

ST. LOUIS CENTER: ANNUAL REPORT



2019



St. Louis Center serves individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in an intentional, faith-based community.

**“The wonderful work of
SLC just warms my heart.
Mark is so well taken care
of. I am so happy.”**

-Karen David, Mother of SLC
Resident Mark



DEAR FRIENDS!

2019 was another glorious year for St. Louis Center.

We received many blessings during this year. I want first of all to say THANK YOU to all of you who believed in the St. Louis Center vision for the future, for embracing the Center and offering the financial resources needed for its growth. With your support, construction of additional buildings and the beginning of the transformation of the original building were started.

The number of residents served during 2019 has grown to 72 individuals, thus creating a waiting list.

We received a major blessing with a matching fund of more than \$500,000, as well as another for \$200,000, which was matched shortly by another generous donor.

Through a grant from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, the staff were trained by Dr. Cameron Camp, PhD, director of research and development of the Center for Applied Research in Dementia, on Montessori principles and values for the care of adult residents.

Staff and family members went to Lansing, MI for St. Louis Center Day at the Capitol on two different occasions.

They brought to the politicians' attention the needs of the people who reside at the Center, as well as of their caregivers.

On several occasions, the employees of Fiat Chrysler Automotive Proving Grounds came to St. Louis Center to volunteer for many maintenance projects.

The Knights of Columbus, both the State Council and local councils, continue to contribute to the Center through their Tootsie Roll fundraising drives to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We are very grateful to them for this ongoing support.

This year also saw the loss of our good friends and strong supporters, Jerry D'Adamo, Geraldine Yekulis-Brooks and Nancy Wagner.

We appreciate all you do to help continue to make St. Louis Center a thriving and caring home for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We could not do this work without you.



Fr. Enzo Addari, SdC
CEO, St. Louis Center

TAKING A PEEK AT THE FUTURE: AN EVENING WITH ST. LOUIS CENTER LEGACY DONORS



Judy Zilke, Judy Dow-Rumelhart and Judy Koenn

“My husband and I have had the pleasure of being neighbors, farmers and friends of SLC since the first shovel was put into the ground. We are excited to see this latest phase of development and what it will bring to the community. We feel blessed to be part of your dreams.”

-Judy Koenn

Over the past 10 years, hundreds of donors have generously contributed to the Legacy Campaign to build St. Louis Guanella Village. To provide these contributors with an update and show them the work being done in the latest phase of construction, a donor reception was held September 19, 2019. A total of 73 guests joined St. Louis Center staff in a tent in the heart of the construction area. They were able to see the beginnings of five new buildings: two cottages for current SLC residents, an administration building, as well as a duplex and single family home for those who have a child with I/DD and want to continue to live together as a family.

A review of the Legacy Campaign and a look forward was provided by Fr. Enzo, Norm Neuman, Legacy Campaign Co-Chair, and Christina Ferris, Development Director. Members of Alhambra and the Knights of Columbus were on hand, with William Chasse, State Deputy of the Michigan Knights, presenting a check for \$25,000.

Evelyn Bowman shared her family’s moving story of finding a home at SLC for her brother, Matthew. The evening wrapped up with the premier of a new video created by Christine Lindemann, sister of SLC resident Todd.

The enthusiasm, caring and support of those who have made St. Louis Guanella Village a reality was in evidence as donors and staff mingled, talked and enjoyed a very special evening.



Tim Patton

“Every time I go to SLC, I am reminded that they give Todd a life full of things I could not. He has friends, work, activities and a real sense of community. In my heart I know Todd is happier there than he would be at home.”

-Christine Lindemann



All smiles from Christine Lindemann, Fr. Enzo Addari, JJ Conway, Christina Ferris and Todd Lindemann.



Fr. David Stawasz, SdC and Lee



Brian Nadeau and Mary Nadeau

FOOD SERVICE: THE HEART OF ST. LOUIS CENTER



Members of the food service team Tamara Weber, Aryn Poole, Rob Walker and Alexandria Sprout

The kitchen is commonly known as the heart of a home and the same can be said for the kitchen at St. Louis Center. From the start, SLC kitchen staff has provided fuel for the bodies of the residents. In the early days, one nun and one staff member prepared meals for the residents. This included making meals in advance for the small number of residents who remained at the Center over the weekend, as most residents went home.

As the Center expanded and admissions increased, the kitchen, too, had to change to meet the changing dietary needs of the residents. By the year 2000, more and more residents required special diets. Through all of these changes though, the kitchen

layout has remained the same. A walk-in freezer was added and in late 2019 new ovens and cooktops were installed.

Today, to meet the needs of the required modified diets, kitchen staff has increased to six. Food service personnel are in constant communication with nursing staff to help monitor the progress of residents on modified diets. They also consult as needed with dietitians at St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea and UM Family Medicine about diabetic, PKU, low calorie and low fat diets. The kitchen is committed to serving as much fresh food as possible.

The implementation of Montessori principles at SLC promotes

Modified Diets

34 residents require modified diets for one or more of the following needs:

- Calorie Count (high or Low)
- Carbohydrate Count
- Diabetes
- Food Allergies
- Swallowing issues- food must be chopped, ground or processed

SLC Food Service Prepares:

1,372 meals per week

196 meals per day

This includes:

26 sack lunches for work programs

30 lunches for Day Program

85 lunches on weekends

100 Meals on Holidays: Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, Easter, Fourth of July

"The donation of a commercial grade food processor has transformed our ability to prepare modified meals in a timely and efficient way."

Joyce Liebeck, Food Service Supervisor

the involvement and autonomy of the residents. The kitchen staff has supported this by offering the residents a variety of choices and programs, including cooking club, lunch packing and monthly menu selections.

As the Center grows, the kitchen staff must manage many details including menu audits and maintaining dietary logs for nursing. They must also prepare a large number of modified diets and coordinate transportation of those meals from the main kitchen to the residences throughout the Village.



Food Service Supervisor, Joyce Liebeck works with Keavan, foreground, and Jerome, to teach them about proper food storage.

AN EVOLVING CULTURE OF CARE AT SLC

As the needs of residents continue to grow and change, so do SLC programs.

Trauma-Informed Care – Some children living at SLC have been removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect. As a result, many have experienced trauma, which often manifests in challenging behaviors. To support the children, SLC is fostering a Trauma Informed Care Culture throughout the organization. A day-long training open to all staff, but focusing on those caring for children, was held in October. A Trauma Informed Champions group, formed after the training, meets monthly to discuss specific needs and best practices in caring for SLC’s children. “This is an important change to our culture, helping us better understand and manage the behaviors of our youngest residents who act out of fear or frustration,” said SLC’s COO, Deana Fisher. “The result is that we can de-escalate or reduce their behaviors and help create greater peace and calm in their lives.”

Creating an environment that encourages residents to stay engaged and active and helping them feel supported is an important part of making life at the Center enjoyable and more fulfilling. They are a big part of why the residents truly love their home here.

Pet Therapy – For the last several years Anya, a Leonberger (*pictured on the cover*), has visited SLC weekly, allowing residents the joy of interacting with a pet.

Recreation Therapy – Recreation Therapist, Melanie Hughey, encourages residents to stay active and healthy, and encourages them to create their own fitness and daily living goals.

Music Therapy – Music Therapists from Harmony Garden offer classes each week for SLC residents of varying abilities.

Adaptive Movement – To help improve movement and flexibility for residents, Ballet Chelsea offers “Move and Groove” classes at SLC. On Fridays they welcome a group of residents to their studio for adaptive dance.

SLC also engages with a number of other therapists and experts to support residents, including:

Trauma Informed Care for Children with I/DD – Tammy Ratz, MA

Psychiatric Services – Martha Hashimoto, MD

Applied Behavioral Analysis Treatment for Children with Autism - Kristen Hjelmstad, BCBA

Dr. Camp training SLC staff in the Montessori methods.



MONTESSORI TRAINING COMES TO SLC

Montessori, an educational method based on self-directed activity, hands-on learning and collaborative play, is most commonly associated with preschoolers. However, Dr. Cameron Camp, Director of the Center for Applied Research in Dementia from Cleveland, OH, has taken those principles and developed a program to enrich the lives of older adults with I/DD. Dr. Camp and his associate, Vince Antenucci, visited St. Louis Center for three days in February 2019, training 40 St. Louis Center staff in utilizing Montessori methods with SLC residents.

He also held a Special Needs Forum for 45 community members where he outlined his vision to make SLC a Center of Excellence in Michigan. The SLC staff trained by Dr. Camp formed a Montessori Champions group, meeting monthly to discuss their progress and to promote the concepts throughout the organization.

In the second year, the Champions will take Montessori concepts to the community, working with those outside of the organization to help them more effectively work with adults with I/DD and dementia. According to Dr. Camp, “The amount of time you engage your residents in meaningful activity, is the amount of time you won’t have to deal with problems. Montessori will give you the tools to engage them.” This work is supported by a two year grant from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund.

ADVOCACY DAYS: MEETING OUR LEADERS IN LANSING



State Rep. Lasinski discussing issues with SLC resident Lori Accardi and her mom, Christine Slominski.

“It was a wonderful, rewarding day, and a brand new experience for my daughter and me. I can only believe that it was successful because many more people now know what SLC is and which problems we face, and I believe they welcomed our stories.”

-Christine Slominski
SLC Parent

For St. Louis Center, positive relationships in the State Capitol are extremely important. As such, two Advocacy Days were held in Lansing, MI, in 2019. The first was on April 30th, the second on October 29th. These events brought SLC’s family members to the legislature to tell their personal stories to those who have a direct impact on funding decisions.

In April, 25 representatives gathered in the Senate Gallery for an introduction to the Michigan Senate by Sen. Lucido, before family members visited their legislators to express concerns about future funding for SLC residents.

Christine Slominski from Saginaw said, “It was a wonderful, rewarding day, and a brand new experience for my daughter and me. I believe it was successful because many more people now know about SLC and the issues that we face.”

SLC representatives returned to the State Capitol in October to advocate with their legislators for state funding to follow the person. At this event, State Senator Lana Theis (R-Brighton) introduced the SLC group to the State Senate at the opening of their General Session, and State Representative Donna Lasinski (D-Scio Twp.) attended the morning breakfast to answer questions. These experiences were a great education for the Family Association members in attendance, as well as the legislators.

FOLLOWING HIS DREAMS: LEE CHAMBERS

Upon meeting Lee Chambers, one of the first things you notice is his outgoing personality. That has translated into a great job at Polly's Country Market in Chelsea. He greets every customer with a smile when he offers "paper or plastic" and then goes on to engage them in friendly conversation, often about his greatest passion - sports. Manager Kathy Johnson describes Lee as "fun and pleasant," and says, "Lee does whatever he's asked to do, and always asks for help when he needs it. He loves to tell us where he's going, whether it's a basketball game, a football game, or Special Olympics. Its wonderful seeing him working here at Polly's."

Lee has been a resident of SLC since he was 17. He loves going to Pistons games each year and being with his friends from St. Joseph Hall, where he lives. His best memory is catching a foul ball at a Toledo Mud Hens baseball game and giving it to Fr. Enzo. With his big heart, he loves to create banners for Chelsea sports teams or people he knows who are sick and need cheering up. He is a great ambassador for SLC.

"Lee is amazing!! He is always ready to lend a helping hand! He is a gold medal winner in every sport he participates in. Lee sets goals and goes for it."

-Anna Ulch
Direct Care Professional
St. Louis Center



St. Louis Center Residents at Work

Many residents work off-campus during the week



2

Area
Agencies

3

Local
Businesses

27

County work
programs

NEVER MET A STRANGER: MIKE ASHWORTH

Mike Ashworth is a quiet, happy man, who has been a part of St. Louis Center for 45 years. He makes it a point to know everyone on staff, and always greets everyone when they walk through the door. Whether it's at St. Joseph Hall, the front lobby, or the bus stop area, Mike always wants you to know that you are welcome in his home. Once you acknowledge his presence, he returns to his quiet self with a big smile on his face, knowing that he's been acknowledged by another of his many friends.

Mike has gained a great deal of experience learning janitorial skills through Community Mental Health work programs and is also proud of keeping his room clean. He has volunteered at many local organizations, including the Goodwill Store, Faith-in-Action, Chelsea Senior Center, Meals on Wheels, and the Salvation Army, to name just a few.

In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with fellow residents Jordan and Joey, and watching Detroit Pistons basketball games. He also enjoys bowling at Saturday Morning Challengers, attending Sunday Mass at St. Louis Center and going to Friendship Bible Study with his friends. Mike is one of SLC's elder statesmen, and it's a privilege to be able to call him your friend.



Decade of Admission of Current Residents:

2	1970-1979	19	2000-2009
4	1980-1989	40	2010-2019
7	1990-1999		

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: MEMBERS IN ACTION FOR SLC



Mike Leenheer of Dexter Council #2959 mans the grill during the St. Louis Center Car Show.



Grand Knight Kelly Donnellon of Ann Arbor Christ the King Council #13360 and Ed Strach of Saline Council #6674 spend time in prayer during the annual Cardinal O'Hara Assembly #0489 Retreat.



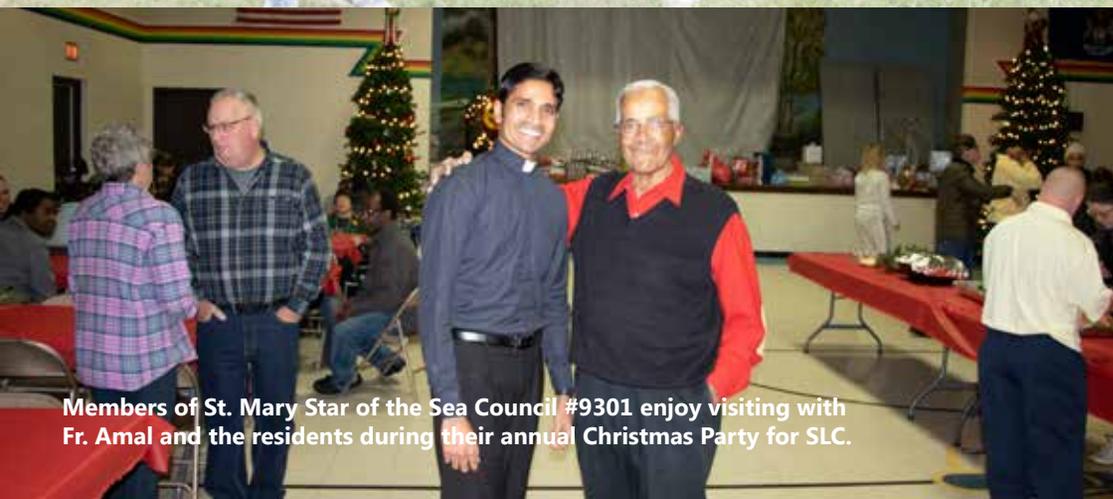
Norman Neuman (Legacy Campaign Chair & Chelsea Council #3092), Fr. Satheesh Alphonse, SdC and KofC State Deputy William Chassé at the SLC Fall Dinner Auction.



Knights of Bishop Zaleski Council #6687 in Michigan Center serve a meal to the residents during the annual picnic they sponsor at SLC.



Members of Irish Hills Council #6223 direct incoming traffic during the annual car show.



Members of St. Mary Star of the Sea Council #9301 enjoy visiting with Fr. Amal and the residents during their annual Christmas Party for SLC.

"I purchased this Kona Ice franchise as a retirement present to myself to make *other* people happy. Little did I know that my visit to SLC would make *me* so happy. I can't wait to drop by again!"

-Cliff Farr, KofC
Council #11694



Cliff Farr of Council #11694 at St. Mary Cathedral, Lansing, generously brought his snow cone truck to the annual Bishop Zaleski Council picnic.



THRIVING AT SLC: JORDAN CHATTAWAY

Raising three children is a challenging task for any parents. But when one of them has special needs, those challenges can become overwhelming. John and Jan Chattaway were experiencing this firsthand. They had two children entering high school and were also caring for the youngest, Jordan, whose health and daily needs were becoming more than the family could manage themselves. When Jordan was nine, they made the difficult decision to seek help in caring for their son.

Jan had a friend who was familiar with Our Lady of Providence in Northville, MI and had heard there might be a similar place for young men. Jan called SLC right away and was able to meet with the staff. She had a good feeling about the interview and it wasn't long before Jordan was placed at St. Louis Center. After a settling in period, he transitioned into the daily routine. The Chattaways felt that SLC was an answer to their prayers.

“Jordan has thrived at St. Louis Center. He has had so many opportunities that he may not have had otherwise. He has purpose in his life.”

-Jan Chattaway

“The SLC community has been wonderful,” Jan continued. “The nursing staff knows about his medical conditions and is very aware if anything goes wrong. When John passed away a few years ago, SLC was supportive of the whole family.”

Jordan is now 29 and Jan cannot be more pleased with the decision they made. Jordan has developed a strong faith that helped him with the loss of his father. He enjoys visits home to see his mother, but is always anxious to get back to SLC.

ST. LOUIS CENTER by numbers

2019 RESIDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Counties of Origin

Barry	1	Oakland	2
Eaton	2	Ottawa	1
Jackson	5	Saginaw	1
Kent	1	Van Buren	1
Lenawee	1	Washtenaw	35
Livingston	1	Wayne	16
Macomb	3	Out of State	1
Newaygo	1		



3 Men age 66-79
13 Men age 41-65
25 Men age 18-40
16 Teens age 11-17
2 Youth age 5-10



13
Females

10 Women age 41-65
3 Teens age 11-17



GOLFING IN SUPPORT OF SLC: MIKE CHIRCO

Michael A. Chirco is a businessman who served his country in the U.S. Army from 1965-67, and went on to become one of the most successful home builders in Michigan. Mike's parents were Sicilian and he grew up on the west side of Detroit where his father owned a market that sold chicken and fish. Mike said, "I came out of the Army in '67 just after the Detroit riots. Unfortunately the rioters had burned down the family store."

Mike's parents lost everything, so to help, he started working as a finish carpenter. He also began buying empty lots on which to build houses. He's built on his successes and MJC Companies® is now one of the top five home builders in Michigan. He and his wife Mary have been blessed with six children and 12 grandchildren, and were able to put all six of their children through college.

Mike first visited St. Louis Center over 25 years ago as part of an Italian-American group from Macomb County who wanted to learn firsthand what SLC was all about. "That first visit opened my eyes for what you people do," said Mike. "I looked at these kids with disabilities and at the people taking care of them and thought, 'That's a big job!' So as I was leaving, I took \$500 out of my pocket and said, 'Here, give this to St. Louis Center.' I kept thinking about how lucky I am."

That donation was just the start. With the help of friends Joe Maniaci and Sam Cottone, they started the Dad and Lad Golf Outing in 1996. "The name came from the idea that God had blessed us all with healthy boys and we wanted to do something to give back, to help SLC," said Mike.

"We were just a bunch of friends getting together to go out and play golf, and it just kept growing and growing."

The outing has grown each year, with the largest ever taking place in 2019. "We were able to raise over \$100,000," said Mike. "And altogether, we've raised more than \$1 million."

The outings have brought together hundreds of golfers who play during the day and enjoy a large Italian feast after. St. Louis Center staff and residents are invited to the dinner, with Sarah, one of the residents, playing her recorder for the crowd. "When Sarah plays *God Bless America*, well, it opens up everybody's heart," said Mike. "What you do for the residents is a godsend. And with the new homes for them to live in, that's a great blessing too."



Fr. Joseph Rinaldo, SdC, Mike Chirco and Sarah



A HEART FOR SLC: GEORGIA SCAPPATICCI

Georgia Scappaticci never stops, volunteering for one important cause after another. She has been involved with SLC for 12 years through the Italian American Club of Livonia (IACL), and also helps those who are transitioning into their next life through Angela Hospice in Livonia. She spends many hours volunteering for her church, assists at a local nursing home, and supports the Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan.

“The motivation for raising funds is to make sure that there’s enough money to support the operations and the new village under construction. I enjoy doing it.”

Georgia grew up on the west side of Detroit and graduated from Cody High School, where she met her future husband, Silvio Scappaticci, during her senior year. They were married in 1962, and had three daughters: Gina, Sandy and Christina. Silvio owned a building company at the time with his uncle and brother. For many years, Georgia would go out with the children to the local municipalities where they were building homes and garages to apply for building permits. “After the kids graduated,” said Georgia, “is when I started volunteering for Angela Hospice.”

In 2007, she became the first recipient of the IACL's St. Louis Guanella Humanitarian Award at the annual Guardian Angel Dinner Dance. She is now in her second year of chairing the event. Supporting SLC means a great deal to Georgia, making her feel like a part of the larger SLC family. “Just being there makes you feel like you’re really helping someone,” she says. “You see what your money’s going for, and it’s humbling to see how these children and adults are taken care of so wonderfully. The motivation for raising funds is to make sure that there’s enough money to support the operations and the new village under construction. I enjoy doing it and hope that our group continues to benefit SLC in even greater ways.”

“Just being at the Center makes you feel like you're really helping someone.”

-Georgia Scappaticci

LEADING LIVES OF SERVICE: DONNA HROZENCIK & MARK OUIMET

Donna Hrozencik and Mark Ouimet have been dedicated St. Louis Center supporters for many years, and their roots of caring for others grew from families dedicated to inclusion and service.

Donna grew up around children with special needs. "Our next door neighbors had a son with Down syndrome, and family friends also had a daughter with Downs," she remembers. "From an early age, we learned that people with special needs were to be included. And once you know someone with special needs, it becomes a passion."

Mark's family instilled a strong commitment to serving others. "We were taught that you earn money to care for your family, the church and your community - in that order," he said. "You make money to help others."

Mark and Donna have had an opportunity to get to know about many different nonprofits during their 25 years together. Earlier in his career, Mark served as a Michigan State Representative and, along with wife Donna, an OB-GYN physician, attended hundreds of fundraising dinners and events. But after attending its fundraising auction nearly 20 years ago, SLC stood out.

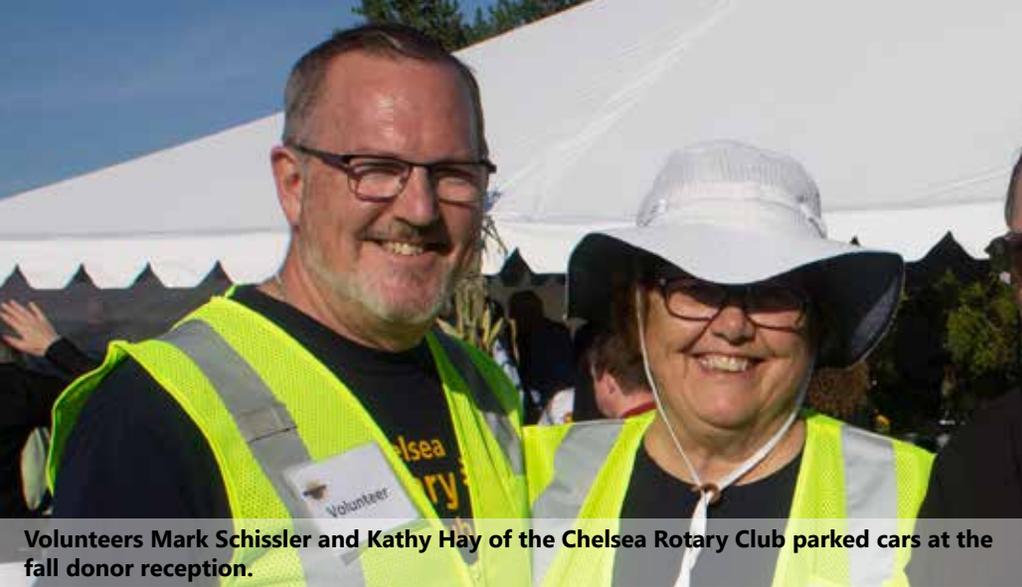
"St. Louis Center makes a difference in the lives of the people it serves. They are safe, well-cared for and productive. And I felt that if we got involved there, we could make a difference, too."

"Through the course of my career," said Mark, "I have gone to so many school and church fundraisers that I've lost count. SLC serves a population that I didn't fully know about. But once I visited and understood the work, it really made an impression. I began to wonder, 'Where would these people be if SLC wasn't there to care for them?'"

So, the couple jumped in and began to make SLC a focus on their community support, faithfully attending and donating items to the auction each November, participating in the Golf & Glory Outing each June and making regular financial contributions. Donna joined the Community Advisory Council in 2011, providing important advice and support to leaders of the organization; and later volunteered for the Auction Committee.



"The residents are wonderful people," commented Donna. "Whatever you do does make a difference and whatever you give, you get back."



Volunteers Mark Schissler and Kathy Hay of the Chelsea Rotary Club parked cars at the fall donor reception.

CHELSEA ROTARY CLUB: SERVICE ABOVE SELF FOR SLC

The lives of St. Louis Center residents are just a little tastier thanks to the Chelsea Rotary Club. Each week, a club member drives to Panera Bread in Ann Arbor just before the store closes. Panera stores donate their left over baked goods to nonprofits, and Chelsea Rotary Club members ensure that SLC can benefit by picking up and delivering a variety of breads, rolls and muffins.

“The Panera donation is all about the SLC residents,” said club member, Dave Gilbert.

“Just imagining their delight when they see the items we have left for them makes my evening!”

According to Mary Lee Penney, club president, the club has been delivering bread for more than 10 years, with nearly every member of the club participating.

Bread delivery, however, is just part of the club’s service to SLC. Members provided valet parking at a donor reception last fall and the club also makes an annual gift to SLC. It is that ongoing support and caring that makes the lives of St. Louis Center residents a little better.

LAJOLLA JEWELERS: AN SLC GEM

For the past 25 years, Gloria Miller has been a generous supporter of St. Louis Center. She is part of the Fall Auction Committee, decorates at the event and she and her son Curtis Gough (*below*) design and donate several custom pieces of fine jewelry from their Chelsea shop.

“I have a niece with Down Syndrome. She has taught me so much. In her honor I got involved at SLC. Over the years, SLC has become very dear to my heart.”

-Gloria Miller
Owner, LaJolla Jewelers



ST. LOUIS CENTER by numbers

2019 AUDITED FINANCIALS*

St. Louis Center's financial statements
for the fiscal year July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

Support & Revenue	2019
Program Service Revenue	\$3,978,087
Fundraising & Grants	\$1,440,039
Other	\$119,613
Total Support & Revenue	\$5,537,739
Expenses	
	2019
Program Services	\$4,545,367
Management & General	\$819,788
Fundraising Projects	\$344,400
Total Expenses	\$5,709,555
Depreciation	
	\$380,981
Grand Total Expenses	\$6,090,536
Benevolent Care Provided	\$1,541,904

*Figures are based on audited financial statements and do not include Legacy donations or expenses.

DEVELOPMENT AT SLC: NEW FACES, NEW DIRECTIONS



The development department, which manages fundraising at St. Louis Center, saw a number of changes in 2019. In June, Christina Ferris (*right*) became the new Development Director, taking the place of Peggy Cole who had led development efforts for the previous 10 years. Christina has a background in development, communications and marketing and has worked in nonprofits for nearly 25 years. A database coordinator was also hired and a new donor database was launched, bringing all of the Center's donation information into one system.

Throughout the fall, a work group that included several Community Advisory Council Members and staff, took a look at the long-term needs of the Center. They reviewed all facets of the organization, including capital projects, operations and endowment needs, and created the basis for a Sustainability Plan that will guide the organization in coming months and years.

THE LEGACY PROJECT: PROGRESS REPORT

Making a life commitment to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families continues to be the focus of the Legacy Project.

Major Capital Projects in 2019:

- Construction on two resident cottages, an administration building, a single family home and duplex

Completed Projects:

- Family Welcome & Orientation Center, 2011
- Special Needs Playground and Park, 2013
- Fr. Guanella Hall for Assisted Living renovation, 2014
- St. Louis Guanella Village Infrastructure Work, 2017
- Village Children's Homes (4), 2018

VILLAGE CONSTRUCTION: BUILDING A NEIGHBORHOOD



Site Preparation



Drainage Installation



Paving the Roads

LEGACY CAMPAIGN: A NEW FOCUS

In July 2019, construction crews broke ground on the next phase of St. Louis Guanella Village. Throughout the rest of the year, construction was ongoing on five new structures: six- and four-bedroom resident cottages, an administration building and a duplex and a single family home. When completed, these buildings will provide new, updated living facilities for current St. Louis Center residents living on campus. The homes represent an innovative approach for families, allowing them to remain living together with their children who have I/DD in an integrated, supported environment.

While the funds have been secured for this phase of construction, St. Louis Center is looking ahead to the future and with its coming Sustainability Plan, will begin raising funds for the operation revenues, endowment needed to support a thriving St. Louis Guanella Village and for the construction and renovation of buildings on campus.



Legacy Funds Raised: in 2019**\$2.6M**

Total Legacy Funds Secured:.....**\$13.4M**

WAYS TO SUPPORT: AS INDIVIDUAL AS YOU ARE

Make a Gift Now

Use Your Checkbook – Donate by writing a check. It is the most common and simple way to give.

Give Online – It is quick, you can use your credit card which can provide points or rewards, and you save on stamps.

Retirement Distribution – Donations made directly from your retirement fund are not counted as taxable income, saving you money at tax time.

Stock or Securities – These types of gifts have a twofold benefit by helping you offset capital gains taxes and receive a charitable deduction.

Donor-Advised Funds – This charitable giving account can be established for as little as \$5,000. A sponsoring institution will manage your funds and will make donations to the charities of your choice.

In-Kind Gifts – Donating items like food, clothing, equipment or supplies helps St. Louis Center offset operating costs.

Make a Future Gift

Making a planned gift is a wonderful way to make a significant contribution to the organization without affecting your current finances. It can be as simple as making St. Louis Center the beneficiary of a retirement account or life insurance policy. Or you can include the organization in your will. You can also decide if you want the organization to receive your donation all at once, or if you would like it to be invested in an endowment account that will support the organization into the future.

Make St. Louis Center a Beneficiary – Naming the Center as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy, IRA or 401k is easy and doesn't require you to change your will. Simply update your beneficiary form, which can often be done online.

Will or Trust – Including St. Louis Center in your estate plans allows you to provide support without affecting your current finances.

Other Planned Giving Tools – Charitable Gift Annuities, Charitable Remainder Trusts and other vehicles are great ways to make a gift while receiving tax benefits and ensuring you and your loved ones receive an income.

Give Your Time

St. Louis Center has many needs for volunteers. Getting involved and seeing the results of contributing your time and talents firsthand can be one of the most rewarding ways to give.

Choose Where Your Money Goes

General Operating Support provides the most flexibility for the Center, allowing funds to be used where they are needed most.

Legacy Funds support construction of buildings in St. Louis Guanella Village, as well as renovation of existing buildings.

Endowment Support means that your donation is invested and the Center will receive payments each year from the interest that it generates. Thus your support of the organization lives on in perpetuity.

The Benefits

Tax Benefits – Donations to St. Louis Center are tax deductible as allowed by law, and new updates in the tax codes can give you even greater benefits, whether or not you itemize. Some types of donations can even help offset your taxable income.

You will feel great! – Knowing that you have helped support those who rely on others each day of their lives is the best reason to give!

Contact

To discuss a planned gift, contact Christina Ferris in the development office at 734-475-8430 or cferris@stlouiscenter.org.

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FIAT CHRYSLER: LENDING A HELPING HAND

For more years than we can count, SLC has benefited from the extraordinary generosity of so many volunteers from the Fiat Chrysler Automobiles Group. In addition to the FCA sponsorship of the Fall Auction and the financial support of the FCA Foundation, at least 69 individual employees spent 340 hours at SLC helping to improve its facility. While many of these people work at the local Proving Grounds in Chelsea, other employees travel from their homes in Grand Blanc, Pontiac, West Bloomfield, and even Windsor to help make SLC an even nicer place to live.

During the last year, these FCA employees have helped to plant flowers, assemble adaptive play equipment for the new children's homes, give the kitchen a fresh coat of paint and also hand build custom picture frames to help display resident art work. This commitment has been very much appreciated and these visual reminders of such heartfelt community support help to remind us of such special relationships.



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 Chelsea MI

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The residents joined Alhambra members on a riverboat cruise October 5th.

SERVANTS OF CHARITY AT ST. LOUIS CENTER

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 Fr. Joseph Rinaldo
 Fr. Enzo Addari
 Fr. David Stawasz
 Fr. Fortunato Turati
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