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\*Term ended June 30, 2012

## *Administration*

#### **Executive Director:**

Deborah L. Rogers



Pictured left to right: Ed Grossman, Ron Blank, Katie Ciura, Connie Vogt, Michelle Macier and David Cicarelli at the Field Museum in Chicago.

#### Dear Friends

In January 2012, I was very fortunate to become the Executive Director of this vibrant special needs community. It has been exhilarating, stimulating, inspiring and challenging. From my first association with Riverside Foundation from 1978–1988, when I was hired to direct a group of 5 program staff, I have seen the agency grow into a residential community where over 85 program staff now teach, guide, and counsel 97 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities at the residential and the work activity site in Vernon Hills, IL.



This is a community that thrives on relationships where you can see residents, staff, family members, and volunteers alike caring *about* and caring *for* each other on a daily basis. Over half of the individuals who live at Riverside Foundation have lived here for over twenty years and have developed or enriched relationships with their peers that will last an entire lifetime. Many staff members have worked with the residents for more than ten years and have, as well, developed lasting relationships with both residents and their colleagues. Our relationships with resident's guardians and other family members ~ and with the volunteers who provide countless hours of advocacy, companionship, leadership teaching and enjoyment are both important and meaningful to each individual. It is in this setting that people make new friends and develop relationships that last a lifetime.

Our relationship with the Board of Directors and the surrounding community has fostered a friendship that continually helps us fulfill our mission to provide quality services and support to our residents and clients in a healthy, safe and caring environment The Board is the governing body of the agency comprised of community and business leaders and is an integral part of our continued success. Should you have an interest in serving on the Board, please contact me. We are blessed to be part of a community that embraces our mission and understands our importance.

Support from the community at large is paramount to enabling us to continue to provide quality services and experiences to everyone we serve. While we have accomplished many goals this year, Riverside has been increasingly challenged with significant cuts in state funding. The elimination of payments for bed holds ~when residents are on home visits, in the hospital or on vacation with families~ has resulted in an annual decrease of \$250,000. As well, the transfer of dental costs from the Medicaid Program to our responsibility has been trying.

With the help from our Auxiliary, volunteers, families and guardians and the community we have not only met our goals, but have:

- expanded computer training for our residents
- · developed a gardening club for residents
- increased exercise equipment and participation in the exercise program
- · added a sensory room dedicated to providing a relaxing and calming sensory experience for our residents
- identified and added a certified nursing assistant to better meet resident medical needs
- purchased new bedroom furniture

There are many ways you can get involved with us: direct volunteering with residents and clients, attending fundraisers supporting our work, joining our wonderful Riverside Foundation Auxiliary, assisting us in finding paid work for everyone at Riverside Work and Activity Center. As you read through our 2012 Annual Report, please consider what role might fit you if you are not already an active supporter. As with all of us, our friendships and community involvement enriches our lives and makes us who we are . On behalf of the Riverside community we welcome your interest and participation.

Sincerely,

Deborah Rogers
Executive Director

#### Dear Friends

The Riverside Foundation holds a special place in our hearts. Each volunteer, staff member and supporter has made a commitment to helping enrich the lives of those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In the process of doing that, something magical has occurred. The residents and their families we serve have enriched us through lasting relationships and a deep bond that transcends the day-to-day work of the organization. Simply put, we're a family.

Today, Riverside provides these services to more than 120 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Lake County. It is only through your generosity and the dedication of our volunteers and staff that we are able to play this role in the lives of our residents, strengthen the bonds of friendship and family, and enhance our overall community.

We have faced new financial challenges this pasast year, but our outlook is bright and our purpose remains clear. Your continued support will enable us to provide our residents a comfortable, safe and inspiring environment in which to grow and thrive. This annual report outlines the many successes we have experienced together in the past year, with an eye toward the mission ahead.

Many thanks for your support and dedication to Riverside and the bonds of community and family we are building together.

Warm regards,

Susie Lees President, Board of Directors

## Riverside Foundation

## Our Community

The Riverside Foundation is a not-for-profit, community based organization serving adults with moderate to severe intellectual and developmental disabilities through the provision of high-quality residential care and individualized developmental training services.

Since 1976, Riverside Foundation has provided a home and support services to more than 400 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Through the Riverside Foundation Work and Activity Center (RWA) located in Vernon Hills, Illinois, we have provided opportunities for our residents and other adults with developmental disabilities in our area to develop skills and assume responsibilities for real-life work.

The Riverside Foundation is a member of the Greater Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce and the Green Oaks, Libertyville, Mundelein and Vernon Hills Area Chamber of Commerce. Funding for our programs and services is provided by the Illinois Department of Human Services and through donations from individuals, businesses and community organizations.

The Riverside Foundation does not discriminate against anyone due to race, creed or color, in providing its programs. The agency is licensed by the Illinois Department of Public Health and is certified by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as an Intermediate Care Facility for Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. The Riverside Foundation Work and Activity Center (RWA) is licensed by the State and the U.S. Departments of Labor as a Work Activity Center and is certified by the Illinois Department of Human Services as a Developmental Training Program.



Pictured left to right:
Mary Swiatkowski,
Katie Ciura, and
Lauren Miller enjoying
a Chicago White Sox
game.

### Our Mission

Riverside Foundation will provide quality services and support to adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities, ensuring opportunities for individual choice and with commitment to providing these supports in a positive and caring environment.

#### Our Values

To seek out and advocate for meaningful educational and work opportunities which promote self-sufficiency and community involvement

To work in partnership with families, volunteers and the community

To ensure that individuals have access to choices that promote their health, happiness and independence

To treat individuals and their families with dignity, respect and understanding

To support our employees, recognize their contributions and provide a professional work environment

To provide quality educational, developmental and leisure activities for all individuals

To strengthen families by facilitating peace of mind that special loved ones are healthy and happy



Rosettta Nenning enjoying the Easter egg hunt

# "Friends are like stars, they come and go, but the ones that stay are the ones that glow" - Roxy Quicksilver

## Fostering Life-long Friendships as the Ultimate Life Enrichment

Medical experts agree that friendship and social ties are key to to staying happy and healthy. At Riverside Foundation, residents find understanding, acceptance and enrichment in their relationships with staff and each other.



# Chris Kolb & Ken Marohn have been friends for more than 15 years. Other than for a few months, they have been roommates since 1996! They enjoy bowling, videogames, movies and going to the arcade. They have always been a part of each other's birthday celebrations and the two often go on outings with Chris's

#### Ruthann Simpson & David Gere

have known each other since
"the old days" when they went to
the Lake County Society of Human
Development in Zion, IL in 1970.
In 1978, Ruthann came to live at
Riverside Foundation. They were reunited
in 2011 when David also moved to
Riverside. They are on the same team
and participate in many outings and
activities together. David and Ruthann
are truly old friends.







#### Laura Murdock & Todd Levine

have known each other since they were 5 years old. They went to Stratford School in Highland Park for 16 years until they both graduated at age 21. The two came to live at Riverside Foundation in 1985. They are lifelong friends. Along with liking many of the same things they also accompany each other on many family outings.

#### Nicole Karda e3 Josh Weiser

were schoolmates at the Sally Potter School since 2011. They have been good friends at school and even knew each other before they came to live at Riverside Foundation.

Josh came to Riverside Foundation in February 2011. Nicole came to Riverside for a tour and visit and then moved in July of 2011. Josh and Nicole continued going to school together until Josh's graduation in 2012. They like many of the same things and can often be found surfing the internet together. They also enjoy going to dances, CEL programs, shopping, movies and dinner outings with each other.



## "The most I can do for my friend is simply be his friend" - Henry David Thoreau

## Community Connections

Riverside Foundation is fortunate to have several organizations that help bring opportunities within the community to our residents.

These groups, organizations and volunteers continue to be very special to Riverside Foundation. They help enrich the lives of our residents and we can't thank them enough.







#### Adlai E. Stevenson High School

Each year Stevenson students host numerous dances and events for Riverside Foundation. All of the events that the student volunteers provide quickly become favorites of our residents. The past several years, Riverside has been one of several recipients to benefit from the Stevenson Project Dance charity. This year nearly 1,000 students participated in Project Dance and raised over \$25,000 for the agency.

#### Boy Scouts – Northwest Council of Illinois

The Boy Scouts visit our residence monthly and are directly involved with our residents. From fishing, outdoor sports and even a Pine Wood Derby, the Boy Scouts and our residents both experience a great learning opportunity.

#### Camp Red Leaf (CRL)

This program is run by the Jewish Council for Youth Services. This past summer over 25 of our residents attended CRL for a week. Campfires, swimming, boating and much more, made camping memories for them and stories of summer camp that will last a long time.

#### Center for Enriched Living (CEL)

CEL is an agency in Northbrook that provides programs for some of our residents including, cooking, board games, current events and community outings. Currently, several of our residents are involved in CEL's Sunday afternoon programs.

#### Lincolnsbire Animal Hospital

This volunteer group brings their trained therapy dogs to Riverside several times a month. Spending time with these wonderful four legged friends brings a smile to every face. This program brings a lot of excitement and is cherished by all who participate.

#### Lincolnsbire Garden Club

Every spring brings fresh beginnings and it's no different at Riverside. The Lincolnshire Garden Club provides the funds and brings the additional helpful labor to our grounds and works with our residents to beautify Riverside. Our residents love to get involved with the planting and enjoy helping make the grounds lush and colorful. This year our residents, along with the Lincolnshire Garden Club, planted a vegetable garden that produced tomatoes, cucumbers, green peppers and even pumpkins.

#### Special Recreation Association of Central Lake County (SRACLC)

SRACLC offers one-time special events and ongoing programs designed for individuals with disabilities. Through the Village of Lincolnshire, a continuing SRACLC community member, Riverside is able to pay in-district fees for programs and events such as, cheerleading, bowling, crafting, acting in plays, bocce ball and more. These programs are offered year-round and are favorites of our residents.

#### Volunteers

Riverside has over 50 volunteers who bring a special touch of happiness and warmth to all of our residents. For those residents who do not have family contact our volunteers provide companionship, special outings and celebrations on special days. Other volunteers provide craft programs, special activities or serve on the Human Rights Committee or Resident Council. Volunteers bring a special touch to Riverside and we are very grateful for each and every one of them.

## Residential Services

The Riverside Foundation residential facility located in Lincolnshire was founded in 1976 and currently provides services to 97 adults with intellectual and developmental  $\frac{1}{2}$ 



Pictured left to right: Orlandis Patterson, Helen Walton, Ken Marohn & Ruthann Simpson

disabilities. Our program is committed to providing each member of our community with a learning environment built upon the concept of individualization according to each member's assessed strengths and needs. These services include professional intake, assessment, supervisory services, individualized habilitation plans, structured activities designed to increase functional independence and 24 hour a day nursing support. The program integrates social services, recreation, specialized therapies and medical services to meet the physical, psychological and emotional challenges facing our residents.

Our residents have the opportunity to participate in a broad range of programs that are designed to enhance development and independence as well as adding enjoyment and experiences to their lives. Some of their favorite programs include: Pet Therapy offered by the Lincolnshire Animal Hospital, Music Therapy, Art Therapy and Yoga practice. Also, a special social skills program called Circles, is providing training in appropriate interactions with others.

Community Outings are an integral part of the education and recreational program at Riverside. Small groups of residents complete their banking at Baxter Credit Union, wash their clothes at a local laundromat and shop at many stores in the area. This past year the residents enjoyed trips to the zoo, forest preserve walks, various local village fairs, trips to the movies and many dinner outings. They also enjoyed monthly shows at the Marriott Lincolnshire Theater.



Ashley Krupa displaying her decorated Halloween pumpkin



Pictured left to right: Barb Niemi, Bob Jenkins, Donna Graves, Laura Murdock, Alan Schackney, Ron Blank and Kathleen McCune.



Ron Blank enjoying art therapy

## Riverside Work and Activity Center

The name of our pre-vocational center changed this past year from Riverside Developmental Services to Riverside Foundation Work and Activity Center (RWA). The name was changed to be more descriptive of the activities at RWA. We continue to provide daily services for our residents, some of the residents who reside at Mt. St. Joseph in Lake Zurich, IL and a small number of individuals who reside at home.

RWA provides a pre-vocational work environment designed to teach functional independence, good work habits and specific job skills. The clients are able to complete business tasks such as light packaging, assembly, inserting, labeling, collating, mailing and product rework. This past year has been challenging as work contracts have decreased in conjunction with the overall decline in the economy. While contract work has declined clients continue to be engaged in other purposeful activities. Our RWA staff is currently working on innovative ways to not only solicit more business contracts, but to create our own products a



Kathy Sterett working at RWA

innovative ways to not only solicit more business contracts, but to create our own products and services to make available to the community.

## "I believe in angels, the kind that heaven sends. I'm surrounded by angels e3 I call them my best friends." - Pamela Daranjo

## Volunteering at its Best

## Membership

President: Jill Raizin

Treasurer: Rande McMillan

Secretary: Julia Foster

#### **Active Members:**

Jayne Amhaus Karen Bruns Robin Coseo Robin Ekenberg Linda Elbin Julia Foster Peggy Gaier Diane Geissler Jenny Goldstein Rindy Hallarman Kathleen Hamilton Rande McMillan Jan Moore Leslie Munger Beth Poteet Cathy Rabeler Jill Raizin Karen Reilly Suzie Ritter Sandy Saltiel Mary Sherman Marcia Vecchione Maria Warden

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Alan Schackney



#### Partners:

Molly Browe Ann Flick Randey Grossman Diane McKee Linda O'Brien Carol Piccolo

#### **Lifetime Members:**

Cece Currie Laura Kasbeer Merle Rosskam Tammy Werner The Riverside Foundation Auxiliary is comprised of dedicated and caring volunteers united to support Riverside Foundation and advance the goals of the organization. Through community fundraising and client activities, the Auxiliary enhances the lives of our residents.

Funds raised by the Auxiliary during this past year were used to purchase lamps and furniture for the resident's bedrooms, pay summer camp tuition for those who could not otherwise attend, provide recreational activities and assist in general operating expenses

#### Annual Winter Gala

The annual winter gala is the Auxiliary's biggest fundraiser of the year. This year's theme was "A Mid-Winter Night's Dream." Many dreams came true this night with one of the largest turn-outs and fundraising efforts to date. Held at the Marriott Lincolnshire Resort, the event included dinner, dancing, live music and both live and silent auctions with M.C. Dan Bernstein.

#### Holiday Housewalk & Boutique

The annual housewalk and boutique draws people throughout the surrounding area to tour several beautifully decorated homes and visit the booths of local crafters, while enjoying hors d'oeuvers, refreshments & desert — all benefiting Riverside.

## The Auxiliary hosts numerous activities for residents throughout the year

- 4th of July parade and picnic Special thanks to John & Nancy Watson for offering their home this year
- Pumpkin decorating in the fall
- Exercise classes
- · Lunch dates with residents at local restaurants
- A gift for each resident on their birthday



Sandy Saltiel & Sasha Pais at pumpkin decorating



## Memorials & Honorariums

- In Memory of Marshall Arnold: Keith & Kay Thorp
- In Memory of John Domanico:
  Karla Anderson
  Steven & Amy Bagnasco
  Katharine Dahl
  Gus & Rosemary Davis
  Charles & Wendy Domanico
  Fremont Elementary School
  Harold Fuentes
  Kristin Krueger
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  Joseph & Hisako Pienta
  Dr. Deborah Matek Schwartz
  Robert Swanson
  Sunshine Fund
- In Memory of Iris Finkelman: Roland Finkelman
- In Memory of Avis Holtsberg: Sam & Grace Tepper
- In Memory of Thomas M. Leahy, Jr.: Keith & Kay Thorp
- In Memory of Jim Murdock: Hub & Joan Erickson
- In Memory of Robert O. Ragland: Keith & Kay Thorp
- In Memory of Michael Savoy: Elena Savoy
- In Memory of Harry Spears: Dr. Ervin & Sandra Hrasky
- In Memory of Harry and Marguerite Spears: Floyd & Sharon Butler
- In Memory of Jason Sylvan: Dale & Kimberly Sylvan
- In Memory of Janet Taylor: Vincent Nasca
- In Memory of Jo Walker, Judy Carroll and Lisa Carroll: Leonard Achtenberg
- In Memory of John Witthoft: The Knights of Columbus, Council #4338

- In Memory of Robert Worobey: The Knights of Columbus, Council #4338
- In Memory of T. Hamilton Traylor: Sue August Mary Ann Beardman Bernard & Molly Browe Jim & Karen Bruns Marshall & Trudy Calef Jim & Mary Connelly Bob & Robin Coseo Chuck & Nancy Feddermann Daniel & Shirley Friedlander Robert & Mary Gremley James & Sharon Kellock Frederick & Helen Kent Toby & Susie Lees Dan & Pam Loewenstein Donagh & Mary McCarthy David & Diane McKee Mary & Alice Moody Pete & Joyce Mulé Walter & Joyce Ovaert William & Terri Patterson Buck & Katy Pohlmann Harry & Beverly Pyster The River at Jacksonville Church The Riverside Foundation Auxiliary Larry & Karen VanderBeke
- In Honor of Dwight & Robin Ekenberg's Special Birthdays: David & Sandy Saltiel
- In Honor of Frances Galluzzo: The Knights of Columbus, Council #4338
- In Honor of Jenny Goldstein: Stephen & Karen Reilly
- In Honor of Alfred Harig's 80th Birthday: William & Laura Mahrenholz Anne Sittig
- In Honor of Susie Lees: Agnes Go
- In Honor of Tom Losinski: The Knights of Columbus, Council #4338

- In Honor of Rande McMillan's Birthday: Robert & Helen Berland Samuel & Karen Bloodgood Kevin & Gail Bosman Cameron & Nicole Colving Jerome & Margaret Crowley Dwight & Robin Ekenberg Robert & Suzanne Ellis Paul & Dawn Fleischman Grant & Diane Geissler Tom & Jenny Goldstein Michael & Wendy Herst Susanne Immell John & Leslie Munger Dennis & Kerry Prado Stephen & Karen Reilly Sandy Saltiel Douglas & Cheryl Steffens
- In Honor of Mickey Miller's 90th Birthday: David & Sandy Saltiel
- In Honor of Pete Mulé : Brad Bersh Dr. Peter & Prudence Hallarman The McKee Family Pamela Weiland
- In Honor of Pete Mulé & T. Hamilton and Bettye Traylor: Kim & Maureen Klatt
- In Honor of Dennis Neenan: The Knights of Columbus, Council #4338
- In Honor of John Roth: The Knights of Columbus, Council #4338
- In Honor of Sally Salzer: Tim & Diane Newman
- In Honor of Allie Stromberg: Michael Stromberg
- In Honor of US Bank Employees: David Wood
- In Honor of Richard Wolin: Sherwin & Donna Wolin-Lesk
- In Honor of David J. Wood's Birthday: Robert & Elizabeth Wood
- In Honor of Gene Zeffren: David & Sandy Saltiel

## A special thank you to our donors, without whom Riverside would not be possible

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