

# ST. LOUIS CENTER ANNUAL REPORT 2021



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Cover image: Sarah and her housemates in Mike's House are successfully living out skills learned at Independence College.



### **DEAR FRIENDS!**

Every organization has to bring into its existence innovation, in order to fight the law of entropy, and thus to be able to continue to exist and prosper.

The realization of the St. Louis Guanella Village has been the innovation carried out at St. Louis Center. The year of grace 2021 became the year of the full implementation of this vision; the program for minors was closed in June and the Center implemented the strategic plan of serving only adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, especially those who are aging. Even with this direction the Center

and its services are still a lighthouse of HOPE for many people and for the whole society, continuing to proclaim the great dignity of any human person.

The Good Lord has called to Himself our beloved Dawn Dietrich, who is now with her mother, Judi, and her aunt, Karen. During the latest part of her life with us, we engaged hospice and nursing services to take care of her needs.

The buildings used by minors are now housing adults offering them opportunities for greater independence. This approach is also in line with the trend of having fewer people under the same roof.

A good group of residents have found work with Chelsea businesses and have engaged the WAVE door to door public transportation to go to work and return to the Center, enabling them to have more personal independence and greater integration with the larger community.



Planning for the St. Louis Guanella Village, we envisioned having families living next to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in an integrated fashion. After a lot of work, several meetings with people familiar with the rental process, and other organizations which offer similar services, St. Louis Center welcomed families into the single family home and one duplex. The vision has become a reality!

The pandemic still ruled society in 2021! We have been able, with great caution, to hold some fund-raising activities in-person during the summer and early fall. Others were cancelled because of the new wave of the pandemic. All the residents got the vaccine shots and the booster thus receiving more protection against the virus.

I want to thank all of you for responding to our request for help for the financial needs of the Center's benevolent care program. Many outstanding benefactors and organizations came to help us in this effort. One organization I would like to mention is the Michigan Knights of Columbus State Council, which put forward a matching fund donation.

Thank you again for your great help, love and support and I wish to all of you many graces and blessings from God for joining the Center in its services of love and hope.

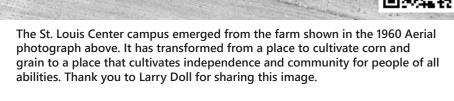
Fr. Enzo Addari, SdC CEO, St. Louis Center



#### ST. LOUIS CENTER: PLACE OF LIFELONG LEARNING

St. Louis School for Exceptional Boys was established in 1960, and was named after Fr. Louis Guanella, (1842 – 1915), the humble priest who founded the Servants of Charity in Italy in 1908. He became St. Louis Guanella after his canonization in 2011.







The main playground was in need of repair. In 2013 renovations were made and the Special Needs Playground has been a favorite place for walking, basketball and just being outdoors.





#### **HOUSEKEEPING:** CLEAN HOMES HAPPY HEARTS

The health and wellness of St. Louis Center residents is a priority for all staff. Everyone at St. Louis Center plays an important role in achieving this priority. With the changes and upgrades that have been made to properly sanitize the Center since 2020, one group has become the unsung heroes in keeping everyone happy and healthy. St. Louis Center housekeeping staff go above and beyond every day to make sure the residents have a clean and sanitized environment to call home.

With a combined longevity of over 20 years, Tammy Walz and Laurie Mathews work diligently each day to make the Center clean and healthy.

13 years ago, Tammy joined the Center as a kitchen staff member. While serving in the United States Army, Tammy was a mess hall cook, which made her a great asset in the Center's kitchen. In 2018, Tammy was ready for a change. Not wanting to leave the Center, Tammy joined the housekeeping team. Although her job has changed, she still enjoys daily interaction with the residents.

Tammy sees the importance of her role as a housekeeper. She states "The residents live here; this is their home! It is my job to make it as nice and comfortable as possible. Having a clean environment really sets their mood for the day. Knowing someone cares enough about you to keep your space clean is enough to brighten anyone's day."

As a mom to one daughter and grandmother to one grandson, Laurie Mathews loves to take care of people. In her 10 years at St. Louis Center, Laurie has worn many hats. Starting as a direct care worker, she switched to housekeeping 5 years ago because it better suited her family schedule. Laurie has enjoyed the new career path because she still has meaningful interactions with the residents on a daily basis.

It gives Laurie a great feeling of accomplishment knowing she is making the Center a better place for the residents. Coming to activities and watching the residents enjoy their lives is something Laurie cherishes along with the fond memories she has





"The best part of my job is the interaction with residents. They do not judge. When treated with kindness and love they love you right back. They are always glad to see you."

-Tammy Walz, Housekeeping Staff

#### MAINTENANCE: KEEPING THE CENTER IN TOP SHAPE

Keeping a facility for over 50 residents and over 15 buildings afloat is a daunting task, however, St. Louis Center's Maintenance team goes above and beyond every day. Each task, no matter the size, is special because it helps to ensure a high quality of life for the residents who call St. Louis Center home.

"Day to day operations of the maintenance and housekeeping team is essential to make the facility run smoothly. Residents really appreciate the little things which is greatly rewarding for my team."

Bradley Vinton, Maintenance Supervisor

In just a few short years, this department went from one full-time staff member to a full-time staff of three.

With over 20 years of maintenance experience, Brad Vinton leads the Center's maintenance team. With his expertise, he makes sure his team of two other maintenance workers and the housekeeping staff are keeping the facility and grounds in great shape for those who live and work at the Center. The team

who live and work at the Center. The team as a whole is always doing beyond what is asked of them and working as a team to get their jobs done.





## What qualities make a good care staff?

According to Tom Arbanas, St. Louis Center HR Director, the qualities he looks for when hiring people for direct care are derived from principles in the spirituality of St. Guanella:

- Faith in the dignity and potential of others
- Realistic optimism
- · Simplicity and sensitivity
- Creativity
- · Empathy and sharing
- Patience
- Equilibrium and self-control
- Commitment and dedication
- Making a difference in people's lives
- · Sense of co-responsibility

If you or someone you know embodies these qualities, encourage them to apply for a position at St. Louis Center.





#### **SUPERVISORS:** FACILITATING INDEPENDENCE

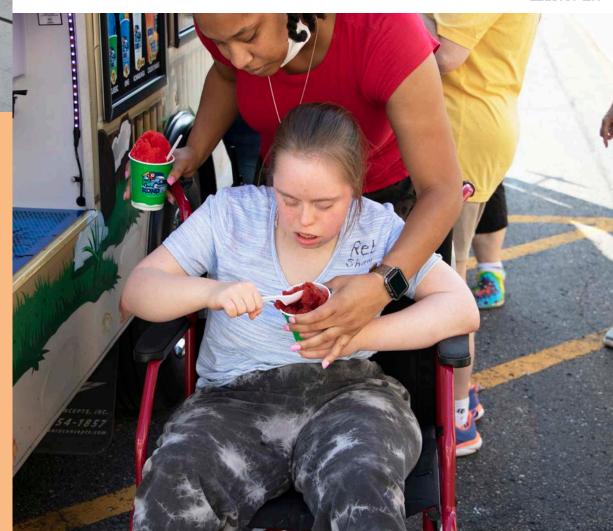
Behind every well-run adult foster care home is a strong leader with the ability to make quick decisions and change plans on the fly.

At St. Louis Center, we have seven supervisors who are leading the transition to independence for the residents. They are providing age-appropriate activities that allow choice and are meaningful to the residents, to ensure that they have a meaningful day, which leads to a meaningful life.

Another important aspect of their job is to mentor the direct care workers. It is especially important for them to guide newly hired staff members so that they will also become champions for the residents.

"The best part of my job is the residents. It is really wonderful seeing them having such a great time during activities and outings we have planned. They really enjoy tailgate parties in the gym and going bowling."

Robin Smith, Direct Care and Training Supervisor





"I let the residents have input on what their day will look like. I want to be sure that they will enjoy what they are doing instead of just following a schedule that I make."

Carlie Hartwick, Direct Care Supervisor



#### ST. LOUIS CENTER LAUNCHES INDEPENDENT LIVING HOME

In 2021, St. Louis Center made a huge leap forward in the provision of services to residents who have the ability to provide more care for themselves.

At Mike's House, five ladies have grabbed more control over their lives. They now plan their menus, create their grocery lists, shop for themselves and cook their meals, with just minimal assistance and supervision from the Direct Care Worker. As they work to complete Independence College, they take more and more responsibility for their own lives. Similar plans for the men are underway!



"It is very rewarding to be able to help these women achieve their independence goals in everyday skills."

Payge Carpenter, Direct Care Worker



Learning to take their blood pressure has helped the ladies gain more control over their health.





Amy Fielder, Finance Director; Sheryl Mohr, Social Services Director; Deana Fisher, Chief Operating Officer; Fr. Enzo Addari,SdC, Chief Executive Officer and Rick Visel, Program Director, were the key St. Louis Center personnel in successfully completing the CARF survey.

#### **CARF** REACCREDITATION

St. Louis Center was first awarded CARF accreditation in 2006. Since that time St. Louis Center staff has diligently raised the bar on delivery of services to the residents. The proof is in the survey results and re-accreditation process, the most recent was in 2021.

According to the 2021 CARF Executive Summary, "St. Louis Center has many strengths, including its skilled, experienced, team-oriented leadership and staff members; the variety of methods it uses to gather stakeholder input; its effective report preparation; its creative service delivery practices; and the homelike environment provided to residents residing on the campus. St. Louis Center exercises vigilant health and safety practices to protect the residents and staff members and has conducted continuous services throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. ... Residents, their families, and other stakeholders expressed great satisfaction with and appreciation for the organization and its services and staff members."

The CARF surveyors reported that St. Louis Center continually strives to improve on areas of recommendation from past evaluations. They also noted that the organization has many strengths.

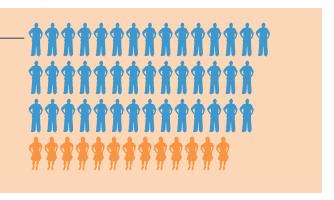


#### ST. LOUIS CENTER BY THE NUMBERS

2021 Resident Demographics as of December 31, 2021

Gender \_

In 2021, 43 men and 13 women lived at St. Louis Center.



Race

86% were white and 14% were African-American. 55 reported as non-Hispanic or Latino.

**Counties** of Origin

Age	_	F	M
	6-17		2
	18-21	1	5
	22-40	1	16
	41-65	11	17
	66-85		3

Status	Admitted	8
	Discharged	18

Barry
Cass
Eaton
Genessee
Ingham
Jackson
Kent
Lenawee
Livingston
Macomb
Marquette
Newaygo
Saginaw
Van Buren
Washtenaw
Wayne

Due to the change in the St. Louis Center strategic plan, as of June 2021 adults are the primary focus of care.

#### LIVE HERE

Do you have a loved one interested in living at St. Louis Center?

St. Louis Center welcomes you to schedule a tour of the Center's community. If you have a loved one with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and would like to see the Center and discuss its offerings, please scan the QR code below or contact St. Louis Center to set up a tour today!

See how residents enjoy spacious group homes, with the ability to personalize their own rooms. Residents enjoy lounge and dining rooms with their housemates, while also having access to other community spaces, like a gymnasium and playground.

Schedule a tour today to see

St. Louis Center firsthand. Staff and residents look forward to meeting you!





#### **RESIDENTS** RETURN HOME

St. Louis Center has grown and changed since its founding just as children grow and change throughout their life. The needs of people served by St. Louis Center have changed with the times, driving the evolution of the Center to adequately meet these needs.



#### **STEPHEN DOAN**

In 1992 when Stephen Doan first arrived at St. Louis Center he was still a teenager attending public school. His mother Janet, a single mother, was thrilled. She needed help. "They were a lifesaver for me. They saved me!" she said. Stephen liked it here and Janet thought it was a great place. He enjoyed an active and happy life while he was in school.

In 2005 when Stephen graduated, programs for adults with I/DD were not readily available within society. Janet moved Stephen to a group home that she thought would suit his needs in those days. Over time, however, it was clear that he was not getting out into the community as much as she had hoped. Janet tried for years to find a new placement, but his social worker at the time kept telling her there were just no openings.

Finally, she decided to take matters into her own hands and she called St. Louis Center. The timing was perfect! Current programming meets his needs and there was an opening for Stephen.

"I was so relieved to get him back to St. Louis Center. He seems so happy to be back."

> -Janet Durbin Stephen's mom

#### KEVIN MCMULLEN

Kevin McMullen has a similar story. When he was a boy, he was good friends with another boy with I/DD who lived in their neighborhood. The boy's mother told Linda, Kevin's mom, about the school he was attending and how happy they were with the services there. That school was St. Louis Center. Soon Kevin was a student there too and enjoyed St. Louis Center all those years ago. Linda said, "St. Louis Center was there for me at the right time. Kevin was ready for it. He had been lonely since his siblings entered high school and were busy with their own lives."

When he aged out of school, Linda placed him in various homes that proved to be only semi-permanent solutions. When the group home where he had been living closed, it was necessary to find a permanent home for Kevin. Since Linda knew the great care that St. Louis Center provides, she decided to look into the options currently available. There was a perfect fit for Kevin at St. Joseph Hall and he moved in on April 27, 2021.

Kevin is very happy to be back at the Center and even more excited that Social Services helped him to find a job at a local pizza shop, Marco's Pizza in nearby Grass Lake.

Linda said, "I am so fortunate. St. Louis Center does a good job planning activities and outings. I know I can trust the Center to care for him."





"I was so fortunate. St. Louis Center was there for me at the right time and Kevin was ready for it. ... I know that the Center has permanence. This will be Kevin's home for the long term."

-Linda McMullen, Kevin's mom



#### **GAINING INDEPENDENCE:** WORKING IN THE COMMUNITY

Staffing shortages have affected the whole country, but at St. Louis Center it has helped us find employment in the community for more residents than ever in the history of St. Louis Center!

Due to the willingness of more companies to consider hiring differently-abled people, we have been able to triple the number of residents working in the local community. From Family Farm and Home to Polly's Country Market, Marco's Pizza, and McDonald's, the smiling faces of the residents can be seen everywhere!

Matthias is so proud of being employed, taking the bus with his close friends from St. Louis Center and getting a paycheck. His enthusiasm is contagious, and his satisfaction is immense. He takes great care of his Polly's uniform and his ID card.

Usually, Matthias does not deal well with changes, such as returning to St. Louis Center after a weekend home. But as soon as he is reminded of his job and his responsibility, he gets ready for the trip to St. Louis Center - his "home away from home".

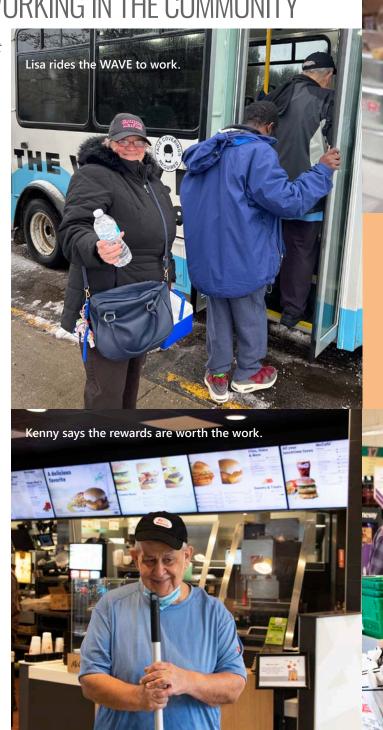
Lisa and Antoine have also started to work as baggers at Polly's. It is a rewarding challenge for them all to be model employees.

Many things were new for Kenny in 2021. He moved into St. Louis Center in May and soon he landed his first job: custodian at the local McDonald's restaurant. He goes to work 5 days a week, taking the WAVE bus Monday thru Friday.

Stanley was very excited to make the change to working in retail at Family Farm and Home. He enjoys assisting customers, keeping the store clean, and helping take care of the

chickens.







Stanley cares for the chickens.

-Lauren, Chelsea resident



#### JOE VICARI: FINE CUISINE, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Joe Vicari has been making fine Italian dining a Michigan tradition for more than three decades. As founder and CEO of the Joe Vicari Restaurant Group, he and his wife Rosalie as COO lead Metro Detroit's largest restaurant group as a family-owned business. Joe attended college on a football scholarship but became enamored with the restaurant business after purchasing a franchise with a college friend. This set him off on a lifelong career of service.

Rosalie joined the business in 2004 bringing her attention to detail and education background to complement Joe's business acumen and industry leadership. Importantly, it allowed them to work together with schedules that frequently incorporate 12-hour workdays that extend over evenings, weekends, and holidays. It has become a family business with their two daughters and son now involved.



Every eating establishment under the Vicari name focuses on authentic cuisine with the freshest ingredients and impeccable service. The six Andiamo Italian restaurants in Detroit, with another in Las Vegas and a satellite at Detroit Metro Airport, are known for their traditional Italian recipes, handmade pasta, and attention to ambiance and detail. Andiamo's Celebrity Showroom in Warren, MI features great entertainment performances in an intimate dinner/show setting. Other restaurants in the group include Joe Muer Seafood, The Country Inn, 29-41 Mediterranean Street Food, and more, each with the same high standards.

Joe Vicari's Restaurant Group is "fueled by our passion for what we do every day. Delivering exceptional service and true, authentic cuisine to our valuable guests is expected – every meal, every request, every time."

"We are a team and a family, committed to each other's success and doing the right thing, even when no one is looking."

-Joe Vicari

With the restaurant business at the heart of what they do, Joe and Rosalie regularly are seen in their restaurants greeting customers and building generational bridges to the sons, daughters, and grandchildren of patrons who have been coming



to their establishments for years. The Vicari's count their employees as part of the family too, working hard to provide training, advancement opportunities, and flexibility for team members, many of whom have been employed by the group for years.

The involvement of the Vicari family with St. Louis Center started in the early 1990s when a common friend of the Center invited Fr. Enzo Addari to a golf outing. Joe Vicari won a TV set and he said "Father, this is for your kids." Many years have passed since then and the outstanding commitment, generosity, and love of the Vicari family for St. Louis Center has continued to grow. Every year Joe has a special golf event and the proceeds are donated to St. Louis

Center. He has opened his Andiamo Showroom to benefit the Center and both Joe and Rosalie have spread the awareness of the Center with their friends and patrons.



#### **CLIFF DAKE:** A BLESSING TO MANY

A trip to the Circus was a pivotal moment for Cliff Dake. Each year, Michigan Caravans of the International Order of Alhambra hold a special day at the circus for those with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Alhambra's mission was clear - enhance the quality of life for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and memorialize people, places and events significant to our Catholic heritage. It was during that trip to the circus that Cliff knew this was something he had to be a part of.



"God has always blessed us by placing us right where he needs us throughout our life."

-Cliff Dake

Cliff Dake has a love for the Lord Jesus Christ and has dedicated his life to serving in many different capacities.

For over 30 years, Cliff worked as a sales engineer for different automotive industry OEMs, allowing him the opportunity to travel and meet wonderful people throughout Europe, Mexico, and Canada. Cliff has also been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 1978.

Married to Sheila for 46 years, together they have two children and six grandchildren. A caring and kind family man, Cliff is sharing a love with his family that is pure and grounded in the Lord's undying love. Cliff also sings with an award-winning barbershop quartet, which won the district of Michigan championships in 2007.

Cliff and Michigan Caravans of Alhambra are wonderful assets to St. Louis Center. Through their many contributions and works, we are thankful for their support of the residents.

#### **WHAT IS** ALHAMBRA?

The International Order of Alhambra is a fraternal organization of Catholic men and women that has been dedicated to assisting persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities since it was founded on February 29, 1904, in Brooklyn, NY, by William Harper Bennett.

Fraternalism and sociability are dominant characteristics of the International Order of Alhambra. These characteristics are specifically identified in one of the purposes of the Order, "To promote social, fraternal and intellectual associations and through its Caravans provide a practical means to form enduring fellowship and friendship among its members." These characteristics of the members of the Order are perpetuated to provide camaraderie and enjoyment while raising funds to achieve the Order's goals and objectives of assisting persons with I/DD.

When Alhambra members participate in events, they might give of their time and treasure, but they receive so much more. The Order's promise is fulfilled, they nurture friendships with one another, and with the persons with I/DD whom they serve.

Throughout the history of St. Louis Center, Alhambra Caravans have supported the Center not only financially, but with their friendship and caring. They have created strong bonds with the residents who have benefitted from Alhambra's generosity.



"I consider it a blessing to be part of the Family Association. It helps us stay connected to one another as we face similar challenges as guardians of persons with special needs."

> -Christine Slominski, Parent of St. Louis Center Resident

# Jennie Maynard, sister to Dean, volunteered at the Memorial Golf Outing. 18

#### FAMILY ASSOCIATION: COMMITTED TO OUR CAUSE

St. Louis Center considers the residents, their families, and staff as part of one overall family.

The Center always welcomes family involvement in St. Louis Center events and the Family Association for all who call St. Louis Center their home. Parents and quardians support one another in many ways. Family members get to know each other, offer advice to one another and be

Diane and Ray Kaszuba and Evelyn and Brian Bowman helping at the Golf and Glory Outing.

To help offer further support, some members choose to participate in various events or volunteer their help for various endeavors at the Center.

aware of activities that are happening at the Center.



#### **FALL AUCTION:** VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION

The Annual Fall Dinner Auction would not be possible without the help of our incredible sponsors and auction committee members.

A tradition for 34 years, the Fall Auction is a major fundraiser for the Center. The evening of November 13, 2021 started off with appetizers while guests browsed the over 40 silent auction items and 15 live auction items. Dinner, by The Moveable Feast Catering, pleased the crowd. Silent auction items were a huge success, however, the live auction items proved to be the highlight of the evening. Bidders bid back and forth for the items they wanted. Star items, which included a new snow plowing machine, an outing for the residents, and camp for a resident, brought the evening to an end while raising a substantial amount for the care of the residents of the Center.

Last year the Auction was held online due to the restrictions set in place from Covid making this year extra special. The committee, co-chaired by Eileen Augustine and Barbara Boylan Lewis and advised by Kathi Neuman, is made up of 14 members and many volunteers. Together they were able to procure donations for the silent and live auctions from over 70 businesses and individuals. St. Louis Center would especially like to thank Joe and Tina Merkel for volunteering their talent and expertise as professional auctioneers. With the hard work of so many people this event was a memorable success.



#### **2022 EVENTS**

Golf and Glory

June 20, 2022 UofM Golf Course - Ann Arbor MI

Abruzzese Gala

July 10, 2022 Laurel Manor - Livonia MI

**Memorial Golf Outing** 

July 16, 2022 Pierce Lake Golf Course - Chelsea MI

**Dad and Lad** 

August 3, 2022 Twin Lakes Golf and Swim Club -Oakland MI

Randazzo Men's Social

September 22, 2022 Randazzo Fresh Food Market -Clinton Twp. MI

**Fall Harvest Dinner** 

September 25, 2022 Italian American Banquet Center -Livonia MI

**Cars and Culinary for Care** 

October 12, 2022 Laurel Manor - Livonia MI

**Fall Dinner Auction** 

October 22, 2022 St. Mary Parish - Chelsea MI

For more information, please visit our website:

www.stlouiscenter.org



#### **WAYS TO SUPPORT**

#### Make a Gift Now

Write a Check - Writing a check 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 helps St. Louis Center offset operating costs.

#### Make a Future Gift

Make St. Louis Center a Beneficiary – Naming the Center as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy, IRA or 401k is easy and <u>doesn't require you to change your will</u>. 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.

#### The Benefits

Tax Benefits – Donations to St. Louis Center are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

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 gifts of any kind, contact Wendy Zielen in the development office at 734-475-8430 or wzielen@stlouiscenter.org.

#### Benevolent Care

Benevolent Care is financial support from charitable contributions necessary to cover the services that are not met by earned revenue. Given the limits of earned income, and the reality that very few families can afford the total cost of care, St. Louis Center strives to offer Benevolent Care to cover the difference.

More than half of the total costs must be fund-raised to provide a proper level of care. The difficulties the pandemic caused over the last several months have made the need to provide benevolent care even more poignant.

Depending on the level of care, the cost of services to a person living at St. Louis Center may be as much as \$8,000 a month. A social security supplement (SSI/A) covers only room and board, which is about 20% of the total. Some residents do have support from their local Community Mental Health organization and a Medicaid waiver program. Many residents do not qualify for this

governmental benefit. According to the 2020 audit, St. Louis Center administrative and overhead expenses were only 21%, in line with well-managed nonprofit best practices. You can be confident that your donation to the Center is going to good use.



Center staff work hard to provide dignified care to the residents.

#### St. Louis Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID: 38-6038121

Neither the author, the publisher nor this institution is engaged in rendering legal or tax advisory service. For advice and assistance in specific cases, the services of an attorney or other professional advisor should be obtained. The purpose of this publication is to provide accurate and authoritative information of a general character only. Watch for tax revisions. State laws govern wills, trusts, and charitable gifts made in a contractual agreement. Advice from legal counsel should be sought when considering these types of gifts.

#### ST. LOUIS CENTER BY THE NUMBERS **2021 AUDITED FINANCIALS\***

St. Louis Center's financial statements for the fiscal year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Support & Revenue	2021
Program Service Revenue	\$4,480,143
Fundraising & Grants	\$2,285,663
Other	\$227,211
Total Support & Revenue	\$6,993,017
Expenses	2021
Program Services	\$5,529,560
Management & General	\$869,222
Fundraising Projects	\$556,838
Total Expenses	\$6,955,620
Depreciation	\$455,992
<b>Grand Total Expenses</b>	\$7,411,612
Benevolent Care Provided	\$2,704,612

<sup>\*</sup>Figures are based on audited financial statements and do not include Legacy donations or expenses.

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MATCH

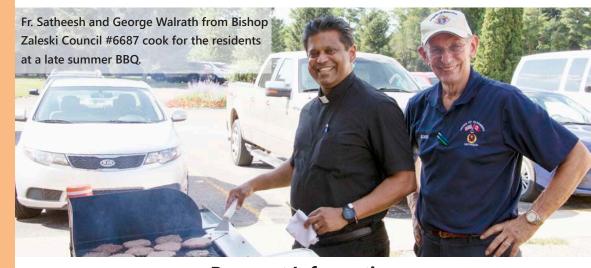
The Knights of Columbus once again have stepped up in a significant way to help support St. Louis Center. From January - March 2021, the Michigan State Council provided a matching challenge of \$100,000 to help encourage

> people to donate to ensure that the Center would have much-needed operational funds through the first quarter of the year. The drive was a big success, helping raise more than \$300,000,

and the local councils were a big part of it. St. Louis Center wishes to thank the many councils throughout the state of

Michigan who each donated toward this effort.





#### **Payment Information**

Gift Amount: □\$35 □\$75 □\$150 □\$500	$0 \square $1,000 \square Other Amount $$	<b></b>		
Payment Type: ☐ Credit Card ☐ Cash ☐ Check (Payable to St. Louis Center)				
Name on Card:				
Card Number:	Exp. Date:/	CVV Code:		
Contact	Information			
Name:				
Address:				
City/State/Zip:	Phone Number:			

E-Mail:

#### KNIGHTS MOVED BY LOVE TO SERVE

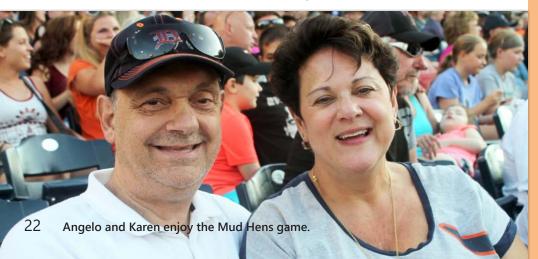
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is the southernmost parish in the Archdiocese of Detroit in Temperance MI. Knights of Columbus Council #8902 call this parish home. The Council is devoted to their faith, the Order and serving people in need.

Sir Knight Angelo Ialacci explains that through the annual Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities, or Tootsie Roll Drive, the Council has created a friendship with Fr. Enzo Addari, who Ialacci also knows through mutual friends in Northville. The Council conducts the Tootsie Roll Drive both in the spring and in the fall. In addition to supporting families locally, the Council is committed to supporting St. Louis Center, giving over \$115,000 to the Center to care for the residents since getting involved. "We love St. Louis Center. What you do there is amazing. A true continuum of care."

Their commitment to the Tootsie Roll Drive has strong ties to a family of their parish who has a son with special needs. This family has the same looming question that most parents in their situation do, "Who will take care of our child if something happens to us?" This family's witness has been a driving force of Council 8902's generosity.

lalacci further supports St. Louis Center residents by offering employment at his Grass Lake Marco's Pizza. He and his wife Karen are pleased that they can offer such opportunities.

Prior to the pandemic, the Council invited Fr. Enzo and a group of residents and staff to join them at 5|3 Field to watch a Toledo Mud Hens game. Fr. Enzo was even given the opportunity to throw a ceremonial first pitch. The residents and the Knights truly enjoy the game and each other, creating an unbreakable bond that will keep these Knights committed to the cause.





"We see firsthand what a family does to give their child as normal a life as possible. Our Council receives so much love and inspiration in return for our involvement with them."

-Angelo Ialacci



#### **LEGACY** OF LOVE

#### **Dawn Dietrich**

1965-2021

Dawn was a gift to all who knew her. She was the only child of a mother who taught her the true meaning of love and self-sacrifice. Dawn was born with Down Syndrome and her mother, Judi Black, was her constant advocate ensuring that her needs were always met. Judi spent every bit of her energy to provide Dawn with the best care possible leading to her placement at St. Louis Center in November 2006.

Throughout her years as a resident of SLC, she taught others around her what it means to love. She loved music, her friends (who were known as her 'soul sisters'), and she especially loved her 'Mama Judi.'







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www.stlouiscenter.org

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