web browser. We also encourage all stakeholders to either form a Buddy Walk team, join a Buddy Walk team or begin third-party fundraising in preparation for the 2015 Buddy Walk if you are already on a team. As always, we appreciate any time, talent or treasure you are to provide to Community Link.

I am very optimistic about the opportunities our participants will have in the future at achieving many of their dreams. We are fortunate to have such passionate and dedicated stakeholders who share the same vision. No matter how big the challenges Community Link may face in this rapidly changing environment, I am confident that with the support of all of our stakeholders, together we will turn our dreams into a reality!

With Gratitude,



John Huelskamp



Community Link Possibilities

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- ★ "Go Green" with Community Link and participate in our recycling program
- ★ Tell your family and friends about us!